

REGULAR MEETING OF THE WEST BRANCH CITY COUNCIL HELD IN PERSON AND VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE WEST BRANCH CITY HALL, 121 N. FOURTH STREET ON MONDAY, AUGUST 17, 2020.

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

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

Absent: none

Other officers present: Clerk/Treasurer/Acting Manager John Dantzer, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Michelle Frechette, DPW Superintendent Mike Killackey and Police Chief Ken Walters.

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

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Roberta Beck with Coalition of Hope discussed a free suicide prevention event that they are sponsoring on September 10, 2020 from 9am – noon at the Tolfree Wellness Park. She also discussed the plans to hang the banners downtown during suicide prevention week then hanging them out at the high schools. She thanked the Iron Band Dogs for donation.

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Bruce Reetz gave an update of a \$20,000 grant that the County was awarded, said that the new administrator is doing well and that there is a 1 mil 24-hour road patrol on November ballot. EMS has their renewal on the ballot as well.

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**MOTION BY FRECHETTE, SECOND BY SHOWALTER, TO EXCUSE CHRIS POWLEY FROM THE AUGUST 3, 2020 MEETING.**

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

**No – None**

**Absent – None**

**Motion carried**

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**MOTION BY BENNETT, SECOND BY ZIMMERMAN, TO PAY BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$37,143.19.**

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

**No – None**

**Absent – None**

**Motion carried**

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No – None

Absent – None

Motion carried

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**MOTION BY BENNETT, SECOND BY ZIMMERMAN, TO RETURN TO OPEN SESSION.**

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

No – None

Absent – None

Motion carried

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**MOTION BY FRECHETTE, SECOND BY JACKSON, TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY ATTORNEY TO PROCEED AS DISCUSSED IN THE CLOSED SESSSION.**

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

No – None

Absent – None

Motion carried

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Member Powley gave kudos to the Police Department for their visibility.

Members Pugh & Zimmerman appreciate the Acting Manager’s informative reports.

Acting Manager Dantzer discussed how to proceed with the streetscape planning. MDOT will be coming to the City for direction. Need to decide if it will be Council as a whole or the goal setting group for input. Need to plan who is paying for it, we can invite DDA and Planning members as well. Once we have initial ideas, have a public participation meeting in the park.

Acting Manager Dantzer mentioned that the second developer is back in – it was the consensus to have him keep working with Members Pugh, Powley, and Showalter.

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Mayor Frechette adjourned the meeting at 6:47 pm.

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Paul Frechette, Mayor

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Michelle Frechette, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer