

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, FEBRUARY 21, 2022.

Mayor Frechette called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

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

Absent: Council Member Joanne Bennett

Other officers present: City Manager John Dantzer, City Clerk Lori Ann Clover, County Commissioner Mark Surbrook.

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

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County Commissioner Surbrook gave County updates. The Ogemaw County Building will be closed tomorrow February 22nd in anticipation for the bad weather. February 10th sixth graders from Whittemore/Prescott made a field trip to the county and were able to shadow officers and attend a BOC meeting which was very successful. The EMS audit was conducted and were given a clean bill of health.

Sean Gilbert the owner of “Made in America” was in attendance with his family and presented American Flags to all County and City branches. He also donated 50 American flags to the city to be used downtown this year. The store will be opening the end of March beginning of April with a “Grand Opening” scheduled for the fourth of July with 50 veterans flying flags in the parade. They are also sponsoring a “wounded vet” program with a donation capsule in the store and will be matching the donations in the capsule. The veteran and his/her family will be chosen by the Veterans Administration Program. Sean would like to make West Branch the next “City of Flags”.

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MOTION BY FRECHETTE, SECOND BY JACKSON, TO EXCUSE SHOWALTER FROM THE VOTE ON THE AUTHORIZATION FOR CITY MANAGER SIGNATURE ON SALES CONTRACT FOR PARCEL ID#65-052-520-018-00.

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

No – None

Absent – Bennett

Motion carried

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MOTION BY JOHNSON, SECOND BY PUGH, TO AUTHORIZE CITY MANAGER SIGNATURE ON SALES CONTRACT FOR PARCEL ID#65-052-520-018-00.

Yes — Adair, Frechette, Jackson, Pugh, Zimmerman

No – None Absent – Bennett Abstain-Showalter Motion carried

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MOTION BY ZIMMERMAN, SECOND BY SHOWALTER, TO APPROVE THE PAYMENT OF BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$66,284.95.

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

No – None Absent – Bennett Motion carried

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MOTION BY JACKSON, SECOND BY ZIMMERMAN, TO APPROVE THE SPECIAL EVENT BY FAITH ALIVE INVOLVING A WORKDAY TO IMPROVE IRON’S PARK.

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

No – None Absent – Bennett Motion carried

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MOTION BY ZIMMERMAN, SECOND BY JACKSON, TO EXCUSE COUNCIL MEMBER BENNETT FROM THE MEETING DUE TO FAMILY ILLNESS.

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

No – None Absent – Bennett Motion carried

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MOTION BY SHOWALTER, SECOND BY ADAIR, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AND SUMMARY FROM THE MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 7, 2022.

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

No – None Absent – Bennett Motion carried

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MOTION BY SHOWALTER, SECOND BY JACKSON, TO RECEIVE AND FILE THE TREASURER’S REPORT AND INVESTMENT SUMMARY; APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE AIRPORT BOARD MEETING HELD DECEMBER 15, 2021 AND JANUARY 19, 2022; MINUTES FROM THE OGEMAW COUNTY LAND BANK AUTHORITY MEETING HELD AUGUST 17, 2021; AND THE WEST BRANCH POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR JANUARY 2022 MONTH END.

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

No – None

Absent – Bennett

Motion carried

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Council Member Jackson stated they discussed the budget and health insurance for the director at the last Airport Board meeting.

Council member Adair mentioned that they are now actively tearing down the old hospital downtown.

Manager Dantzer noted that the State Police Post reverts back to the City. He will be getting the keys from the State Police Post Commander. General consensus from Council was to hold a work session to tour the post at 5:30 prior to the March 7th meeting.

Manager Dantzer discussed the ordinance of marijuana facilities in the city. General consensus of council was to hold a work session with Denise Cline.

Sheriff Gilbert gave the report that things were going smoothly.

Mayor Frechette adjourned the meeting at 6:42 pm.

Paul Frechette, Mayor

Lori Ann Clover, Clerk