

REGULAR MEETING OF THE WEST BRANCH CITY COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF CITY HALL, 121 NORTH FOURTH STREET ON MONDAY, JANUARY 21, 2019.

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

Present: Mayor Paul Frechette and Council Members Joanne Bennett, William Ehinger, Mike Jackson, Ellen Pugh, Dan Weiler, and Cathy Zimmerman.

Absent: None

Other officers present: City Manager Heather Grace, Clerk/Treasurer John Dantzer, DPW Superintendent Mike Killackey, Police Chief Ken Walters, Planning Commission Chair Bob David, and DDA Chair Samantha Fabbri.

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

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MOTION BY BENNETT, SECOND BY JACKSON, TO PAY BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$36,769.66

Yes — Bennett, Ehinger, Frechette, Jackson, Pugh, Weiler, Zimmerman

No – None Absent – None Motion carried

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MOTION BY EHINGER, SECOND BY PUGH, TO APPROVE THE BANNER APPLICATIONS FOR WEST BRANCH CREATIVE ARTS ASSOCIATION FROM 7/22/19-8/10/19, FOR WEST BRANCH LITTLE LEAGUE FROM 2/11/19-2/25/19, AND FOR THE OGEMAW COUNTY RELAY FOR LIFE FROM 7/5/19-7/19/19

Yes — Bennett, Ehinger, Frechette, Jackson, Pugh, Weiler, Zimmerman

No – None Absent – None Motion carried

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MOTION BY JACKSON, SECOND BY PUGH, TO APPROVE THE OGEMAW COUNTY RELAY FOR LIFE SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT AND TO ALLOW FOR THE WAIVER OF THE NOISE ORDINANCE FOR ALL RELAY FOR LIFE EVENTS HELD AT THE WELLNESS PARK

Yes — Bennett, Ehinger, Frechette, Jackson, Pugh, Weiler, Zimmerman

No – None Absent – None Motion carried

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Member Jackson made a motion to approve Resolution 19-01 and Member Ehinger noted his recommendation to discuss the time Council meetings are held and possibly switch to 7:00 pm. With that new information, Member Jackson withdrew his motion. Council discussed the possibility of switching the start time of Council meetings. Upon discussion, Member Jackson resubmitted his motion

MOTION BY JACKSON, SECOND BY BENNETT, TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 19-01

RESOLUTION #19-01

WHEREAS, the West Branch City Charter requires that the Council adopt a resolution stating the time and place of its regular meetings, and

WHEREAS, it is recommended that this be done on an annual basis,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the West Branch City Council will hold its regular meetings in the Council Chamber of City Hall, 121 N. Fourth St. unless there is a motion to change the meeting location due to special circumstances, and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that all regular Council meetings will begin at 6:00 p.m. unless the Charter dictates otherwise or there is a motion to change the meeting time due to special circumstances, and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the West Branch City Council shall meet on the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month unless there is a motion to change the meeting date due to special circumstances.

Yes — Bennett, Ehinger, Frechette, Jackson, Pugh, Weiler, Zimmerman

No – None

Absent – None

Motion carried

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MOTION BY PUGH, SECOND BY EHINGER, TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 19-02

Resolution # 19-02

Whereas, Section 13(9) of Act 51, Public Acts of 1951 provided that each incorporated city and village to which funds are returned under the provisions of this section, that, “the responsibility for street improvements, maintenance, and traffic operations work, and the development , construction, or repair of off-street parking facilities and construction or repair of street lighting shall be coordinated by a single administrator to be designated by the governing body who shall be responsible for all shall represent the municipality in transactions with the State Transportation Department pursuant to this act.”

Now, therefore, be it resolved the this Honorable Body designate Heather Grace as the single Street Administrator for the City of West Branch in all transactions with the State Transportation Department as provided in Section 13 of the Act.

Yes — Bennett, Ehinger, Frechette, Jackson, Pugh, Weiler, Zimmerman

Member Bennett noted how well the ice rink is being used and the new location is working out well.

Manager Grace presented a list of the current members of the new 911 Authority Board.

Manager Grace updated Council on a grant opportunity for the Summer Music Series and to add a gaga ball pit in Irons Park and that decision on the awarding of the grant should be coming soon.

Member Zimmerman shared a letter from Kirtland on a meeting being conducted to ask the community for ideas on how their current empty building in West Branch could be used to serve the community.

Member Ehinger noted the possibility of a new restaurant coming to town.

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Manager Grace entered into the record her consent to go into closed session pursuant to MCL 15.268 (a)

MOTION BY FRECHETTE, SECOND BY JACKSON TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO MCL 15.268 (a)

Yes — Bennett, Ehinger, Frechette, Jackson, Pugh, Weiler, Zimmerman

No – None

Absent – None

Motion carried

COUNCIL WENT INTO CLOSED SESSION AT 6:37 PM

COUNCIL RETURNED FROM OPEN SESSION AT 7:25 PM

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MOTION BY BENNETT, SECOND BY JACKSON TO GO BACK INTO OPEN SESSION

Yes — Bennett, Ehinger, Frechette, Jackson, Pugh, Weiler, Zimmerman

No – None

Absent – None

Motion carried

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Mayor Frechette adjourned the meeting at 7:25 pm.

Paul Frechette, Mayor

John Dantzer, Clerk