

MONTROSE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

April 27, 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, Mark Richard, Tom Bigelow, and Debbie Gross. Also present were City Clerk Tina Rush, City Attorney Otis Stout, City Manager Neil Rankin and **17** citizens. Member Robert Arnold was recorded as absent.

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

CITIZEN OF THE MONTH

1. *THE MONTH OF APRIL 2017, EAGLE SCOUTS EVAN KINDER AND STEVEN MANEKE:* Council honored Evan Kinder and Steven Maneke for earning Eagle Scout Status and being of service to the community.
2. *CHOOSE A CITIZEN OF THE MONTH FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 2017:*
 - **MOTION** by Gross **SECOND** by Sanborn to nominate Eric Vandefifer as Citizen of the Month for the month of May. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: NONE.

PRESENTATIONS: NONE.

REPORTS

1. *POLICE & FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORTS:* On file at city office
2. *GEORGE BROWN INSPECTION SERVICES:* Richard asked when Brown Inspection Services do their inspections do they also enforce ordinances for tall grass, people not keeping up their houses, and things like that. Mayor Brown said tall grass is done by the DPW and the rest of the ordinances have been directed by management to pursue enforcing ordinances and complaints.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: NONE.

MATTERS OF COUNCIL ACTION

1. *APPROVAL OF 3/27/2017 CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:*
 - **MOTION** by Gross **SECOND** by Richard to approve the minutes as presented. All Ayes. Motion Carried.
2. *APPROVAL OF CHECK REGISTER/TREASURER REPORT:*
 - **MOTION** by Dunklee **SECOND** by Bigelow to approve to pay the bills as presented. Roll Call Vote: Dunklee – Aye, Bigelow – Aye, Sanborn – Aye, Gross – Aye, Richard – Aye, and Mayor Brown – Aye. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

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Prior to roll call vote, Bigelow questioned two deposits indicating they were deposited into the wrong bank account. Rush explained that the City has two different banks, PNC and Community State Bank and all of the water bills are suppose to be deposited into CSB, however, some of water bills are electronic deposited into the PNC bank account therefore, we have to do a transfer to move the money to CSB. Richard questioned the per diem for the MAMC Clerk Institute and Rush explained she attended a week-long training for an Institute and then attended a Master Academy the following week. Gross questioned the Wade Trim bill asking if the City already pay \$6,000.00 toward the bill council is about to vote on. Rankin replied council approved \$7,500 but Wade Trim has only billed \$6,000 so far.

3. *RESOLUTION RE: 2016/2017 BUDGET AMENDMENTS:* Rankin explained we are going through the budget and looking at the contracted services that have changed, such as the assessor, along with some other small changes that need to be adjusted.

- **MOTION** by Richard **SECOND** by Sanborn to accept the budget amendments. Roll Call Vote: Richard – Aye, Dunklee – Aye, Sanborn – Aye, Bigelow – Aye, Gross - Aye, and Mayor Brown – Aye. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

4. *RESOLUTION RE: DESIGNATION OF WINTER TAX COLLECTION DATE:* Rankin explained this new resolution allows winter taxes to be due February 28th. After the due date, the City will no longer collect interest and penalties and will no longer accept postmarks.

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

5. *WADE TRIM PROPOSAL RE: FEHER ADDITION DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS:* Andrew Bisaha from Wade Trim was available to answer questions from city council. The goal is to replace the culverts and address drainage in the ditches along Elizabeth Street and North Street.

- **MOTION** by Bigelow **SECOND** by Sanborn to accept their proposal as presented. Roll Call Vote: Bigelow – Aye, Sanborn – Aye, Gross – No, Richard – Aye, Dunklee– Aye, and Mayor Brown – Aye. Five (5) Ayes and One (1) No – Gross. Motion Carried.

6. *DISCUSSION DIRECTION RE: CITY OWNED PROPERTY 250 OAK STREET:* Rankin said that the DPW boarded up the house at 250 Oak Street and he would like direction on what to do with this property.

- **MOTION** by Sanborn **SECOND** by Bigelow for the City owned property at 250 Oak Street for a docket strategic plan of selling it that will notate what we want for the property in terms of either going to restore it and a timeline or willing to tear it down and a timeline. First bid offering to the adjacent properties, if nobody is in favor of wanting it for those properties we will open it to the public. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

7. *SET PUBLIC HEARING DATE FOR PROPOSED ORDINANCE NO. 433 RE: AMENDMENT TO THE OUTDOOR BURNING ORDINANCE:* Rankin is looking to council to set the public hearing date to amend section 26-25 of the Burning Ordinance, which would allow burning during the months of April, May, October and November.

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- **MOTION** by Richard **SECOND** by Sanborn to set the public hearing date for the May city council meeting. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

8. *DIRECTION RE: BUILDING INSPECTOR/CODE ENFORCEMENT SERVICES:* Rankin said the city posted an ad for RFP's for building inspector/code enforcement services and received one proposal from SAFEbuilt. SAFEbuilt is nationwide and based out of Colorado. They currently do work for the City Flushing, City of Owosso, Southfield, and Troy. They will be receiving all of the building permit fees but they will not be doing code enforcement.

- **MOTION** by Gross **SECOND** by Dunklee to move forward with SAFEbuilt as presented. Roll Call Vote: Richard – No, Sanborn – Aye, Gross – Aye, Bigelow – Aye, Dunklee – Aye, and Mayor Brown – No. Four (4) Ayes and Two (2) No's. Motion Carried.

Prior to roll call vote Richard questioned if this was a bid from SAFEbuilt, he thought they would have come in and talked to them. It was clarified that this was not a contract but just a proposal. Mayor Brown is concerned about giving away all of the city permit fees. She also questioned where the inspector is physically located and Rankin responded he's based out of Southfield but operating out of Flushing. Mayor Brown is concerned since the inspector is not located locally, permits will not be pulled and things will not be inspected; therefore, things will be overlooked.

9. *DIRECTION RE: LARKO'S MOWING CONTRACT:* Rankin explained Larko's contract is up and recommended council renew the contract with Larko.

- **MOTION** by Bigelow **SECOND** by Richard to continue with the grass and weed cutting services of Larko Mowing for the next year. Roll Call Vote: Richard – Aye, Bigelow – Aye, Sanborn – Aye, Gross – Aye, Dunklee – Aye, and Mayor Brown – Aye. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

10. *ROSE PEST SOLUTIONS CONTRACT – DISCUSSION/DIRECTION:* Rankin said the contract for Rose Pest Solutions expires October 2017. He would like to know if council wishes to negotiate a five year agreement with Rose Pest Solution or take it out to bid.

- **MOTION** by Bigelow **SECOND** by Richard to have an RFP for another five year bid for the mosquito control. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

*Mayor Brown requested a motion to add item 11, meeting dates, to the agenda.

- **MOTION** by Richard **SECOND** by Bigelow to make that motion. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

11. *COUNCIL MEETING DATES:* Rush asked council to change the meeting dates on the months there are elections to allow council chambers be available for absentee voting.

- **MOTION** by Richard **SECOND** by Gross to move to the third Tuesday of the month. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Bob Cole, a city resident, requested to dissolve the City of Montrose and return it to Montrose Township so everyone can work together and not have the problems we have been having.

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REPORTS FROM BOARDS & COMMISSIONS:

DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY BOARD: Mayor Brown said the DDA did not meet in April. The next meeting is in June.

GENESEE COUNTY WATER AND WASTE SERVICE'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE: NONE

GENESEE COUNTY METROPOLITAN ALLIANCE: NONE

PLANNING BOARD: Richard said they talked about the Ordinance pertaining to the proposed marijuana facility and that Mr. Pangle spoke with some professional people in downtown Flint working at the county building about the marijuana laws and licensing. It appears the State may have absolute control over licensing. Richard is concerned about the odor that will be emitted throughout the community and the ability for the City to not be able to shut the facility down if there is an ordinance violation. Discussion ensued concerning the marijuana ordinance and the City passing an ordinance for business licenses. Mayor Brown requested at the next meeting to have business permits as an agenda item.

911 CONSORTIUM: Sanborn said Tuesday May 2nd is the vote concerning the 911 fee increase to cell phones.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS: NONE

*Mayor Brown requested to have Small Cities added to the Reports.

REPORTS FROM CITY MANAGER AND CITY ATTORNEY

CITY MANAGER: The Police Contract was approved by the Montrose Township on April 18. The new priorities became effective on April 20th.

The City has had a 457 retirement plan with Nationwide for a number of years. At one point the plan was valued over \$109,000. Unfortunately over the years a few things have happened, such as no recent contributions, a dive in the stock market in 2008, and increase in fees vs. income. There also has never been a payout of the plan going back to 2006. The account has a value of around \$33,000 today. This plan explained by Tina was set up before MERS around 1992-1993. Research on the plan through the city minutes has not turned up any explanations.

The Community Garden is hopefully moving forward in the next week. Bob will have more.

We are putting together our budget for this year. If council wishes to see anything in particular to be addressed (road, parks, etc.) please stop on in and we can chat to see if and what we can budget for this next year.

I am trying to get a city newsletter out to residents this spring. If you have anything you wish to see please let me know.

The water/sewer bills will soon be able to be emailed to residents.

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CITY ATTORNEY: Attorney Stout took notes on what council member Richard said happened at the planning commission meeting, and along with the planning commission minutes will report back to them on his legal opinion as to how much the city can regulate the marijuana facilities.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS: Gross commented she met with an honor society teacher and the honor society students need more volunteer hours and asked if they could help rake the city park or whatever. They would need the city office to sign off for their hours. Gross also wanted to make sure on the next meeting agenda spring cleanup is added. Richard said he is going to be in Lansing so if any information gets to him on the marijuana law, he can bring it up with them. Sanborn was concerned about having the city council meeting and planning meeting in the same week, getting both packets around is an issue. Mayor Brown said she is hearing rumors she is trying to stop the Blueberry Festival and said that she is not trying to stop it or inhibit it in any way, she is in support of the Blueberry Festival.

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

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Brown adjourned the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

Prepared by City Deputy Clerk/City Treasurer, Chrystal Raible