

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, OCTOBER 3, 2022.

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

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

Absent: Carol Adair

Other officers present: City Manager John Dantzer, City Clerk Lori Ann Clover, DPW Supervisor Mike Killackey, Chief Kenneth Walters, City Attorney Greg Meihn, and County Commissioner Mark Surbrook.

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

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Commissioner Surbrook reported that they approved the 2022/2023 budget at the last meeting. If anyone would like to see the details let him know. They also approved the purchase of a new camera.

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**MOTION BY FRECHETTE, SECOND BY PUGH, TO EXCUSE MEMBER ADAIR FROM THE MEETING.**

**Yes – Bennett, Frechette, Jackson, Pugh, Showalter, and Zimmerman**

**No – None**

**Absent – Adair**

**Motion carried**

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**MOTION BY BENNETT, SECOND BY ZIMMERMAN, TO APPROVE THE PAYMENT OF BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$108,846.33.**

**Yes – Bennett, Frechette, Jackson, Pugh, Showalter, and Zimmerman**

**No – None**

**Absent – Adair**

**Motion carried**

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**MOTION BY SHOWALTER, SECOND BY PUGH, TO APPROVE WAIVING THE PEDDLER FEES FOR THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND THE FLANNEL & FLAPJACK FUNDRAISER.**

**Yes – Bennett, Frechette, Jackson, Pugh, Showalter, and Zimmerman**

**No – None**

**Absent – Adair**

**Motion carried**

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**MOTION BY SHOWALTER, SECOND BY BENNETT, TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATION BY THE MML NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR THE MML LIABILITY AND PROPERTY POOL DIRECTORS.**

**Yes – Bennett, Frechette, Jackson, Pugh, Showalter, and Zimmerman**

**No – None**

**Absent – Adair**

**Motion carried**

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**MOTION BY BENNETT, SECOND BY JACKSON, TO ALLOW MANAGER DANTZER TO SIGN THE WEST BRANCH EDA GRANT AGREEMENT.**

The City has been awarded \$1,531,400 and the local match requirement is the MEDC grant.

**Yes – Bennett, Frechette, Jackson, Pugh, Showalter, and Zimmerman**

**No – None**

**Absent – Adair**

**Motion carried**

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**MOTION BY PUGH, SECOND BY SHOWALTER TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AND SUMMARY FROM THE REGULAR MEETING AND CLOSED SESSION HELD SEPTEMBER 19, 2022.**

**Yes – Bennett, Frechette, Jackson, Pugh, Showalter, and Zimmerman**

**No – None**

**Absent – Adair**

**Motion carried**

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**MOTION BY SHOWALTER, SECOND BY JACKSON TO RECEIVE AND FILE THE TREASURER’S REPORT AND INVESTMENT SUMMARY; MINUTES FROM THE WWTP MEETING HELD JUNE 14, 2022; MINUTES FROM THE AIRPORT BOARD MEETING HELD AUGUST 17, 2022; MINUTES FROM THE DDA MEETING HELD AUGUST 23, 2022; AND MINUTES FROM THE PLANNING COMMISSION HELD SEPTEMBER 13, 2022.**

**Yes – Bennett, Frechette, Jackson, Pugh, Showalter, and Zimmerman**

**No – None**

**Absent – Adair**

**Motion carried**

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Communications shared included The Center for Local, State, and Urban Policy September 2022 Newsletter and Charter Communications channel addition.

Member Showalter gave kudos for the grant approval and match requirement.

Member Pugh stated that the MyMichigan doctors’ offices are moving along nicely.

Manager Dantzer stated that he received an estimate for the repairs at the pocket park for the brick work.

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**MOTION BY SHOWALTER, SECOND BY JACKSON TO PUT OUT FOR BID THE REPAIR OF THE BRICKS AT THE POCKET PARK.**

**Yes – Bennett, Frechette, Jackson, Pugh, and Showalter**

**No – Zimmerman**

**Absent – Adair**

**Motion carried**

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After further discussion concerning the repair and the expertise required, Member Zimmerman suggested approving the estimate Manager Dantzer received.

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**MOTION BY SHOWALTER, SECOND BY JACKSON TO RESCIND THE MOTION TO PUT THE BRICK WORK AT THE POCKET PARK OUT FOR BID.**

**Yes – Frechette, Jackson, Pugh, Showalter, and Zimmerman**

**No – Bennett**

**Absent – Adair**

**Motion carried**

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**MOTION BY JACKSON, SECOND BY SHOWALTER TO APPROVE THE BID FROM LAY CONSTRUCTION FOR \$19,800 AS THE SOLE SOURCE VENDOR.**

**Yes – Frechette, Jackson, Pugh, Showalter, and Zimmerman**

**No – Bennett**

**Absent – Adair**

**Motion carried**

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Manager Dantzer stated that the Santa Train will be coming back to West Branch this year on December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Council agreed that Manager Dantzer could work with the Chamber on an official tree lighting ceremony. Supervisor Killackey announced that he hoped to have the Christmas Tree up before Thanksgiving.

Manager Dantzer informed Council that there would be a tour of the WWTP tomorrow at 2:00 pm for newer staff if anyone was interested in attending.

Attorney Meihn stated that there has been a hearing officer assigned and we will be able to move forward with the ordinance violations.

Mayor Frechette adjourned the meeting at 6:25 pm.

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Paul Frechette, Mayor

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Lori Ann Clover, Clerk