

REGULAR MEETING OF THE WEST BRANCH CITY COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF CITY HALL, 121 NORTH FOURTH STREET ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2018.

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

Present: Mayor Denise Lawrence and Council Members Joanne Bennett, Mike Jackson, Tim Schaiberger, Aaron Tuttle, and Dan Weiler.

Absent: Council Member Rusty Showalter

Other officers present: City Manager Heather Grace, Treasurer/Clerk John Dantzer, DDA Chairperson Samantha Fabbri, Wastewater Superintendent Dan Robb, DPW Superintendent Mike Killackey, Ogemaw Township Supervisor Denis Stephens, and Police Chief Ken Walters.

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

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**MOTION BY SCHAIBERGER, SECOND BY WEILER, TO EXCUSE COUNCIL MEMBER SHOWALTER FROM THE MEETING DUE TO ILLNESS.**

**Yes — Bennett, Lawrence, Schaiberger, Jackson, Tuttle, Weiler**

**No – None**

**Absent – Showalter**

**Motion carried**

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Heather Neuhaus on behalf of Project Rising Tide requested Council to support a rebranding initiative for the community that would be funded by the Project Rising Tide program and would require buy-in from the City.

Mandi Chasey, of the Ogemaw EDC, spoke on her support of the program.

Pat White asked about the possibility of using a local company to do the rebranding project.

Samantha Fabbri, on behalf of the DDA, spoke on her support of the program.

Ogemaw Township Supervisor Denis Stephens noted that Ogemaw Township was fully on board with the project and was excited to work with the City on it.

**MOTION BY SCHAIBERGER, SECOND BY JACKSON, TO SUPPORT THE REBRANDING IDEA AND GIVE THE APPROVAL OF COUNCIL TO PURSUE THE REBRANDING INITIATIVE BY PROJECT RISING TIDE.**

**Yes — Bennett, Lawrence, Schaiberger, Jackson, Tuttle, Weiler**

**No – None**

**Absent – Showalter**

**Motion carried**



**MOTION BY JACKSON, SECOND BY SCHAIBERGER, TO APPROVE THE ESTIMATE FOR THE GARDEN PATHWAY AS SUBMITTED BY MID-MICHIGAN ASPHALT NOT TO EXCEED \$2,079.00**

**Yes — Bennett, Lawrence, Schaiberger, Jackson, Tuttle, Weiler**

**No – None**

**Absent – Showalter**

**Motion carried**

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An estimate was submitted by Mid-Michigan Asphalt for asphalt repair on South Fourth St. north of Wright St. It was noted that Mid-Michigan Asphalt was approved by Council to provide asphalt during the 2018 season.

**MOTION BY SCHAIBERGER, SECOND BY JACKSON, TO APPROVE THE ESTIMATE BY MID-MICHIGAN ASPHALT FOR ASPHALT REPAIR ON SOUTH FOURTH STREET JUST NORTH OF WRIGHT ST. NOT TO EXCEED \$5,724.**

**Yes — Bennett, Lawrence, Schaiberger, Jackson, Tuttle, Weiler**

**No – None**

**Absent – Showalter**

**Motion carried**

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**MOTION BY SCHAIBERGER, SECOND BY BENNETT, TO SCHEDULE A WORK SESSION TO DISCUSS THE WATER RATE STUDY FOR THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13 AT 6:00 PM AT THE WEST BRANCH POLICE DEPARTMENT.**

**Yes — Bennett, Lawrence, Schaiberger, Jackson, Tuttle, Weiler**

**No – None**

**Absent – Showalter**

**Motion carried**

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**MOTION BY SCHAIBERGER, SECOND TUTTLE, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AND SUMMARY FROM THE MEETING HELD AUGUST 20, 2018 AS WELL AS THE MINUTES FROM THE WORK SESSION HELD JOINTLY WITH THE DDA ON AUGUST 22, 2018**

**Yes — Bennett, Lawrence, Schaiberger, Jackson, Tuttle, Weiler**

**No – None**

**Absent – Showalter**

**Motion carried**

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**MOTION BY SCHAIBERGER, SECOND BY JACKSON, TO RECEIVE AND FILE THE TREASURER'S REPORT, INVESTMENT SUMMARY, AND BUDGET AMENDMENT; THE MINTUES FROM THE DDA MEETINGS HELD JULY 11, 24, 25, 2018 AND THE DDA WORK SESSION HELD AUGUST 22, 2018; and THE MINUTES FROM THE PLANNIING COMMISSION MEETING HELD JULY 24, 2018.**

**Yes — Bennett, Lawrence, Schaiberger, Jackson, Tuttle, Weiler**

**No – None**

**Absent – Showalter**

**Motion carried**

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A communication from Ausable Valley was shared.

A communication from Consumers Energy was shared.

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Member Bennett thanked the Faith Alive Church volunteers for their work in the park and around town.

Mayor Lawrence introduced Ken Chapman who volunteered to work with the City on downtown flags and the Riverwalk, as well as studying a way to connect the City's Riverwalk to the Tolfree Wellness Park trail.

Ken Chapman introduced himself to Council.

Mayor Lawrence also noted upcoming food trucks that will be at the Holy Family Church on Wed, Sept 12 at 12:00 pm and at St. John Lutheran Church on Saturday, Sept 15.

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Eric Young addressed Council about water rates and requested that Council include in any resolution for water rate changes the inclusion of wording that would allow for residents to have the ability to speak on any rate changes before they go into effect.

Pete Fabbri updated Council on the 2019 Back to the Bricks Tour and announced that the City was chosen as a stop for next year's tour. Mr. Fabbri noted that they would need a City official to sign the agreement and a local coordinator named who will work closely with the committee to plan the event. Mr. Fabbri offered to serve as the local coordinator. It was the consensus of Council to have Mr. Fabbri serve as the local coordinator.

**MOTION BY SCHAIBERGER, SECOND BY JACKSON, TO NAME CITY MANAGER GRACE AS THE AUTHORIZED CITY OFFICIAL TO SIGN THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE 2019 BACK TO THE BRICKS AS A HOST CITY.**

**Yes — Bennett, Lawrence, Schaiberger, Jackson, Tuttle, Weiler**

**No – None**

**Absent – Showalter**

**Motion carried**

Scott Washburn addressed Council on the issue of bed bugs and the possibility of providing information on the problem to City residents. Mr. Washburn also noted that the recycle center sign was knocked down. DPW Superintendent Killackey noted the sign was already ordered.

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Mayor Lawrence adjourned the meeting at 7:35 pm.

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Denise Lawrence, Mayor

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John Dantzer, Clerk