

**CITY OF MT. MORRIS
CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING
January 13, 2014**

At **6:30 p.m.**, Mayor Dan Lavelle called the Regular Council Meeting to order.

PRESENT: Dan Lavelle
Randy Michaels
Tonya Davis
Mark Middleton
Ed Sullivan
Judd Judkins
Dennis Heidenfeldt

ABSENT: None.

OTHERS: City Manager Tom Darnell, City Attorney Charles Forrest, Police Chief Keith Becker, DPW Superintendant Jeff Roth, and Deputy Clerk Vicki Fishell.

The Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES:

A motion was made by Council member Middleton and seconded by Council member Heidenfeldt to approve the regular meeting minutes held on December 09, 2013.

All Ayes
Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Mayor Lavelle introduced State Representative Phil Phelps. Mr. Phelps introduced himself; he wants to stay active in working with the city. He will try to be at meetings as often as he can, he does not want the city to not know who he is. If he can help with anything please let him know. He is aware that there are projects in the city that we may need help with and he will push the Governor to utilize the additional revenue they are expecting to be put towards road funding. He thanked everyone and said he would stick around after the meeting in case anyone had questions.

APPROVAL OF WARRANT:

A motion was made by Council member Middleton and seconded by Council member Heidenfeldt to approve Pre-paid Warrant #13-26 in the amount of \$56,151.89 and Warrant #14-01 in the amount of \$37,178.41.

Roll Call: ___7___Ayes ___0___Nay ___0___Absent
Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

John Fedejelem – 604 Walnut – Wished Council and everyone a Happy 2014.

Dan Davis – 1009 E. Mt. Morris – He was impressed with the snow removal over the holiday, hats off to the DPW for the fine job that they did. He also asked why the fire whistle had been shortened. Mayor Dan Lavelle answered that is the way it comes through 911.

Mark Brigolin – Lake Orion – said the DPW did a great job. He also asked if the city had looked at putting up big windmills on the southwest property. Mayor Dan Lavelle said there is no wind that goes through there. Mark Brigolin asked about communication tower or community gardens. Mayor Dan Lavelle answered they've tried all kinds of different stuff. He wouldn't put a community garden on that property, but maybe on some of the smaller lots throughout the city that is city owned. He will definitely look into it.

Tim Elder – 567 Wilson – said the DPW did a heck of a job, he really appreciates it.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

No unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS:

a. RESOLUTION 14-01: Set City Council meeting dates for 2014.

Council member Judd Judkins asked about May 27th, if that was for Memorial Day and asked if it was a normal working day. Mayor Dan Lavelle answered yes it is.

City Manager Tom Darnell said there was some talk about including a planning session on the calendar; it was not included because he did not know what date to put on there. It would probably towards the end of February before we'd have a budget ready.

Council member Davis said that in summertime in July there's never hardly anyone here, why have two in July? Mayor Dan Lavelle said it used to be that way. Council member Heidenfeldt said it's a lot easier to have it on the calendar and cancel it opposed to not having it on the schedule and trying to call one. City Manager Tom Darnell said that would cause a prepaid warrant.

Council member Judkins asked if it was one month or both, Mayor Dan Lavelle said just for July. Council member Judkins said he was in favor of removing the July 28th meeting.

A motion was made by Council member Davis and seconded by Council member Sullivan to amend Resolution 14-01 to remove the July 28th meeting from the calendar.

Roll Call:

___4___Ayes	___3___Nay (Middleton) (Michaels) (Heidenfeldt)	___0___Absent
-------------	--	---------------

Motion carried.

A motion was made by Council member Middleton and seconded by Council member Michaels to **approve RESOLUTION 14-01 as ammended: Set City Council meeting dates for 2014.**

Roll Call:

___6__Ayes	___1__Nay (Heidenfeldt)	_____Absent
------------	----------------------------	-------------

Motion carried.

b. RESOLUTION 14-02: Confirmation of Mayor Lavelle's appointment of Tim Elder, term ending December 2016, to the Planning Commission.

Council member Davis asked who seat he was filling. Mayor Lavelle answered it would be Chris Mazar's.

A motion was made by Council member Middleton and seconded by Council member Michaels to **approve RESOLUTION 14-02: Confirmation of Mayor Lavelle's appointment of Tim Elder, term ending December 2016, to the Planning Commission.**

Roll Call: ___7___Ayes ___0___Nay ___0___Absent
Motion carried.

c. RESOLUTION 14-03: Confirmation of Mayor Lavelle's re-appointment of William Daniels, term ending December 2016 to Board of Review.

A motion was made by Council member Middleton and seconded by Council member Michaels to **approve RESOLUTION 14-03: Confirmation of Mayor Lavelle's re-appointment of William Daniels, term ending December 2016 to Board of Review.**

Roll Call: ___7___Ayes ___0___Nay ___0___Absent
Motion carried.

d. RESOLUTION 14-04: Confirmation of Mayor Lavelle's re-appointment of Don Lemmon, term ending December 2016 and re-appointment of Jay Lanphear, term ending December 2016, to the Downtown Development Authority.

A motion was made by Council member Middleton and seconded by Council member Heidenfeldt to **approve RESOLUTION 14-04: Confirmation of Mayor Lavelle's re-appointment of Don Lemmon, term ending December 2016 and re-appointment of Jay Lanphear, term ending December 2016, to the Downtown Development Authority.**

Roll Call: ___7___Ayes ___0___Nay ___0___Absent
Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Dan Davis – 1009 E. Mt. Morris – asked if the General Fund was down to 18% of annual expenditures. The auditors said 12% was dangerous, we need to start addressing it before it gets that low. Mayor Dan Lavelle said he recalled it being at 22%, City Manager Tom Darnell said the Fund Balance percentage has gone up with the last two audits, we are addressing it.

COUNCIL MEMBER AND STAFF COMMENTS:

Council member Middleton – welcomed Tim, thanked Mr. Phelps for stopping in.

Council member Michaels – congratulated Tim, said it was good seeing Phil again, told Jeff he did a great job.

Council member Heidenfeldt – said to Jeff with two ice storms and the recent snow storm this year you have done really great work. Also a great job to the Police and Fire Departments with what we've gone through in the last six months between the hail storms and these winter storms all the departments do a great job for us. Regarding 929 E. Mt. Morris he asked if the building inspector could go look at it, it still has the black plastic on it from six months ago. City Manager Tom Darnell said he has looked at it, Council member Davis said she would like a report as to what he has done on it. City Manager Tom Darnell said he would get a report. Council member Heidenfeldt said the gates for the railroad crossing are in he's just not sure if they are working yet.

Council member Judkins – Thanked all the departments for what they do in the winter months. He asked DPW Superintendent Jeff Roth about the potholes in the parking lot by Spartan X-ray, and who owns it. Mayor Dan Lavelle answered its railroad right of way. Council member Judkins asked who was responsible for maintaining it, DPW Superintendent Jeff Roth answered it was up to the railroad or the businesses depending on who owns it.

Council member Sullivan – Thanked the DPW for their work over the holidays. Asked if the funds Mr. Phelps was looking at could be put towards moving up our project that is supposed to take place in 2015.

Council member Davis – asked if they could pick up packets on Thursday now. Mayor Lavelle answered they are working on it; they will just have to call and ask. Council member Davis thanked Jeff and the Police Department for doing a wonderful job.

DPW Superintendent Jeff Roth – Thanked his two guys for their work and thanked everyone for their comments, they're always appreciated. The Police Department did a good job removing the cars from the street.

Police Chief Keith Becker – Thanked Jeff and his crew for doing a good job so they were able to patrol the streets. Also he would like to see money put towards public safety.

City Manager Tom Darnell – said it was a real team effort with the last storm, the departments all worked very well together to get the job done. He handed everyone a draft of the purchasing policy. Mayor Dan Lavelle said it could go on the next agenda.

Council member Judd Judkins – had a question regarding the code officer report. He said the same addresses are on there every month, and asked if anything is actually being done. Police Chief Keith Becker said it is listed by block, not the specific address.

Mayor Dan Lavelle – Received in the mail from Keep Genesee County Beautiful they are having an awards program and conferences. It will be Saturday March 8th from 8-1, if anyone is interested in going. Those that received their invitation to the Mayor's Ball you'll notice the proceeds are going to Love, Inc., he now has information about them if you would like it. RSVP is this Friday and then it will be opened to the public.

ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business, the Council Meeting was adjourned at **7:07 p.m.**

Vicki Fishell, Deputy City Clerk