

REGULAR MEETING OF THE WEST BRANCH CITY COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF CITY HALL, 121 NORTH FOURTH STREET, MONDAY MARCH 6, 2017.

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

Present: Mayor Denise Lawrence and Council Members Joanne Bennett, Dave Lucas, Tim Schaiberger, Rusty Showalter, and Dan Weiler.

Absent: None

Other officers present: Treasurer/Clerk John Dantzer, Police Chief Ken Walters, and County Commissioner Bruce Reetz.

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

\* \* \* \* \*

Bruce Reetz updated Council on recent County meetings. He noted that the nature park was able to raise money and will stay open, they renewed the medical contract at the jail, they approved a transit budget amendment, they purchased a new washer for the jail, their MERS payment has gone up, they are working on the budget, he attended a human service meeting in Lansing about transit services, and reminded everyone of the next Council meeting.

\* \* \* \* \*

EDC ~~Director~~ Board President, Dr. Tom Quinn, addressed Council and thanked the City for their contribution. He noted that the EDC is working on a new strategic plan and asked Council for any recommendations that the City would like to see the EDC working towards.

Mayor Lawrence noted the need to advertise the vacant lots of the Industrial/Office Parks more.

Member Showalter noted the need to bring more industry to Ogemaw County and work on internet issues within the Industrial Park.

Member Showalter noted that he would like to see more help on filling open buildings downtown and look into grants that may allow for remodeling or refurbishing.

Member Bennett noted housing issues within the City.

\* \* \* \* \*

**MOTION BY SHOWALTER, SECOND BY LUCAS, TO PAY THE BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$54,842.12.**

**Yes – Bennett, Lawrence, Lucas, Schaiberger, Showalter, Weiler**

**No – None**

**Absent –None**

**Motion carried**

\* \* \* \* \*

**MOTION BY LAWRENCE, SECOND BY SHOWALTER, TO APPOINT DAVE LUCAS AS MAYOR PRO TEM WITH A TERM TO END DECEMBER 31, 2017**

**Yes – Bennett, Lawrence, Lucas, Schaiberger, Showalter, Weiler**

**No – None**

**Absent –None**

**Motion carried**

\* \* \* \* \*

**MOTION BY LAWRENCE, SECOND BY SHOWALTER, TO APPOINT DAVE LUCAS TO THE AIRPORT BOARD WITH A TERM TO END AT THE EXPIRATION OF HIS COUNCIL TERM.**

**Yes – Bennett, Lawrence, Lucas, Schaiberger, Showalter, Weiler**

**No – None**

**Absent –None**

**Motion carried**

\* \* \* \* \*

**MOTION BY LAWRENCE, SECOND BY SCHAIBERGER, TO REMOVE JIM HASTY FROM ALL BANK ACCOUNTS AND ADD DAVID LUCAS AS A DEPOSITOR AND TO SIGN ALL CHECKS AND BANK WITHDRAWALS AT BANKS REQUIRING TWO SIGNATURES.**

**Yes – Bennett, Lawrence, Lucas, Schaiberger, Showalter, Weiler**

**No – None**

**Absent –None**

**Motion carried**

\* \* \* \* \*

**MOTION BY SHOWALTER, SECOND BY WEILER, TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION.**

**RESOLUTION #17-04**

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the West Branch City Council does hereby authorize the transfer of up to 25% of the Act 51 money from Major Street to Local Street.**

**Yes – Bennett, Lawrence, Lucas, Schaiberger, Showalter, Weiler**

**No – None**

**Absent – None**

**Motion carried**

\* \* \* \* \*

**MOTION BY SCHAIBERGER, SECOND BY BENNETT, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES WITH CORRECTIONS AND SUMMARY OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 20, 2017.**

**Yes – Bennett, Lawrence, Lucas, Schaiberger, Showalter, Weiler**

**No – None**

**Absent – None**

**Motion carried**

\* \* \* \* \*

**MOTION BY SHOWALTER, SECOND BY SCHAIBERGER, TO RECEIVE AND FILE THE TREASURERS REPORT AND INVESTMENT REPORT, AS WELL AS THE MINUTES FROM THE BOARD OF REVIEW MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 28, 2017 AND THE MINUTES FROM THE PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS HELD DECEMBER 13, 2016 AND JANUARY 24, 2017.**

**Yes — Bennett, Lawrence, Lucas, Schaiberger, Showalter, Weiler**

**No – None**

**Absent –None**

**Motion carried**

\* \* \* \* \*

A communication from the Redevelopment Ready Communities Program was shared.

\* \* \* \* \*

Member Schaiberger apologized for missing the last meeting and noted that it was because he is working on a concert to help raise money for the Music Boosters.

Member Showalter noted that there was still time to register for the MML Capital Conference.

Mayor Lawrence noted that the City is continuing to work on the Flag Day ceremony.

Mayor Lawrence gave an update on the last Fabulous Fridays meeting.

Mayor Lawrence reminded everyone that the deadline for submitting interest for the vacant Ward I opening was March 7, at 4:30 pm and reminded everyone about the Work Session on March 9 at 6:00 pm immediately followed by the Special Meeting where they will appoint the replacement for the Ward I opening.

\* \* \* \* \*

County Commissioner Bruce Reetz noted that the County is also losing workers for better paying jobs and was in agreement with the issues that Dr. Quinn brought up earlier in the meeting.

Commissioner Reetz also asked about the public hearing on the change to Lindsay St and it was noted that it would be held on the March 20, 2017 meeting.

\* \* \* \* \*

Mayor Lawrence adjourned the meeting at 7:00 pm.

---

Denise Lawrence, Mayor

---

John Dantzer, Clerk