

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, MAY 17, 2021.

Mayor Frechette called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m. due to technical issues.

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

Absent: Council Member Chris Powley

Other officers present: City Manager John Dantzer, City Clerk Amanda Stang, DPW Superintendent Mike Killackey, Chief of Police Ken Walters, County Commissioner Mark Surbrook and City Attorney Greg Meihn.

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

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County Commissioner Mark Surbrook gave a County update which included discussion of the Kirtland millage.

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Yvonne DeRoso presented Council with the Expansion Award from the Chamber of Commerce due to the City's improvement of the River Walk.

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MOTION BY PUGH, SECOND BY JACKSON, TO APPROVE THE BID FOR THE SALE OF THE 2002 GMC 2500 4X4 PICKUP TO KARYN RANDALL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,303.00.

Yes — Bennett, Frechette, Jackson, Pugh, Zimmerman

No – None

Absent – Powley

Motion carried

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MOTION BY FRECHETTE, SECOND BY BENNETT, TO APPROVE THE BID FOR THE SALE OF THE 2019 GMC TRUCK BOX TO LEHNER'S COLLISION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,511.00.

Yes — Bennett, Frechette, Jackson, Pugh, Zimmerman

No – None

Absent – Powley

Motion carried

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MOTION BY BENNETT, SECOND BY JACKSON, TO APPROVE BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$534,288.44.

Yes — Bennett, Frechette, Jackson, Pugh, Zimmerman

No – None Absent – Powley Motion carried

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MOTION BY JACKSON, SECOND BY PUGH TO APPROVE THE SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT AND ROAD CLOSURE DOWNTOWN FOR THE HEALTH AND WELLNESS FAIR PRESENTED BY DIEBOLD INSURANCE AND MID-MICHIGAN HEALTH.

Yes — Bennett, Frechette, Jackson, Pugh, Zimmerman

No – None Absent – Powley Motion carried

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MOTION BY FRECHETTE, SECOND BY PUGH, TO APPROVE A WATER/SEWER ADMINISTRATIVE ADJUSTMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,789.92.

Yes — Bennett, Frechette, Jackson, Pugh, Zimmerman

No – None Absent – Powley Motion carried

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MOTION BY PUGH, SECOND BY JACKSON, TO APPROVE THE CONTRACT AND SOLE SOURCE VENDOR FOR THE ASSESSOR CONTRACT TO MVW & ASSOCIATES.

Yes — Bennett, Frechette, Jackson, Pugh, Zimmerman

No – None Absent – Powley Motion carried

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MOTION BY JACKSON, SECOND BY PUGH, TO APPROVE TO TERMINATE PARTICIPATION IN THE MERS RHFV OPEB ACCOUNT BECAUSE THE GOVERNING BODY HAS DISCONTINUED RETIREE HEALTH CARE BENEFITS AND THE GOVERNING BODY WISHES TO HAVE THE ASSETS RETURNED TO THEM BECAUSE THE CITY HAS SATISFIED THE OPEB LIABILITY.

Yes — Bennett, Frechette, Jackson, Pugh, Zimmerman

No – None Absent – Powley Motion carried

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MOTION BY FRECHETTE, SECOND BY PUGH, TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 21-13 HEALTH INSURANCE OPT OUT.

**RESOLUTION 21-13
HEALTH INSURANCE OPT OUT**

WHEREAS, 2011 Public Act 152 (the “Act”) was passed by the State Legislature and signed by the Governor on September 24, 2011;

WHEREAS, the Act contains three options for complying with the requirements of the Act;

WHEREAS, the three options are as follows:

- 1) Section 3 – “Hard Caps” Option – limits a public employer’s total annual health care costs for employees based on coverage levels, as defined in the Act;
- 2) Section 4 – “80%/20% Option – limits a public employer’s share of total annual health care costs to not more than 80%. This option required an annual majority vote of the governing body;
- 3) Section 8 – “Exemption” Option – a local unit of government, as defined in the Act, may exempt itself from the requirement of the Act by an annual 2/3 vote of the governing body;

WHEREAS, the West Branch City Council has decided to adopt the annual “Exemption” option as its choice of compliance under the Act;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Council of the City of West Branch elects to comply with the requirements of 2011 Public Act 152, the Publicly Funded Health Insurance Contribution Act, by adopting the annual “Exemption” option for the medical benefit plan coverage year July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022

Yes — Bennett, Frechette, Jackson, Pugh, Zimmerman

No – None

Absent – Powley

Motion carried

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MOTION BY PUGH, FRECHETTE, TO APPROVE BUDGET RESOLUTION 21-14 TO SET THE 21/22 BUDGET.

RESOLUTION #21-14

WHEREAS, the City Charter of the City of West Branch states that “the Council shall, by resolution, adopt the budget for the next fiscal year and shall, in such resolution, appropriate the money

required for such budget and provide for a levy of the amount necessary to be raised by taxes upon real and personal property for municipal purposes.”

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the budget for the City fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021 as recommended by the City Manager and as adopted by the City Council, as described in the summary as follows:

| | REVENUES | EXPENDITURES |
|--------------|-----------|--------------|
| GENERAL FUND | 1,659,089 | 1,672,835 |

be and the same is hereby adopted, and the amount therein provided as recommended; appropriations are hereby appropriated according to the departmental total, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in order to carry out the provisions of the above described budget, the current tax rate shall be applied to the completed assessment roll taxable valuation of sixty-four million eight hundred sixty-three thousand eighty-five dollars (\$64,863,085) as required by Michigan Constitution.

TOTAL CITY TAX LEVY FOR GENERAL FUND PURPOSES

July 1, 2021 14.546 per \$1,000.00 of Taxable Value for General Operating, and tax levy of 2.9105 per \$1,000.00 for Refuse Collection

CITY TAX LEVY FOR THE DDA DISTRICT ONLY

July 1, 2021 1.9573 per \$1,000.00 of Taxable Value levied on the property in the DDA District

and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, to adopt the following budgets:

INDEPENDENT REVENUE FUNDS

| <u>Fund Name</u> | <u>Revenues</u> | <u>Expenditures</u> |
|------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund | 800 | 0 |
| Major Street | 540,077 | 593,001 |
| Local Street | 135,650 | 124,370 |
| Cemetery | 27,161 | 27,161 |
| Brownfield | 0 | 0 |
| DDA Operating Fund | 101,045 | 101,045 |
| Industrial Park Fund | 300 | 5,086 |
| Housing Resource Fund | 19,140 | 19,140 |
| Sewer Debt Fund | 328,376 | 325,600 |
| Water Debt Fund | 79,340 | 77,746 |
| Sewer Fund | 589,556 | 589,556 |
| Water Fund | 519,521 | 519,273 |
| Water Replacement Fund | 200,000 | 182,931 |
| Sewer Collection | 86,683 | 85,776 |
| Equipment Fund | 216,810 | 321,985 |

and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Manager is allowed to exceed any line item or department summation within any specific department or fund including both revenues and expenditures providing that the total end of the year expenditures for any fund does not exceed the original appropriation. A council resolution is required to appropriate additional amounts to any expenditure fund total; however, no resolution is required to exceed any revenue fund total.

Yes — Frechette, Jackson, Pugh, Zimmerman

No – Bennett

Absent – Powley

Motion carried

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MOTION BY BENNETT, SECOND BY JACKSON, TO APPROVE THE 6 YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN.

Yes — Bennett, Frechette, Jackson, Pugh, Zimmerman

No – None

Absent – Powley

Motion carried

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MOTION BY BENNETT, SECOND BY JACKSON, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AND SUMMARY FROM THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD MAY 3, 2021.

Yes — Bennett, Frechette, Jackson, Pugh, Zimmerman

No – None

Absent – Powley

Motion carried

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MOTION BY JACKSON, SECOND BY BENNETT, TO RECEIVE AND FILE THE TREASURER’S REPORT AND INVESTMENT SUMMARY; APPROVE MINUTES FROM THE PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING HELD APRIL 13, 2021; MINUTES FROM THE PLANNING WORK SESSION MEETING HELD ON APRIL 27, 2021; MINUTES FROM THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS WORK SESSION MEETING HELD ON APRIL 27, 2021; AND THE APRIL MONTH END POLICE REPORT.

Yes — Bennett, Frechette, Jackson, Pugh, Zimmerman

No – None

Absent – Powley

Motion carried

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MOTION BY FRECHETTE, SECOND BY JACKSON, TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF MIKE PUGH TO THE ZBA, ELLEN PUGH TO THE WWTPA, AND TIFFANY SCHMIEDER-KUPS TO THE EDC BOARD.

Yes — Bennett, Frechette, Jackson, Pugh, Zimmerman

No – None

Absent – Powley

Motion carried

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MOTION BY FRECHETTE, SECOND BY BENNETT, TO EXCUSE COUNCIL MEMBER CHRIS POWLEY FROM THE MEETING HELD ON MAY 17, 2021.

Yes — Bennett, Frechette, Jackson, Pugh, Zimmerman

No – None

Absent – Powley

Motion carried

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A communication from Charter Cable was shared.

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Council Member Jackson sadly reported that Family Fare had officially closed Friday, May 14, 2021.

Manager Dantzer informed Council that he had spoken with city resident Carol Weston, and she had lined up with the local boy and girl scouts to clean up Brookside and St. Joseph’s Cemeteries; also reported that Life Choices would be walking through the City on Saturday for Walk 4 Life; discussion was made regarding upcoming changes to COVID policy requirements.

City Attorney Meihn gave recommendations on how to handle current COVID guidelines.

Chief Walters reported that one of the police cars had broke down but had just been notified that it is under warranty and will be back on the road soon. He also noted that he will do his due diligence to help make up funding for the new police officer.

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Mayor Frechette adjourned the meeting at 6:52 pm.

Paul Frechette, Mayor

Amanda Stang, Clerk