

CITY OF MT. MORRIS
CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING
July 08, 2013

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

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

ABSENT: None

OTHERS: City Manager Tom Darnell, City Attorney Charles Forrest, DPW Superintendent Jeff Roth, Fire Chief Damon Tobias, Assistant Fire Chief Mike Vogt, and City Clerk Tema Lucero.

The Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES:

A motion was made by Council member Heidenfeldt seconded by Council member Judkins to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on June 24, 2013.

All Ayes
Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS:

No Communications

APPROVAL OF WARRANT:

A motion was made by Council member Middleton and seconded by Council member Heidenfeldt to approve Warrant #13-14 in the amount of \$20,463.78.

Council member Davis asked if the amount was the total for the storm.

DPW Superintendent Jeff Roth said there is \$1,025 left to pay.

Council member Davis asked if the tree service amount on the last warrant was also for storm clean up. She would like to have a grand total of what both storms cost the city.

City Manager Tom Darnell said he would get a total for next meeting.

Council member Davis asked what the petroleum bills were for.

City Manager Tom Darnell stated that they are fuel deliveries to the DPW garage.

DPW Superintendant Jeff Roth stated that is what all the city vehicles use.

Council member Davis said she has added up over \$17,000 total for the storm, and asked if that seemed right.

City Manager Tom Darnell said it could be correct; he will get a list divided by fund to council for next meeting for total storm cost.

Council member Davis said she did not care about the different funds the money came from, just a total cost for storm cleanup including over time.

DPW Superintendant Jeff Roth stated there were only three hours of over time.

Roll Call: ___7___Ayes ___0___Nay ___0___Absent
Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Dan Davis – 1009 E. Mt. Morris – apologized for telling council Grand Blanc has guidelines for balancing a budget in their charter, it does not. He did have newspaper articles regarding Grand Blanc and Burton's budgets and how they balanced them.

Violet Lawrence – 326 Spruce – Said this is her third meeting regarding stray cats. She went to several surrounding cities and got their ordinances regarding the problem, she also got the ordinance from the City of Mt. Morris and pointed out that we do have an ordinance and wanted to know how to get it enforced.

Police Chief Keith Becker said they did talk to both the magistrate and the judge and they said they wouldn't enforce it. So we are able to write the ticket but there is no guarantee that if they see it they won't throw it out.

City attorney Charles Forrest said to issue the ticket and he will take it to court.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

No Unfinished Business.

NEW BUSINESS:

a. RESOLUTION 13-33: "Bike on the Bricks" – September 14, 2013.

A motion was made by Council member Michaels and seconded by Council member Heidenfeldt to **approve RESOLUTION 13-33: "Bike on the Bricks" – September 14, 2013.**

Roll Call: ___7___Ayes ___0___Nay ___0___Absent
Motion carried.

b. RESOLUTION 13-34: Purchase of 2014 Ford F-350 4x4 Truck with Snow Plow.

A motion was made by Council member Heidenfeldt and seconded by Council member Michaels to **approve**
RESOLUTION 13-34: Purchase of 2014 Ford F-350 4x4 Truck with Snow Plow.

Council member Davis said in the last meeting we turned down \$1 per hour raise for the firefighters and now want to purchase a vehicle. She asked what the purpose of the vehicle was since we have trucks that can do the job.

City Manager Tom Darnell answered it would be replacing a 2001 truck, since it will be outfitted with a plow it would be able to assist with the smaller plowing jobs in the city. There were times last year that we were down to one plow truck due to they are all getting old.

Council member Davis asked what vehicles we currently have running.

City Manager Tom Darnell answered we have two large dump trucks and a F450 that can plow.

Council member Heidenfeldt explained the funds for the vehicle were different than where the money for the firefighters would have come from and it was approved in the budget.

Council member Davis stated it doesn't matter where the money comes from we have plenty of vehicles.

Council member Judson asked if it would replace the truck Jeff currently drives and how old it was.

DPW Superintendant Jeff Roth answered yes.

Roll Call:

___2__Ayes		___5___Nay (Middleton) (Sullivan) (Judkins) (Davis) (Lavelle)	___0___Absent
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Motion denied.

c. RESOLUTION 13-35: Acceptance of settlement and payment arrangements for Tax Tribunal case.

A motion was made by Council member Michaels and seconded by Council member Middleton to **approve RESOLUTION 13-35: Acceptance of settlement and payment arrangements for Tax Tribunal case.**

Roll Call: ___7___Ayes ___0___Nay ___0___Absent
Motion carried.

d. RESOLUTION 13-36: Confirmation of Mayor Lavelle's appointment of Marcus Middleton to the Planning Commission term ending December 2014.

A motion was made by Council member Middleton and seconded by Council member Davis to **approve RESOLUTION 13-36: Confirmation of Mayor Lavelle's appointment of Marcus Middleton to the Planning Commission term ending December 2014.**

Roll Call: ___7___Ayes ___0___Nay ___0___Absent
Motion carried.

e. Official Ballot for MML Workers' Compensation Fund.

A motion was made by Council member Michaels and seconded by Council member Heidenfeldt to **approve Official Ballot for MML Workers' Compensation Fund.**

Roll Call: ___7___Ayes ___0___Nay ___0___Absent
Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

John Fedejelem – 604 Walnut – Asked what Resolution 13-35 for the tax tribunal was for.

Mayor Dan Lavelle answered it was a legal case where a property was not accessed correctly and taxes were paid. The city now needs to repay a settlement.

Mr. Fedejelem asked whose fault it was.

Charlie answered anyone has the right to go to the tribunal if they feel their taxes are not correct. Our assessor received information from the County that the property was worth what it was being assessed for.

Dan Davis – 1009 E. Mt Morris Rd – stated he drives an old truck with high miles because he can't afford a new one. The city can't afford one either, they should buy a fire truck if they are looking to buy something.

Sandy Fedejelem – 604 walnut – asked the City Manager if he looked into who owned a property on Walnut St. and what to do with property that is run down.

City Manager Tom Darnell answered he had not, eventually it would be county owned and their responsibility to take care of it.

COUNCIL MEMBER AND STAFF COMMENTS:

Council member Middleton welcomed his son Marc Middleton to the planning commission and wished his daughter Christine a Happy Birthday.

Council member Michaels asked how the new police Tahoe was working out, stated that it looked good going down the road.

Council member Heidenfeldt said congratulations to the new City Clerk, Fire Chief, and assistant Fire Chief.

Council member Judson congratulated TJ on the City Clerk position and thanked her for wanting to take the position. He also congratulated the Fire Chief, hoped he had a good vacation and was ready for the new position.

Council member Sullivan congratulated both the new City Clerk and Fire Chief.

Council member Davis congratulated both the new City Clerk and Fire Chief.

Police Chief Keith Becker stated he will be on vacation from July 15th until July 29th.

City Manager Tom Darnell said the new Tahoe is in the parking lot and looks sharp. He congratulated Marc Middleton for his appointment to Planning Commission. Congratulated TJ and the Fire Chief on their new positions and said it was good to have them both on board. He also said he wanted to say a little bit about financing. We have a city budget, but it needs to be looked at as there are several individual budgets. The general fund is usually where we run into trouble and that is where the police and fire are paid out of. If you look at the water, street and sewer funds those are not as dire, we can't not take care of the streets or other services because the general fund is lacking. He stated he will not be in on Tuesday; he hopes to return Wednesday and will be off Thursday.

Mayor Dan Lavelle congratulated the new City Clerk and Fire Chief; he looks forward to working with them.

ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business, the Council Meeting was adjourned at **7:12 p.m.**

Tema J. Lucero, City Clerk