

A regular meeting of the City Council was held at City Hall, 200 S. Main Street on Monday, December 8, 2008, at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Davidson called the meeting to order.

Present were Mayor Davidson and Councilpersons Greenhoe, Brown, Letarte and Harri. None were absent.

The invocation was given by Councilwoman Brown.

The Agenda was approved as printed.

The minutes from the November 24, 2008, Regular Meeting and the December 1, 2008 Worksession Meeting were approved as printed.

Councilman Harri moved that disbursements of \$380,500.22 be approved. Councilwoman Brown noted that a correction needed to be made to Check #49489, in which Councilwoman Brown's Check should be \$260.00, and Councilman Greenhoe should be receiving a check for \$195.00; seconded by Councilman Letarte, passed unanimously with the corrections.

Rod Schultz, 1303 Montgomery Street, appeared before Council regarding Agenda Item 10b., Sewer Increase, and the effect that this would have on Senior Citizens.

Councilwoman Brown moved Council approve the Parks Board recommendation to appoint Brenda Stohr, 206 Albers Street, to the Advisory Parks Board to fill an unexpired term which will expire on March 31, 2011; seconded by Councilman Greenhoe, passed unanimously.

Councilman Letarte moved Council approve the Mayor's recommendation to appoint Jeff Brown, 505 Drahner, to the Local Development Finance Authority Board to fill an unexpired term which will expire on May 23, 2011; seconded by Councilman Harri, passed unanimously.

Councilwoman Brown moved Council approve the Resolution for the City of Eaton Rapids to apply for an Eaton County Local Parks Mini-Grant in the amount of \$1,500.00; seconded by Councilman Greenhoe. Mayor Davidson stated that this Grant would help the City place cement pads at the McArthur River Drive and Downtown canoe launch location so that Porta-Johns could be seasonally placed. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Letarte moved Council approve the Resolution for the sewer account and classification base increase of \$1.65 to pay for the River Crossing Project Bonding over a 15 year period, effective December 1, 2008; seconded by Councilman Greenhoe. City Manager LeFevere stated that Council had given this much consideration and had come up with this proposal to pay back the bonding either over a 10, 15 or 20 year time

period. City Manager LeFevere further stated that this was a base charge increase, and that this

Council Minutes

-2-

December 8, 2008

would not effect meter charges by consumption, but would only be a \$1.65 increase to the base rate. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Harri moved Council approve the Resolution authorizing the exchange agreement for property located in the City of Eaton Rapids with Mid-State Industrial; seconded by Councilwoman Brown. City Manager LeFevere stated that this exchange would be to allow the infrastructure and placement of a road through the South Industrial Park, and that with the exchange this would allow Mid-State Industrial to expand in the future. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilwoman Brown moved Council approve the 2009 Public Meeting Schedule, with the additional dates for Worksessions of February 2nd and November 16th that were missed; seconded by Councilman Letarte, passed unanimously.

Rod Schultz, 1303 Montgomery Street, appeared before Council regarding the City shoveling the sidewalk at Knight and Main Street and the recall.

City Superintendent Poyer stated that he had his worker's shovel the sidewalk at this location as well as at the corner of State and Main as it is part of the Downtown Business District and that with the businesses vacant at these locations he was trying to insure the safety of pedestrian traffic.

Councilwoman Brown reported on the following: that she is always available for comments and that she is glad that the recall is over with, and that even though the people behind the recall say that a certain number of signatures were gathered that this cannot be proven or documented as the petitions were never filed, and that Eaton Rapids and the citizens need to look forward and not dwell on the past and to be positive; that if anyone had personal issues they could contact her at anytime; that she wanted to bring the citizens forward with her in a positive way; that the City looks beautiful at Christmas and thanks to all who took the time to decorate and donate their time and resources and a special thanks to Larry Nolan who donated the City Christmas Tree at Island Park.

Councilman Greenhoe reported on the following: that the City looks nice and the Island is beautiful and the parade on Saturday was a huge success; that the Fill-A-Cop Car was a tremendous success; and that Red Ribbon Hall looks nice and the City should be proud of it and all the work that has been done.

Councilman Letarte reported on the following: that everything looked great this weekend; that the Kiwanis had given dictionaries to all of the 3rd graders and this was greatly appreciated.

Councilman Harri reported on the following: that the City had looked long and hard at the sewer increase and that it is never a good time, but the Council had been very astute to the

Council Minutes

-3-

December 8, 2008

economy and took the compromise of paying it back over a 15 year period; that Saturday was a great celebration for the City; and commended the Police and Fire Department for the Fill-A-Cop Car and how greatly this would be appreciated by people in the area.

Police Chief Malewski reported on the following: that on November 29th, Officer Paling and Officer Travis apprehended 4 people in connection with vandalism on the Island; that a purse had been stolen from a patron at Family Fare and thanks to Officer Long, Officer Seeley and Sergeant Verhougstraete the purse had been returned; that the Christmas Parade went very well; that the Fill-A-Cop Car event in Eaton Rapids was a huge success with the City receiving 10 car loads of donations and \$371.00 in cash contributions that will be given to Heart and Hands and the Eaton Rapids Siren Shelter.

Fire Chief McNutt reported on the following: thanked Chief Malewski for letting the Department be involved with the Fill-A-Cop Car event; that the new siren at the High School has been working since Saturday.

Police Chief Malewski reported on the following: that also in attendance and helping at the Fill-A-Cop Car was County Commissioner Elect Roger Harris and Representative Mike Simpson.

City Treasurer Damon reported on the following: that the errors on the Check Edit will be corrected and disbursed appropriately.

Mayor Davidson reported on the following: that a lot of thought and consideration went into the Sewer price increase; and that it was a very nice event on Saturday and thanked everyone who was involved.

Councilman Letarte moved Council go into Closed Session to discuss strategy and negotiations regarding collective bargaining; seconded by Councilman Harri, passed unanimously. Council went into Closed Session at 7:42 p.m.

Councilman Letarte moved Council reconvene back into Open Session; seconded by Councilman Harri, passed unanimously. Council reconvened back into Open Session at 8:39 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

James E. Davidson, Mayor

Kristy Reinecke, City Clerk