

**CITY OF MT. MORRIS
CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING
October 28, 2013**

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

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

ABSENT: None

OTHERS: City Manager Tom Darnell, City Attorney Charles Forrest, Police Chief Keith Becker, Fire Chief Damon Tobias, Assistant Fire Chief Michael Vogt, DPW Superintendant Jeff Roth and City Clerk Tema Lucero.

The Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES:

A motion was made by Council member Middleton and seconded by Council member Michaels to approve the regular meeting minutes held on October 14, 2013.

All Ayes
Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS:

No Communications.

APPROVAL OF WARRANT:

A motion was made by Council member Middleton and seconded by Council member Michaels to approve
Warrant #13-22 in the amount of \$58,736.13

Roll Call: ___7___Ayes ___0___Nay ___0___Absent
Motion carried.

Mayor Lavelle announced there is a sign-in sheet in the audience if everyone could please sign. It's

for the CDBG public hearing and will be sent to the county.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Dan Davis – 1009 E. Mt. Morris – asked why the election hadn't been changed to the even year to save money. Mayor Lavelle answered he doesn't recall why it hasn't been done, just remembers there was a discussion on it.

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PUBLIC HEARING: 2014 Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program funds.

At 6:34 p.m. a motion was made by Council member Heidenfeldt and seconded by Council member Michaels to open the Public Hearing.

Roll Call
All Ayes
Motion carried.

City Manager Tom Darnell gave a brief overview of the CDBG program and stated that the city is estimated to receive \$27,430. He gave several examples of how the funds may be used.

John Fedejalem – 604 Walnut – wondering if the funds be used to update the playground at Kids Kingdom.

Dan Davis – 1009 E. Mt. Morris – said there has been a population change and there's a lot more people of color in town and they have no place to play basketball, he would like to see basketball courts put somewhere in the city. He would like to also see a community room open to the public rather than money going to the Krapohl Senior Center. There are sidewalks and road repair it could be used for but it should go towards resources for the kids.

Margaret Kozlowski – 8450 Saginaw – Would like to see a light at the north end of town where the road goes from 5 lanes to 4 lanes, there should also be a county sign stating the road narrows. She suggested new lighting for Wilson Ave and questioned if a tree towards the end of the road could be replaced with a street light. On Van Buren she would like to see street lights added. The recessed lights on the library also need to be brighter.

Dorothy Lindsey – 423 Spruce – Asked the Mayor if the CDBG funds still went to the Krapohl Center, Mayor Lavelle answered no that was changed the last time this came up to go towards code enforcement. Dorothy said the suggestions so far were good ones and she would like to see some money go towards code enforcement in the winter time.

Mayor Lavelle said they had received a list from the Fire Department of equipment they could use.

At 6:48 p.m. a motion was made by Council member Heidenfeldt and seconded by Council member

Middleton to close the Public Hearing.

Roll Call

All Ayes

Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

No unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS:

a. Discussion on DPW changing to a five day work week in the winter.

Council member Davis asked if more recent information was available since the 2010-2011 study, and how the energy savings was calculated.

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City manager Tom Darnell said more recent information is not available because they have continued the four day work week. The calculation was taken from the Consumers bills; it's the savings of lighting and heating the building one less day per week.

Council member Davis said if they work 4 ten hour days or 5 eight hour days its still 40 hours worked. City manager Tom Darnell explained the savings in a 4 day week compared to 5 days.

Council member Davis said she would like to see the 5 day week in just the winter, not the summer.

City manager Tom Darnell explained change also affects the citizens, our bills are preprinted with the hours and they are currently on board with no water service on Fridays.

Council member Davis said it doesn't make sense to have the DPW work four days.

Council member Sullivan said he was part of a four day trial and they did see savings in energy, so that point is valid. The energy would not be charged peak hours for that day.

Council member Heidenfeldt asked if we'd have to get new shutoff notices printed. City manager Tom Darnell answered yes, or use the ones with the wrong information. Council member Heidenfeldt asked how long it took and if they charged to redo the printing on it. City manager Tom Darnell said it's typically a month to receive them and there is a \$10 charge to change the printing.

Mayor Lavelle said he's talked to City manager Tom Darnell regarding the issue. The overtime had been explained but his concern was public safety in the winter time. The cost of a lawsuit could make the savings worthless.

Council member Sullivan asked if salting could be someone's job on Friday's, Mayor Lavelle said it is DPW's job and they are union so no one else can do it. Council member Sullivan said a person could fall on any given day not just Friday. He asked if the overtime hours included calling the DPW in on Fridays to take care of salting walk ways. City manager Tom Darnell answered yes.

b. RESOLUTION 13-42: Approval of amendment to the Genesee County Solid Waste Management Plan.

City manager Tom Darnell gave a brief explanation of the plan and requirements.

A motion was made by Council member Middleton and seconded by Council member Heidenfeldt to **approve the RESOLUTION 13-42: Approval of amendment to the Genesee County Solid Waste Management Plan.**

Roll Call: ___7___Ayes ___0___Nay ___0___Absent
Motion carried.

c. ORDINACE 13-05: Fireworks Ordinance (first reading).

A motion was made by Council member Michaels and seconded by Council member Middleton to **approve ORDINACE 13-05: Fireworks Ordinance (first reading).**

Roll Call: ___7___Ayes ___0___Nay ___0___Absent
Motion carried.

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PUBLIC COMMENT:

Margaret Kozlowski – 8450 Saginaw – she mentioned the signs at the city limits are falling apart and should be updated. She gave suggestions of the size, wording and lighting.

Dan Davis – 1009 E. Mt. Morris – he mentioned on Temperance there's a telephone box that needs to be secured. He also said the new DPW trench box needs to be locked because it's made of aluminum and if left out will come out missing. He believes the 4 day DPW work week is a public safety issue and they could respond quicker if they were already here on Fridays.

COUNCIL MEMBER AND STAFF COMMENTS:

Council member Middleton thanked DPW Superintendent Jeff Roth for a very informative tour of the DPW. He received information on how things worked and operated and what their day to day operation goes. He has much more knowledge of how the department works now and appreciated Jeff taking the better part of two hours of his time to show him.

Council member Michaels reminded everyone to vote on Tuesday, November 5th and good luck to all those that are running.

Council member Heidenfeldt said the Fire Department put on a nice open house, and had a good turnout.

Council member Judkins Thanked the Fire Chief for the time he gave him at the Open House, it was fun. Also thanked Margaret for the information she provided and the knowledge she has of the city. He also agreed that the city limit signs need to include a list of what the Gateways to recreation are.

Council member Davis had a question on the rental house on the corner of Mt Morris and Walter. The roof was damaged in the storm in June and she wanted to know why the code enforcer hasn't done anything. Mayor Lavelle said that would be up to Gerry Hall to inspect. City manager Tom Darnell said he would get her an answer.

City attorney Charles Forrest recognized former Council member Pam Vogt was present.

Assistant Chief Michael Vogt asked when reviewing how to spend the CDBG funds they consider the requests the Fire Department submitted, it would be beneficial to the entire community.

City manager Tom Darnell asked how the block grant was handled in the past, if the manager brought back options. Mayor Lavelle said that usually at this time they were given their options. Tom said he will hopefully bring back his suggestions to the next meeting.

Mayor Lavelle reminded everyone that next Tuesday is Election Day and hopes to see everyone there.

ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business, the Council Meeting was adjourned at **7:21 p.m.**

Tema J. Lucero, City Clerk