

MONTROSE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

June 29, 2023

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 Offices located at 139 S. Saginaw Street, Montrose, MI.

ROLL CALL: Present council members were Mayor Colleen Brown, Mayor Pro-Tem Mark Richard, Robert Arnold, Ryan Heslop, Aaron Burch, (entered the meeting at 7:23 p.m.), Andrea Martin and Todd Pangle. Also present were City Manager Neil Rankin. There were 3 citizens in attendance.

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

CITIZEN OF THE MONTH:

1. *THE MONTH OF JUNE 2023, SARA TAYLOR:* Council honored Sarah Taylor for her years of service as a member of the planning board.

2. *CHOOSE A CITIZEN OF THE MONTH FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST:*

- **MOTION** by Richard **SECOND** by Pangle to nominate Bubba and Ashley Persailis as citizens of the month for the month of August. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: Mayor Brown opened the public hearing at 7:04 p.m.

1. *JULY 1, 2023 – JUNE 30, 2024 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET AND PROPERTY TAX MILLAGE RATE LEVY.*

There were no questions and/or comments from the public. Mayor Brown closed the public hearing portion and brought the regular meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

PRESENTATIONS: *MERS ANNUAL ACTUARIAL VALUATION.*

The City Manager presented the Michigan Employee Retirement System annual actuarial valuation for 2022.

REPORTS

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

2. *BUILDING INSPECTION SERVICES: Report on file at city office.*

PUBLIC COMMENTS: NONE

MATTERS OF COUNCIL ACTION:

1. *APPROVAL OF THE 5/18/23 MEETING MINUTES:*

- **MOTION** by Richard **SECOND** by Arnold that we approve the meeting minutes as read. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

2. *APPROVAL OF CHECK REGISTER & TREASURER REPORT:* Arnold asked if there was anything unusual and Rankin replied no.

- **MOTION** by Arnold **SECOND** Richard that we pay our bills. Roll Call Vote: Arnold – Aye, Heslop – Aye, Pangle – Aye, Martin – Aye, and Mayor Pro-Tem Richard – Aye. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

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3. *DISCUSSION/DIRECTION LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR RAMBY LLC. MEDC RAP 2.0 GRANT PROGRAM.* **MOTION** by Richard **SECOND** by Arnold to approve a letter of support for RAMBY LLC. in its application to MEDC for funding to renovate 106 W. State Street. All ayes. Motion Carried.

4. *DISCUSSION/DIRECTION LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR MONTROSE TWP FIRE DEPARTMENT*

- **MOTION** by Richard **SECOND** by Arnold in a resolution of support of the Montrose Township Fire Department in the application to MI Fire for equipment purchases. Roll Call Vote. Pangle-Aye, Ryan-Aye, Arnold-Aye, Martin-Aye, Richard-Aye and Mayor Colleen Brown. All ayes. Motion Carried.

Aaron Burch arrived at 7:23pm

5. *DISCUSSION/DIRECTION PUBLIC SAFETY CONTRACT:* The City Manager provided council a copy of the proposed public safety contract with Montrose Township. The budget to be adopted at this meeting has used the specified amounts from this proposal. Council members last month had the opportunity to tour the township building and examine public safety operations and equipment and speak with various township staff in order to understand the services the city receives. The new contract would start January 1, 2024 and be for a period of five years with a reopening on increase in 2027.

- **MOTION** by Pangle **SECOND** by Richard to approve the public safety contract with Montrose Township as presented. Roll Call Vote: Burch-Aye, Arnold – Aye, Martin – Aye, Heslop – Aye, Richard – Aye, Pangle – Aye, and Mayor Brown – Aye. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

6. *DISCUSSION/DIRECTION RESOLUTION BALLOT LANGUAGE PUBLIC SAFETY MILLAGE*

MOTION by Burch **SECOND** by Richard to proceed with the ballot measure resolution and place the public safety millage renewal to voters at the November 7th election if the schools places a ballot measure as well. If not, it would be placed on the March primary election at a date to yet be determined. Roll Call Vote: Arnold-Aye, Richard-Aye, Andrea-Aye, Pangle-Aye, Heslop-Aye, Burch-Aye and Mayor Colleen Brown-Nay. Six Ayes and One Nay. Motion Carried.

7. *DISCUSSION/DIRECTION MARIHUANA FACILITIES ORDINANCE AMENDMENT*

To address the issue of the number of potential marihuana retail facilities locating in the general or central business district it was discussed that Ordinance 453 (Marihuana Facilities) be amended to include a minimum distance between facilities. The Montrose Planning Board would initiate the process under the Michigan Planning Act and be required to hold a public hearing to move forward. The city manager explained the planning board would need guidance in distance and language moving forward.

- **MOTION** by Burch **SECOND** by Richard that the Planning Board amend Ordinance 453 to add a distances of one thousand (1000) feet between retail marihuana facilities. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

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8. DISCUSSION/DIRECTION BLUEBERRY FESTIVAL COMMUNITY EVENT APPLICATION

- **MOTION** by Burch **SECOND** by Richard to approve the Blueberry Festival Application with the proposal of amendment that the Friday and Saturday events at Lion's Park end at 12am/midnight. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

9. DISCUSSION/DIRECTION AWARD OF DWSRF WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT BID: City Manager opened bids on June 26th for the Water Improvement Project. All bids were over the engineer estimates. EGLE does not currently have additional funding at this point for this round but may in a few weeks as other projects may not move forward. The city bonded for the entire estimated project amount, however, the projected bond amount of \$561,250 was bonded as the remainder was grant funded and did not need to be repaid. The city opted to utilize pledging revenue sharing versus completing a bond rating which would have added to the project. The lower bonded amount limited future water increases. The proposal/resolution is to award the a contract in the amount of \$1,845,528 to Kennedy Excavating and reduce the project scope while maintaining the components that provided grant funding. The city engineer would also consider value engineering to ensure the project remain in the FY 2023 fundable range. The city engineer drafted a resolution of support to tentatively move forward on DWSRF Water System Improvement Project.

- **MOTION** by Richard **SECOND** by Burch to approve the resolution as presented. Roll Call Vote. Pangle-Aye, Burch-Aye, Richard-Aye, Martin-Aye, Heslop-Aye, Arnold-Aye and Mayor Brown-Aye. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

10. APPROVAL OF BUDGET AMENDMENT #2 (# 3 AND #4):

MOTION by Richard **SECOND** by Burch to approve the budget amendment #3 and #4. Roll Call Vote: Martin – Aye, Richard – Aye, Burch – Aye, Arnold – Aye, Heslop – Aye, Pangle-Aye and Mayor Brown– Aye. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

11. RESOLUTION RE: REQUEST TO CITY COUNCIL TO LEVY 1.8541 MILLS WITHIN DDA DISTRICT AND APPROVAL OF DDA'S L-4029: The DDA board requested this fiscal year to continue to levy the millage which would be 1.8541 Mills within the DDA district and approve the L-4029 as presented.

- **MOTION** by Arnold **SECOND** by Richard to approve the resolution from the DDA board to levy of 1.8541 mills and approve the L-4029 as presented. Roll Call Vote: Arnold – Aye, Martin – Aye, Pangle – Aye, Burch – Aye, and Mayor Pro-Tem Richard – Aye. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

12. RESOLUTION RE: ADOPTION OF THE JULY 1, 2023 - JUNE 30, 2024 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET AND PROPERTY TAX MILLAGE RATE LEVY

- **MOTION** by Arnold **SECOND** by Richard to approve the resolution in adopting the City of Montrose budget for fiscal year 2024. Roll call Vote. Pangle-Aye, Martin-Aye, Richard-Aye, Burch-Aye, Arnold-Aye, Heslop-Aye, Brown-Aye All Ayes. Motion Carried.

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13. *APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL MAYOR COLLEEN BROWN'S ABSENCE AT THE 5/18/23 COUNCIL MEETING:*

- ***MOTION*** by Richard ***SECOND*** by Heslop that we approve Mayor Brown's absence at the May 18th, 2023 meeting. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: NONE

REPORTS FROM BOARDS & COMMISSIONS:

DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY BOARD: NONE

ELECTION COMMISSION: NONE

GENESEE COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ALLOCATION COMMITTEE: NONE

GENESEE COUNTY METROPOLITAN ALLIANCE: Richard discussed road work on I-475 and the need for more housing in Genesee County.

GENESEE COUNTY SMALL CITIES & VILLAGES ASSOCIATION: Richard said the meeting was held in Otter Lake. Wayne Morry is on the Otter Lake Development Group and spoke about MEDC Grants that are available for Small Cities

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

PLANNING BOARD: NONE

911 CONSORTIUM: Pangle spoke that the executive board met but the general membership did not as it lacked a quorum. Pangle spoke that they should have another alternate member if he is unable to attend.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS: NONE

REPORTS FROM CITY MANAGER AND CITY ATTORNEY:

CITY MANAGER: Gave a verbal report.

The treasurer will be sending out tax bill this week as its just about July. That city staff has been working on a variety of projects and a few have taken a vacation including the manager, clerk, secretary and dpw supervisor these last few weeks. Crack sealing was done last week before all the rain and that was a two-day project. The DPW will be do painting of streets in the next week or as the weather allows.

The NEP grant had 9 applicants that qualified a few that didn't follow the guideline or missed the deadline. I will hopefully hear this week on the pre-approval so work can start. MSHDA did not award us the MOD II grant this round. This was for 265 Oak Street with the plans to build a modular home, however, the mayor and I (if time allows) will be presented the check on Wednesday, July 19th for the MI HOPE Grant.

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CITY ATTORNEY: NONE

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS: NONE

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

ADJOURNMENT:

- **MOTION** by Richard **SECOND** by Burch to adjourn the meeting. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Mayor Brown adjourned the meeting at 8:07 p.m.

Prepared by City Manager, Neil Rankin