

CITY OF FENTON COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
Monday, March 24, 2014
City Hall Council Chambers
301 South LeRoy Street

Mayor Sue Osborn called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

The invocation for the evening was the Lord's Prayer and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Bland, Grossmeyer, Jacob, King, Lockwood, McDermott, Osborn.
Absent: None.
Others Present: Lynn Markland, City Manager; Stephen Schultz, Legal Counsel; and Dan Czarnecki, Director of Public Works.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Osborn stated the City won the Community Excellence Award for Region 1 at the Michigan Municipal League (MML) Conference in Lansing last week. Representatives from the City will attend the MML Annual Convention in October in Marquette to compete for the grand prize amongst the regions. She stated the meeting to address the road maintenance program is scheduled for Wednesday, May 14, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. She also stated the FACT committee toured the Midland TV studio and will next tour the facility in Mount Pleasant. The 5-year financial plan will be addressed at 6 p.m. on April 14, 2014 prior to that night's Council meeting. She will be passing out the City Manager evaluation forms and asked that they be returned by April 15th.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Markland commented that work is still continuing on the bonding for the community center and streetscape projects.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Jacob commented he attended the MML Conference and gathered a lot of good information.

Grossmeyer commented this was his first MML Conference and it was a wonderful experience.

Lockwood commented the Beautification Commission meeting was very productive and announced that May 31st will be the Community Planting Day; press releases will follow. She stated the North Leroy Business District has set the dates for this year's car cruises and she will forward them to the Assistant City Manager to include on the calendar.

McDermott stated Upward Basketball is a program that about 500 area families participate in and they had their year-end celebration at AGS and it was a really great event. He stated the little league program has kicked off and about 475 families are participating this year. He commented a fundraiser was recently held at the Knights of Columbus hall that benefitted various local charities.

King commented the fundraising process for the Loose Senior Center has started and a fundraiser is tentatively scheduled for the third week in October. She asked for Administration

to contact the Genesee County's Sheriff's Department about having a crew come out and clean up along U.S. 23 between Owen and Grand Blanc Roads.

LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT

Schultz stated last Friday he received a draft of a regulatory ordinance pertaining to medical marihuana from Carmine Avantini. He is reviewing it and it should be ready for the April work session. He is working on an issue with two buildings, the seminary and one on Westwood and commented a suit will be filed regarding the issue on Westwood.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

None.

CONSENT AGENDA

Osborn reviewed all items that were on the Consent Agenda.

A motion was made by Bland and seconded by McDermott to approve the consent agenda containing the following items:

- Authorize payment of invoices in the amount of \$84,335.12.
- Approve and place on file the minutes of the January 9, 2014 Oakwood Cemetery Board meeting.
- Appoint Ray Leppert to a first term on the Oakwood Cemetery Board.
- Reappoint Doug James to a second term and Tom Bertschy to a first term on the Downtown Development Authority.
- Appoint David Stickel and David Ogger to a first term on the Local Development Finance Authority.

YEAS: Bland, Grossmeyer, Jacob, King, Lockwood, McDermott, Osborn.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None. Motion carried by a roll call vote.

FENTON COMMUNITY CENTER EXPANSION AND PARTIAL RENOVATION PROJECT ADDENDUM NO. 1

Markland stated Addendum No. 1 for the contract for the Community Center expansion and renovation project is presented tonight. Approval of the Addendum would authorize the contract to be signed, which would allow construction to begin and keep the project moving forward.

Osborn commented that at last week's special meeting regarding this project, it was agreed that the Council would move forward with this project as a unified group. The Mayor noted that Councilman McDermott was unable to attend the City Council meeting where the decision was made by the City Council to proceed with the project. In order to make sure the project for the Community Center addition had unanimous City Council support, the Mayor asked Councilman McDermott if he agreed with that decision and supported moving forward with the project. McDermott responded he does.

A motion was made by McDermott and seconded by Jacob to approve the Fenton Community Center expansion and partial renovation project Addendum No. 1 and authorize the City Manager to execute all necessary documents.

King asked if the bonding for the project will be dealt with separately at a later date. Osborn responded yes, this is just to sign the contract to move the project forward.

YEAS: Grossmeyer, Jacob, King, Lockwood, McDermott, Osborn, Bland.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None. Motion carried by a roll call vote.

SUMMER ROAD MAINTENANCE 2014

Czarnecki stated over the past 15-20 years, the City has made substantial investments to the surfaces of several major streets by way of resurfacing but unfortunately, the City has not been able to perform improvements to many other streets which contributed to the surfaces falling into severe disrepair. Money was budgeted this fiscal year for capital improvements of the streets and if maintenance work is to be performed this summer, the process needs to begin now. At a work session earlier this year he presented a five-year road maintenance program that was set up utilizing the PASER system for road ratings. From there, a best course of action was determined. He stated funding is not available to perform the entire program but the City has the capability of completing most the work described for the first year.

Czarnecki further stated the best way to keep streets in acceptable physical condition is to maintain them as much as necessary which includes sealing any cracks in the asphalt before they get a chance to become potholes and allow for further deterioration. He stated several streets are in need of surface replacement but are still in the process of having the underground infrastructure evaluated and that two good candidates for surface replacement are Outer and Vassar Drives; the sanitary sewer and water main both sit outside of the street surface under a grassy portion of the right-of-way. A lot of the D.P.W.'s time is spent patching these two streets and resurfacing them would allow the D.P.W. more time to patch other areas of the community.

Czarnecki asked Orchard, Hiltz & McCliment, Inc. to prepare a scope of services to put together the project design and bid documents to perform the maintenance work described above. If approved, the project will be ready for construction during the summer.

Osborn asked about Poplar Street. Czarnecki responded that is a major road and is in the TIF Plan for 2017 for federal funding.

Bland asked what would be done with the existing black top curbs on Outer and Vassar Drives. Czarnecki responded the plan is to take them out and look at putting in a valley gutter asphalt curb.

King commented the City needs to look at educating residents before the next election on a street millage and explain what that money would be used for. She thinks the public needs to be made aware of the costs involved with maintaining the streets and doesn't think the streets will get repaired, or repaired as well as they could be, without a street millage.

Bland commented a millage was turned down before by a margin of four to one but agrees with Councilwoman King that a millage is the only way to get the money needed for local road improvements.

King suggested gathering information from other communities where a local street millage was passed.

Markland stated he agrees with everything that has been said regarding a street millage. Because of the drop in taxable value, two mills does not raise what it used to and he feels it will take three mills to do the program correctly.

A motion was made by Lockwood and seconded by Grossmeyer to approve the proposal by Orchard, Hiltz & McCliment, Inc. for engineering services for the Fenton 2013-2014 Road

Maintenance project as described in the Scope of Services dated March 14, 2014, for a not-to-exceed amount of \$26,900.00 and authorize the City Manager to sign the agreement. Motion carried by a voice vote.

CALL TO THE AUDIENCE – Dawn Overmyer, 826 Southwood Drive, commented she is glad to see the Council addressing the roads issue and stated she is happy to help in any way she can.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:11 PM.

Mayor Sue Osborn

City Clerk, Renee Wilson

Date approved: April 14, 2014