

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, SEPTEMBER 18, 2023.

Mayor Pro Tem Jackson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

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

Absent: City Mayor Paul Frechette

Other officers present: City Manager John Dantzer, City Clerk Lori Ann Clover, Police Chief Ken Walters, DPW Supervisor Mike Killackey, and County Commissioner Craig Scott.

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

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Commissioner Scott gave a county update. The Northern Michigan reciprocal law enforcement agreement was approved. There was a resolution to approve a quote for some Emergency Management Department supplies. AVCMH gave a report. There was one bid for seasonal snowplowing which was approved. They are still working through budget issues. A Mills Township representative was appointed to the Parks and Recs Board.

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Pamela Anderson informed council that she has recently re-purchased the house at 443 N Fairview St. She is asking the City to enforce the noise ordinance with the semi-trucks that drive past the house at all hours including during the night and use their Jake brakes which are extremely loud. This happens on a nightly basis and she is not able to sleep through the night or even take a phone call in the front yard.

Council discussion was that the county takes care of that stretch Fairview Rd. Unfortunately, there is not a lot that can be done. Manager Dantzer and Chief Walters will meet to attempt to set up some type of solution. Chief Walters will station a patrol car to take company names on the trucks and Manager Dantzer will write a letter to the companies asking them to remind their drivers they are driving through a residential area and there is a noise ordinance in effect and tickets will be given if the ordinance is violated.

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**MOTION BY JACKSON, SECOND BY BENNETT TO EXCUSE MAYOR FRECHETTE FROM TODAY'S MEETING.**

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

**No – None**

**Absent – Frechette**

**Motion carried**

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Mike Saylor introduced himself as owner of the Royalty Pavement Markings, one of the companies that submitted a striping bid. He informed council that he has 23 years of experience and opened his own business in June. He is based out of Carsonville. He assured council that even though his company is new they need not worry, the company would stand behind their work.

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Manager Dantzer explained that two bids were received, one from Horizon Sealcoating and one from Royalty Pavement Markings. He is concerned that the bids are not comparing the same work from bid to bid. He would like more time to review them both with DPW Supervisor Killackey prior to the next meeting to make sure we are getting an accurate cost and comparison.

**MOTION BY SHOWALTER, SECOND BY BENNETT TO POSTPONE THE DECISION ON THE STRIPING BIDS UNTIL THE NEXT MEETING.**

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

**No – None    Absent – Frechette    Motion carried**

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**MOTION BY BENNETT, SECOND BY JACKSON, TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF THE BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$132,225.27.**

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

**No – None    Absent – Frechette    Motion carried**

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**MOTION BY SHOWALTER, SECOND BY JACKSON, TO APPROVE THE VOTING RECOMMENDATION BY MML FOR THE THREE INCUMBENT POOL DIRECTORS THAT ARE SEEKING RE-ELECTION.**

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

**No – None    Absent – Frechette    Motion carried**

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**MOTION BY SHOWALTER, SECOND BY PUGH, TO APPROVE THE FLEIS & VANDENBRINK PSA AND APPROVED MANAGER DANTZER TO SIGN ON BEHALF OF THE CITY CONTINGENT UPON FINAL GRANT APPROVAL.**

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

**No – None    Absent – Frechette    Motion carried**

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**MOTION BY JACKSON, SECOND BY ADAIR TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AND SUMMARY FROM THE REGULAR MEETING HELD SEPTEMBER 5, 2023.**

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

**No – None**

**Absent – Frechette**

**Motion carried**

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**MOTION BY SHOWALTER, SECOND BY BENNETT TO RECEIVE AND FILE THE TREASURER’S REPORT AND INVESTMENT SUMMARY; WEST BRANCH POLICE DEPARTMENT AUGUST 2023 REPORT; AND MINUTES FROM THE PLANNING COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING HELD AUGUST 22, 2023.**

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

**No – None**

**Absent – Frechette**

**Motion carried**

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Communications included a letter from Charter, the MML 2023/2024 Member Certificate, and crash data for the Seventh St. train crossing. Manager Dantzer explained that this was just the initial information and he would forward the full report to council when he received it.

Member Adair announced that they will be closing the Mercantile Bank location on 502 W Houghton Ave. There is still a branch at 2087 M-76.

Member Pugh thanked DPW Supervisor Killackey and his staff for the good job of flushing fire hydrants. Also, for the fast work repairing the water main break on Alto Court.

Member Zimmerman thanked DPW for their efforts and staying up all night while repairing the water main break on the corner of Fairview and Houghton.

Member Bennett informed members that Wright St. has been repaved nicely and is a much smoother route than Houghton at the moment.

Manager Dantzer informed members that Heather from the Chamber invited Council to the Centennial Celebration October 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 am and to a VIP tour of the Chamber building September 22<sup>nd</sup> at 1:00 pm or September 29 at 1:00 pm.

Chief Walters informed Council that the new police car would be receiving graphics at the end of the week and then the equipment would be installed. It should be ready to go by the first of October.

DPW Supervisor Killackey reported that they have been very busy. MDOT will be pouring new concrete at the corner of Fairview and Houghton this week.

Mayor Pro Tem Jackson adjourned the meeting at 6:41 pm.

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Mike Jackson, Mayor Pro Tem

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Lori Ann Clover, Clerk