

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, JANUARY 24, 2022.

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 Amanda Stang, City Treasurer Michelle Frechette, Public Works Superintendent Mike Killackey and County Commissioner Mark Surbrook.

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

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County Commissioner Surbrook gave County updates regarding the KCC Millage and Arenac County Drain Commission Millage.

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**MOTION BY ADAIR, SECOND BY PUGH, TO APPROVE MIKE JACKSON AS MAYOR PRO-TEM.**

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

**No – None**

**Absent – None**

**Motion carried**

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**MOTION BY SHOWALTER, SECOND BY BENNETT, TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 22-03, NAMING OF AUTHORIZED BANK SIGNERS WITH MAYOR PRO-TEM JACKSON LISTED.**

**RESOLUTION #22-03**

**WHEREAS, for audit purposes, at the first meeting of every year, it is recommended the City annually names all banks the City is allowed to conduct business with, and**

**WHEREAS, it is also recommended to approve all authorized signers and depositors for City funds, and**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the West Branch City Council hereby approves the following as authorized banks: Huntington Bank, Mercantile Bank, PNC Bank, Huron Community Bank, and Northland Area Federal Credit Union, and**

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the City approves Manager, John Dantzer; Treasurer, Michelle Frechette; Mayor, Paul Frechette, and Mayor Pro Tem, Mike Jackson as authorized signers and depositors for the City.**

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

**No – None**

**Absent – None**

**Motion carried**

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**MOTION BY PUGH, SECOND BY SHOWALTER, TO POSTPONE THE 2022 MAYOR EXCHANGE ANOTHER YEAR UNTIL COVID IS UNDER CONTROL.**

**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 BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$55,698.89.**

**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 RESOLUTION 22-04, PURCHASE AGREEMENT DUE TO A CHANGE IN THE LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY.**

**RESOLUTION #22-04**

WHEREAS, the City of West Branch is in the process of selling acreage in their housing development property located off of M-30, and

WHEREAS, the purchaser, The Branches LLC, has a purchase agreement for the purchase of phase 1 consisting of 3.32 acres and phase 2 consisting of 1.85 acres, and

WHEREAS, the property descriptions of the above property are as follows:

**Phase 1 Description**

Part of the North One-half of the Southeast One-quarter of Section 25, T22N, R01 E, Ogemaw Township, Ogemaw County, State of Michigan described as: Commencing at the East One-quarter corner of said section 25; thence S00° 12' 14"W, along the East line of said Section 25, 455.44 feet; thence N86°33'06"W, parallel with the South One-eighth

line of said Section 25 and along the North line of a 66.00 feet wide easement, 1222.75 feet to the west line of a 66.00 feet wide easement, and to the true point of beginning of the following described parcel of land; thence N86°33'06"W, parallel with said South One-eighth line, 562.90 feet; thence N00° 12' 14"E, parallel with said East Section line, and along the east line of a 24.95 feet wide easement, 258.00 feet; thence S86° 33'06"E, parallel with said South One-eighth line, and along the south line of a 66.00 feet wide easement, 562.90 feet; thence S00° 12' 14"W, parallel with said East Section line, and along the west line of a 66.00 feet wide easement, 258.00 feet back to the point of beginning.

Split on 12/01/2021 from 011-025-024-25; annexed from Ogemaw Twp. new number 2022.

#### Phase 2 Description

Part of the North One-half of the Southeast One-quarter of Section 25, T22N, R01 E, Ogemaw Township, Ogemaw County, State of Michigan described as: Commencing at the East One-quarter corner of said section 25; thence S00° 12' 14"W, along the East line of said Section 25, 455.44 feet; thence N86°33'06"W, parallel with the South One eighth line of said Section 25 and along the North line of a 66.00 feet wide easement 1810.65 feet to the true point of beginning of the following parcel of land; thence N86°33'06"W, parallel with said South One-eighth line, 314.00 feet; thence N00° 12' 14"E, parallel with said East Section line, and along the east line of a 66' easement, 258.00 feet; thence S86°33'06"E, parallel with said South One-eighth line, and along the south line of a 66' feet wide easement , 314.00 feet; thence S00° 12' 14"W, parallel to said East Section line, and along the west line of a 24.95 feet wide easement, 258.00 feet back to the point of beginning.

Split on 12/01/2021 from 011-025-024-25; annexed from Ogemaw Twp. new number 2022.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the West Branch City Council hereby authorizes the sale of phase 1 and phase 2 to The Branches LLC, and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the West Branch City Council hereby authorizes Mayor Paul Frechette or City Manager John Dantzer to sign all documents pertaining to the sale of the above noted acreage.

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

**No – None**

**Absent – None**

**Motion carried**

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**MOTION BY PUGH, SECOND BY BENNETT, TO RETURN THE AUTHORIZATION OF BANNER PERMITS TO THE CITY MANAGER.**

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

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

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**MOTION BY ZIMMERMAN, SECOND BY BENNETT, TO APPROVE THE RIFLE RIVER QUILT GUILD AND SURLINE PTO COLOR RUN SPECIAL EVENT PERMITS.**

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

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

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**MOTION BY ADAIR, SECOND BY BENNETT, TO APPROVE THE SUMMARY AND MINUTES FROM THE MEETING HELD JANUARY 10, 2022.**

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

**No – None                                  Absent – None                                  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 PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING HELD DECEMBER 14, 2021; AND THE AIRPORT BOARD MINUTES FROM THE MEETING HELD DECEMBER 15, 2021.**

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

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

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City Manager Dantzer noted that the joint meeting with DDA and Planning Commission was coming up and in the past it was held at the City Police Department.

**MOTION BY JACKSON, SECOND BY ADAIR TO MOVE THE JOINT MEETING WITH DDA AND PLANNING COMMISSION TO THE CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT.**

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

**No – None**

**Absent – None**

**Motion carried**

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Member Pugh inquired who was responsible for snow removal from the sidewalks and noted her concern for the sidewalks along State St and Fairview. She stated that kids are having to walk in the streets due to the snow covering the sidewalks. Mayor Frechette noted that we would follow up with Corporal Adams to see if he can reach out to the owners to have it taken care of.

Member Bennett noted the positive activity at the park with the skating and sledding.

City Manager Dantzer inquired if Council wanted to revisit Council goals or postpone and noted that there are a couple of openings due to different members leaving. Council Member Adair volunteered to take previous Member Powley’s spot on the subcommittee. Mayor Frechette recommended holding off a little longer until they can see what steps to take to proceed in the coming months.

Mayor Frechette adjourned the meeting at 6:30 pm.

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Paul Frechette, Mayor

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Amanda Stang, Clerk