

REGULAR MEETING OF THE WEST BRANCH CITY COUNCIL HELD IN PERSON AND VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF CITY HALL, 121 NORTH FOURTH STREET ON MONDAY, APRIL 3, 2023.

Mayor Frechette called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Present: City Mayor Paul Frechette, Council Members Carol Adair, Joanne Bennett, Mike Jackson, Ellen Pugh, Rusty Showalter, and Cathy Zimmerman.

Absent: None

Other officers present: City Manager John Dantzer, City Clerk Lori Ann Clover, City Treasurer Michelle Frechette, DPW Supervisor Mike Killackey, Chief Ken Walters, Commissioner Craig Scott, Chamber Director Heather Neuhaus, and City Realtor Yvonne DeRoso.

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

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Commissioner Scott gave an update on county activities. The commissioners authorized the transit to apply for a grant to purchase a bus. A resolution was approved for the medical examiners service proposal. The 911 re-assessment was approved. The county standards of conduct were approved. It was discovered that the county had no authority for certain ordinances that were on the books so those ordinances were repealed. The county reviewed and approved the annual audit. They are re-prioritizing projects that are funded with AARPA money. At the last road commission meeting, they reported spending approximately 67.5% of their winter budget with 60 inches of snow so far.

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Director Neuhaus introduced several special events and activities the Chamber would like to do this summer. Including the 100-day celebration in September which might possibly include a beer tent and closing downtown off. Council discussed the idea and Chief Walters thought it would be good if the event could be run similar to Fabulous Fridays where the beer tent would be closed around 9:00 or 10:00 pm.

MOTION BY SHOWALTER, SECOND BY BENNETT TO APPROVE THE CHAMBERS SPECIAL EVENTS INCLUDING THE INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE, OGEMAW COUNTY BUSINESS & COMMUNITY EXPO AND JOB FAIR, THE ORB GEOTOUR KICK OFF; ALSO SUPPORT FOR THE 100 YEAR CELEBRATION ACTIVITY PLANNING.

Yes —Adair, Bennett, Frechette, Jackson, Pugh, Showalter, Zimmerman

No – None

Absent – None

Motion carried

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MOTION BY PUGH, SECOND BY JACKSON TO AWARD THE BID FOR THE M-30 PROPERTY WATER SYSTEM AND INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADES TO J & N CONSTRUCTION FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$1,261,394.00.

Yes —Adair, Bennett, Frechette, Jackson, Pugh, Showalter, Zimmerman

No – None

Absent – None

Motion carried

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MOTION BY BENNETT, SECOND BY JACKSON, TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF THE BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$120,003.37.

Yes —Adair, Bennett, Frechette, Jackson, Pugh, Showalter, Zimmerman

No – None

Absent – None

Motion carried

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MOTION BY BENNETT, SECOND BY ZIMMERMAN TO APPROVE THE TRANSFER OF THE MARIJUANA LICENSE FROM RICHARD WING TO NICKOLAS CALKINS AT THE ADDRESS OF 518 E. HOUGHTON AVE.

Yes —Adair, Bennett, Frechette, Jackson, Pugh, Showalter, Zimmerman

No – None

Absent – None

Motion carried

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Council discussed the offer for the property in the industrial park. The offer was \$15,000 less than asking price and he is going to use the property for outdoor storage with no concrete plans for developing it. In this case a reversionary clause doesn't make sense.

MOTION BY FRECHETTE, SECOND BY ZIMMERMAN TO DENY THE OFFER ON THE PROPERTY IN THE INDUSTRIAL PARK.

Yes —Adair, Bennett, Frechette, Jackson, Pugh, Showalter, Zimmerman

No – None

Absent – None

Motion carried

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MOTION BY ADAIR, SECOND BY JACKSON TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AND SUMMARY FROM THE REGULAR MEETING HELD MARCH 20, 2023.

Yes —Adair, Bennett, Frechette, Jackson, Pugh, Showalter, Zimmerman

No – None

Absent – None

Motion carried

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MOTION BY SHOWALTER, SECOND BY FRECHETTE TO RECEIVE AND FILE THE TREASURER'S REPORT AND INVESTMENT SUMMARY; MINUTES FROM THE WWTPA MEETING HELD DECEMBER 20, 2022; MINUTES FROM THE DDA SPECIAL MEETINGS HELD JANUARY 17, 2023 AND FEBRUARY 6, 2023; AND MINUTES FROM THE BOARD OF REVIEW MARCH 2023 SESSION.

Yes —Adair, Bennett, Frechette, Jackson, Pugh, Showalter, Zimmerman

No – None

Absent – None

Motion carried

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Communications shared included copies of letters sent from the NLC on behalf of the communities listed and a letter on the election changes coming to the State due to the passing of Proposal 2.

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Manager Dantzer asked council how they would like to approach discussing the budget.

MOTION BY FRECHETTE, SECOND BY JACKSON TO SCHEDULE A WORK SESSION TO DISCUSS FISCAL YEAR 2023/2024 BUDGET FOR APRIL 10, 2023 AT 6:00 PM.

Yes —Adair, Bennett, Frechette, Jackson, Pugh, Showalter, Zimmerman

No – None

Absent – None

Motion carried

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Mayor Frechette adjourned the meeting at 6:43 pm.

Paul Frechette, Mayor

Lori Ann Clover, Clerk