

CITY OF MT. MORRIS
CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING
April 22, 2013

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

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

ABSENT: None

OTHERS: City Manager Tom Darnell, Attorney Charles Forrest, DPW Superintendent Jeff Roth, Police Chief Keith Becker, Fire Chief Todd Rockwell, and Interim City 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 minutes of the regular meeting held on April 8, 2013.

All Ayes
Motion carried.

Council member Heidenfeldt asked to have the two memos that he wrote to council placed on the agenda under new business. One was on a library millage and the other one was on city elections.

There were no objections from council.

COMMUNICATIONS:

- a. Proclamation for Carolyn Nash, Executive Director of the Genesee District Library.

Mayor Lavelle stated that Carolyn Nash is retiring at the end of the month and she has done a lot for the library and the community.

APPROVAL OF WARRANT:

A motion was made by Council member Heidenfeldt and seconded by Council member Middleton to approve Warrant #13-08 in the amount of \$97,385.34.

Roll Call: ___7___Ayes ___0___Nay ___0___Absent
Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Dan Davis – 1009 E. Mt. Morris – mentioned that he brought up a couple weeks ago about the tree that is in front of 911 E. Mt. Morris. The tree is dead and it is going to fall real soon. Something needs to be done.

Louise Parham – 11517 Read – mentioned that she missed the dates for Board of Review. She would like to know why they went up. She has called the assessor's office and no one has gotten back with her.

City Manager Tom Darnell asked her to leave her name and number and someone will get back with her.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

No Unfinished Business.

NEW BUSINESS:

a. RESOLUTION 13-25: Designation of City Manager Tom Darnell as City Engineer.

City Manager Tom Darnell mentioned that the city has to hire a consultant to do the design for Saginaw Street. It should be in the design process in 2015 and construction in 2016. Because Rowe has a close relationship with the city MDOT looks at them as the city engineer which then creates a conflict of interest for them in designing the project. If the city makes Mr. Darnell the city engineer then that frees up Rowe as a firm with a conflict of interest in the design of the road.

A motion was made by Council member Heidenfeldt seconded by Council member Michaels to **approve RESOLUTION 13-25: Designation of City Manger Tom Darnell as City Engineer.**

Roll Call: ___7___Ayes ___0___Nay ___0___Absent
Motion carried.

b. RESOLUTION 13-26: Approval of POLC contract extension 7/1/2013-6/30/2014.

Council member Hiedenfeldt mentioned that on page 21 under Article 19 the effective date through should be June 30, 2016.

A motion was made by Council member Heidenfeldt seconded by Council member Michaels to **approve RESOLUTION 13-26: Approval of POLC contract extension 7/1/2013-6/30/2014, as amended.**

Roll Call: ___7___Ayes ___0___Nay ___0___Absent
Motion carried.

c. Discussion on Library Millage.

Council member Heidenfeldt mentioned that the way he reads the law the city can have 1 mill for the library. It would be used for the upkeep of the property and the building. It would then free up that money in the general fund.

City Attorney Charles Forrest stated that the statute is directed at the city creating its own library and having a board of directors. Mr. Forrest mentioned that the way he reads it the city would have to take over the library. He suggests that the city talk to the Genesee District Library.

Council member Heidenfeldt asked if the city can do this.

City Attorney Charles Forrest mentioned that he would talk to Mike MaGee at Miller Canfield and see what he thinks and report back.

Mayor Lavelle asked council if they want to explore this because the city does have to pay the attorney to do this.

City Attorney Charles Forrest mentioned that he would send an email to Mike MaGee and see what he says.

Council member Heidenfeldt mentioned that if the city could do this the city would never have to worry about shutting the library down.

d. Discussion on City Election Dates.

Council member Heidenfeldt mentioned that there is a new state law that says the city can change their election date from the odd numbered years to the even numbered years by resolution. This would save the city about \$1,500. This would not be effective this year. It is a waste of money to run the polls when nothing else is on the ballot.

Interim City Clerk Vicki Fishell mentioned that the city would have to check with the county and the state to see what the process is to change the date.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Dan Davis – 1009 E. Mt. Morris – stated that he thinks the election switch would be a good idea. He stated that he thinks raising taxes is an outrageous idea. It is a waste of money to even try and ask for a library millage. He also mentioned that the city website is outdated. The logo should also be on the website.

COUNCIL MEMBER AND STAFF COMMENTS:

Council member Judkins thanked the departments for their reports. He also asked who fills the cracks in the cement on the fire department ramp.

DPW Superintendent Jeff Roth mentioned that the city has a tar machine that they fill those with.

Council member Heidenfeldt thanked city staff for the information sheet that has been prepared for residents. He also asked about having a budget workshop.

Council discussed on when to hold a budget workshop. It was decided to hold the budget workshop on April 29th at 6:30 p.m.

Council member Heidenfeldt mentioned the TIP project for Saginaw Street has been merged into one project instead of two. He also mentioned that there is a slim chance that the project could get moved up.

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Council member Michaels mentioned that there will be a golf scramble on Saturday, June 8th at Sugar Bush Golf Course to benefit Dancing in the Streets.

Council member Middleton thanked City Manager Tom Darnell for allowing the library to paint a mural in the children's center.

Mayor Lavelle mentioned that the upcoming events for the city are the Memorial Day Parade and Dancing in the Streets.

ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business, the Council Meeting was adjourned at **7:20 p.m.**

Vicki Fishell, Interim City Clerk