

MONTROSE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
November 16, 2017

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Colleen Brown called the regular Council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was held at the Montrose City Office located at 141 Parkway Drive, Montrose.

ROLL CALL

Present Council Members were Mayor Colleen Brown, Eldon Dunklee, Christy Sanborn, Robert Arnold, Mark Richard, and Debbie Gross. Also present were City Manager Neil Rankin, City Clerk Christina Rush, City Attorney Otis Stout, and 6 citizens. Tom Bigelow was marked absent.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG: Mayor Brown led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CITIZEN OF THE MONTH

1. *THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2017, CINDY AND RICK BELIVEAU:* Cindy and Rick Beliveau were honored for their community service to the City of Montrose.

2. *CHOOSE A CITIZEN OF THE MONTH FOR DECEMBER:* Mayor Brown would like to recommend Mary Yeager and her mother Mary Kay Polzin.

- **MOTION** by Sanborn **SECOND** by Gross to nominate Mary Yeager and Mary Kay Polzin for Citizen of the Month for the month of December 2017. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: (Public Comments/Questions Only):

1. *2018 CDBG:* Mayor Brown opened the public hearing at 7:07 p.m. Dunklee questioned the amount the City is getting and Mayor Brown said the City will be getting around \$10,000.00. She further explained the CDBG is used for specific City needs and the purpose of tonight's public hearing is to get community input on any proposed projects. Sanborn asked if the funds could be utilized for public service and Rush replied no, also, CDBG funding is only available to the south side of our community. Mayor Brown mentioned improvements to Blueberry Park and the community garden. There were no other questions and/or comments from the public. Mayor Brown closed the public hearing at 7:09 p.m. and brought the regular meeting back to order.

PRESENTATIONS: NONE

REPORTS

1. *POLICE & FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORTS:* On file at city office

2. *SAFEBUILT INSPECTION SERVICES:* Report On file at city office.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: NONE

MATTERS OF COUNCIL ACTION

1. *APPROVAL OF 10/19/2017 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:* Richard said in public comment section it should state Montrose Township Citizen Lisa Kline. Sanborn said medicinal marijuana needs an "h" not "j".

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- **MOTION** by Dunklee **SECOND** by Gross to approve the 10/19/2017 Regular Meeting Minutes. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

2. ***APPROVAL OF CHECK REGISTER/TREASURER REPORT & POSSIBLE HANDOUT:*** Prior to roll call vote Gross questioned the breakdown of a bill made out to the City of Montrose, if these were supplies for the DPW and office. Clerk Rush replied no, those expenses for city water bills. Arnold asked who is "Game Time?" Rankin said it is a bill to purchase a part of the slide that was broken at Blueberry Park. Gross questioned paying agent fees for 2006 DDA general and Rush explained that is for the DDA's Bond.

- **MOTION** by Richard **SECOND** by Sanborn to pay the bills. Roll Call Vote: Dunklee – Aye, Sanborn – Aye, Arnold – Aye, Richard – Aye, Gross – Aye, and Mayor Brown – Aye. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

3. ***DISCUSSION & DIRECTION RE: PUBLIC SAFETY MILLAGE:*** Rankin handed out information regarding a public safety millage. The handout showed a break down for the estimated market value and taxable value at 3, 4, and 5 mills. He further said the City has cut roughly \$100,000 from the contract for police protection and the issue is, we can only cut so many things and we need to generate different revenue to cover costs. Arnold asked what would the average cost for the estimated millage be for the average citizen? Rankin said 3 mills is \$99.00, 4 mills is \$134.00, and 5 mills is \$167.00. Mayor Brown said we cut \$80,000 out of the police budget last year, and we are waiting for them to bring a new contract for this year, so at this rate and with these numbers, we need at least 4 mills to go back to the amount discussed. If not the 5 mills will include the cost of living increases that are expected if the City wants to go back to the full service contract. Arnold said in his opinion he would rather go for the higher millage because for \$167.00 a year to have full time police is money well spent, plus, the lower millage may not cover the services then we may need to go back for an additional millage or cut services.

- **MOTION** by Arnold **SECOND** by Dunklee to draw up a ballot proposal for 5 mills. Roll Call Vote: Richard – No, Dunklee – Aye, Sanborn – Aye, Arnold – Aye, Gross – No, and Mayor Brown – No. Tie Vote. Motion Died.

4. ***DISCUSSION: POLICE/FIRE CONTRACT:*** Rankin said there will be a Township meeting on November 21st and Mark Emmendorfer will have a contract drafted up from the board to present to our council. Mayor Brown said she thought the existing contract provided for an option to continue as it stands and Rankin replied it will be the same words just a new draft contract for the new period of time.

5. ***MEDICAL MARIHUANA FACILITIES ACT DRAFT ORDINANCE:*** Mayor Brown said there are a few minor changes but ultimately we would like this to be published and hold a public hearing and finally get a vote one way or another. Brown said on page 34 of the council packet, Section 6, 4th paragraph from the bottom delete the statement about the moratorium since we do not have any. Discussion ensued about the date and location of the public hearing and whether one is needed. A public hearing is always required when it comes to adopting an ordinance.

- **MOTION** by Dunklee **SECOND** by Arnold to set the public hearing for either December 6th or preferably December 7th at 7:00 and adjust as necessary if the school is not available. Roll

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Call Vote: Dunklee – Aye, Gross – Aye, Sanborn – Aye, Arnold – Aye, Richard – No, and Mayor Brown – Aye. Five (5) Ayes and One (1) No – Richard. Motion Carried.

6. *2018 CDBG PROGRAM APPLICATION*: Rankin said he will be filling out the application tomorrow but is still waiting on Wade Trim to provide a few estimates. Unfortunately the funding of \$25,922 was incorrect and the amount should have been \$10,465. Rankin said he would like to leverage this reduced funding with funds from MDNR, a local match, and a donation from the Jennings Memorial Foundation. Rankin said he spoke with the DNR Grant Administrator and was told there would be no issue if the City wishes to utilize CDBG funding.

- **MOTION** by Gross **SECOND** by Sanborn to proceed forward with securing as much money as we can together through multiple grant loan applications that Neil has just suggested for Blueberry Park. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

7. *2017 CANDLEWALK*: Mayor Brown said the Candlewalk committee was suppose to be at the Tuesday DDA meeting to request the DDA be sponsors so they can be included on the insurance; however, no one showed. Brown questioned if the City could be a sponsor so they can be included on the City's insurance and Attorney Stout said the City can be a sponsor. Rush questioned if the city has to take out an additional rider and Stout said usually if it is a community event sponsored by the City there is no additional rider required. Bubba spoke about what the candlewalk is providing this year. There is a parade from the Elementary School to the Depot with Santa at the end of the parade. They would like to close down Saginaw Street to have vendors set up there with a DJ playing Christmas music and the school choir doing carols. They will be doing Christmas cards and care packages for soldiers. They are requesting to close from M57 and Saginaw north to Hickory to the railroad tracks from 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. There was discussion about what road closures are needed for the candlewalk and what time to shut down the roads. Discussion prior to voting on the motion was clean up of the candlewalk and making sure to inform the road closures to those that live on the roads that will closed. Sam said the DPW only has eight lights and there are not enough lights to cover all the barricades. Gross asked how much are the lights. Sam said they are expensive. Sanborn asked if it would be beneficial to have more on hand in supply. Sam said we do not use the eight that the City has at the same time. So he does not know. It was suggested to borrow them from another DPW. Arnold questioned the 2:00 p.m. road closures. Mayor Brown suggested just Saginaw Road be closed at 2:00 p.m. and the rest be closed beginning at 4:00 p.m.

- **MOTION** by Dunklee **SECOND** by Gross to approve the plan as presented. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Prior to roll call vote there was discussion about the cost of purchasing safety lights and how often they would be used.

- **MOTION** by Gross **SECOND** by Richard to purchase six (6) more safety lights for the City of Montrose. Roll Call Vote: Gross – Aye, Dunklee – No, Arnold – No, Sanborn – No, Richard – No, and Mayor Brown – No. One (1) Aye. Five (5) No's. Motion did not pass.

8. *TAX REVERTED PROPERTY DISPOSITION*: Rankin said the City received notice from Genesee County that a parcel of vacant land that was foreclosed on did not sell and is to be transferred

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to the City. The City has the option to reject. This would avoid having a parcel that would need to be maintained. The parcel could go to the Genesee Land Bank. The City may still end up owning it in the long run but Rankin would recommend council not doing so at this time.

- **MOTION** by Arnold **SECOND** by Richard to let the property go back to Genesee County Landbank. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

9. CITY MANAGER REQUEST SALARY INCREASE: Rankin requested a closed session. Mayor Brown closed the regular meeting at 8:19 p.m.

- **MOTION** by Gross **SECOND** by Sanborn to go into closed session as requested by the City Manager for contract negotiations. Roll Call Vote: Arnold – Aye, Richard – Aye, Sanborn – Aye, Gross – Aye, Dunklee – Aye, and Mayor Brown – Aye. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

10. RETURNED TO OPEN SESSION & BRING REGULAR MEETING BACK TO ORDER: Mayor Brown reopened the regular meeting at 8:45 p.m.

- **MOTION** by Gross **SECOND** by Sanborn to go forward with the 6% as presented. Roll Call Vote: Gross – Aye, Sanborn – Aye, Richard – Aye, Dunklee – Aye, Arnold – Aye, and Mayor Brown – Aye. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: No one from the public was present.

REPORTS FROM BOARDS & COMMISSIONS:

DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY BOARD: There was no November meeting. The next meeting is December 12th.

GENESEE COUNTY SMALL CITIES & VILLAGES ASSOCIATION: NONE

GENESEE COUNTY WATER AND WASTE SERVICE'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Rankin said the Water Treatment would like to do a tour on Tuesday. Neil Rankin, Tom Bigelow, and Sam Spence will be attending.

GENESEE COUNTY METROPOLITAN ALLIANCE: Richard said there is money for the schools as much as \$200,000 per building. Richard will get more information and speak with Dr. Graham at the school. The money can go toward replacing and widening sidewalks, to train crossing guards and pay for uniforms for crossing guards.

PLANNING BOARD: November meeting was cancelled.

911 CONSORTIUM: Sanborn said at the last meeting she spoke about Cheryl Bartrum being the new director. Cheryl could not get a written release from her current authority board; therefore, it was pulled from her and put back out to offer. M. Spring Termain has accepted the position.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS: NONE

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REPORTS FROM CITY MANAGER AND CITY ATTORNEY

CITY MANAGER: Rankin spoke about the Post Office losing the October water bills. The bills were mailed on the correct date and the Post Office was notified as soon as it was discovered no one had received a bill. The Post Office will no longer send the water bills to Pontiac but will now hand stamp the water bills. He also spoke about the recycling dates being incorrect on the Republic garbage calendar. The correct recycling dates are November 20th, December 4th, and December 18th. Rankin attached a newsletter that will be going out next week. He was waiting on BS&A to help with the online payment options as that is something residents have been asking for quite some time. Rankin said he wanted to include information for business license and fire inspection components.

CITY ATTORNEY: Stout said he recorded the deed for 250 Oak Street and delivered it to the new owner.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS: Gross said there a lot of street lights out. Rankin said there is a link on the website that someone can report a street light out. Gross also said in the future if we could lock the Township into a public safety contract for more than one year that would help with the budget and a millage.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE COUNCIL: *On file at the city office.*

ADJOURNMENT: Mayor Brown adjourned the meeting at 9:06 p.m.
Prepared by City Treasurer, Chrystal Raible