

CITY OF FENTON COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
Monday, July 10, 2017
City Hall Council Chambers
301 South LeRoy Street

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

The invocation for the evening was given by Dr. Dallas Gatlin of Carriage Town Ministries and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

MAYOR'S COMMENTS – Osborn commented she is glad to see so many people turn out for the swearing in of Jason Slater as Chief of Police. She reminded all that Art Walk is this Saturday and the Artist Guild has commissioned butterfly sculptures throughout the downtown area.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT – Markland reported on the following:

- Commented on the Freedom Festival held last week and commended the festival committee and various City departments that worked together to make the event a success.
- Bids to demolish the house at 324 W. Caroline Street have been received and Council will be asked to approve the demolition at an upcoming Council meeting.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Smith stated she attended the Open Gate Garden Tour yesterday and commented how beautiful the gardens are.

Lockwood commented on the recent Freedom Festival and thank all that help make the event happen.

McDermott commented this year's Freedom Festival was an excellent event and everyone he talked to about it said they had a good time.

Grossmeyer thanked all who helped make the Freedom Festival a success.

Draves commented Art Walk is scheduled this Saturday from 10 AM – 4 PM and encouraged all to attend.

All Councilmembers congratulated Jason Slater on his promotion to Police Chief.

LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT – None.

CITIZEN COMMENTS – Jessie Anderson asked to speak on the Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF OF POLICE

Markland stated the position of Police Chief has been open since Rick Aro retired in February; Lt. Jason Slater has been serving as Interim Chief since then. Markland stated Lt. Slater

has been employed with the Police Department since 1995 and reviewed his employment history and qualifications. The City Charter states the following: “The Chief of Police shall be in charge of the police department. To be eligible for appointment as chief of police, a person must be qualified for such office by education, training or experience. Such qualifications shall be determined by the City Manager, subject to approval of the City Council.”

Markland stated he finds that Lt. Jason Slater is duly qualified for the position and is appointing him as Chief of Police and is respectfully requesting City Council approve the appointment.

A motion was made by McDermott and seconded by Grossmeyer to appoint Jason Slater as the Chief of Police for the City of Fenton Police Department.

YEAS: Draves, Grossmeyer, Jacob, Lockwood, McDermott, Osborn, Smith.

NAYS: None.

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

Mayor Osborn congratulated Lieutenant Slater on his promotion to Chief of Police and administered the Oath of Office to Chief Slater.

CONSENT AGENDA

Osborn reviewed all items that were on the Consent Agenda.

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

- Authorize payment of invoices in the amount of \$64,313.51.
- Approve and place on file the minutes of the June 5, 2017 City Council work session.
- Accept the resignation of Jim Saule from the Downtown Development Authority.
- Appoint Patric Parker to a vacant term as a citizen representative to the Downtown Development Authority.

YEAS: Grossmeyer, Jacob, Lockwood, McDermott, Osborn, Smith, Draves.

NAYS: None.

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

PUBLIC HEARING ON PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN

Osborn stated Council will hold a public hearing to accept comment on the proposed Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Pursuant to public comment, Council may take action to adopt Resolution No. 17-11, which formally adopts the 2017-2022 Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

Czarnecki stated the Parks Board prepared an updated Parks Master Plan which was approved, by resolution, at their June 13, 2017 meeting. The Plan is ready for review and action by City Council. A public hearing needs to be held after which he is recommending Council approve the Plan, with any necessary revisions.

Osborn opened the public hearing at 7:55 PM.

Jesse Anderson of Red Fox Outfitters, 234 N. Leroy, commented he is excited about the Plan and thinks it will help make Fenton become an outdoor destination. He contacted individuals he had spoken to in the past regarding the grant process and showed them the section of the City's Plan that addresses trails. It was suggested to him, to help with grant opportunities, to mention within the Plan statements of support for a proposed trail system and to include a map of the proposed trail system that shows how trails would link to other trails and destinations in the area (i.e. schools, museums, community center, etc.). He referenced the Objectives listed on pages 45 and 46 of the proposed Plan, specifically item 1. d. which states "Support the Linden, Argentine, Fenton and Fenton Township Multi-Use Recreational Pathway". Lockwood responded letters of support for the LAFF group have been received by the three communities impacted by the non-motorized trails. Right now the discussion is focused on funding needed to move the project forward and both MDOT and MDNR are being worked with regarding funding and grant opportunities available in 2018. She believes the intent of the Parks and Recreation Board was to support a trail system and leave it up to the individuals working on the project to work on the financial component.

Mr. Anderson stated the individuals he talked to regarding grant opportunities indicated there is a lot of competition for grant dollars available from the State and Federal government. He stated the County prioritized the trail corridor as Priority 1 and suggested possibly adding an appendix to the Plan that mentions this potential trail corridor. He indicated other municipalities along the corridor have done this and thinks the more municipalities that do this will make the project more attractive for grants.

David Panzlau, 4006 Pine Ridge Court, stated he supports the comments made by Mr. Anderson. He commented he attended two of the public information meetings regarding the Plan; there was a lot of discussion regarding trails at those meetings and he hopes those comments are included in the plan.

Osborn closed the public hearing at 8:07 PM. She thanked the Parks and Recreation Board for all their work on this plan.

McDermott commented the Parks Board recognized a trail system was an important topic and the feedback from those meetings was included in the plan. He noted in the Action Plan section of the Master Plan, the first objective listed is Non-Motorized Trails and a map of the Genesee County Trail system was also included in the plan.

Lockwood stated at the last Council meeting, items were discussed that were not included in the draft plan and asked if they will be included. Czarnecki responded any items Council asked to be mentioned in the plan will be included in a revised draft.

Lockwood asked if the comments mentioned during tonight's public hearing will be included in the Plan. Czarnecki responded items Council wants made mention of will be included.

McDermott stated he does not think it's an issue to include comments as long as the Plan can be approved. He stated the Parks Board can discuss this at its meeting tomorrow night.

Schultz commented the Plan is before Council for consideration and Council can recommend any necessary revisions. He believes Mr. Anderson is suggesting maps and drawings relating to the interconnectedness of trails be added to the existing plan. Whether these items are added is a decision for City Council and thinks this falls back to Councilman McDermott, as the liaison to the Parks Board and the rest of the Parks Board to determine the best way to incorporate

the public comments made tonight. He stated Council could approve the Plan and include in the motion to ask the Parks Board to consider adding items related to trails that were discussed tonight.

Markland stated if items are going to be added to the Plan, it should go back to the Parks and Recreation Board to make a decision whether to add the items. The Plan should then come back to City Council for approval.

Sean Sage, Chair of the Parks and Recreation Board, commented the Board decided during the master plan process to focus on the City and offer support for other plans such as regional non-motorized trails and the Shiawassee River waterway trail. The Board felt it was best to focus the Plan on the City. His recommendation would be to mention the comments made tonight, but thinks what is currently in the Plan regarding non-motorized trails meets the intent of the Board.

Jesse Anderson commented he would like to see the Plan passed tonight. He is in agreement with just mentioning the public hearing comments in the Plan and stated Fenton Township included the minutes from the meeting where the public hearing was held in the Plan. He suggested adding the resolution to support for non-motorized trails that was previously adopted as an addendum to the Plan. He also suggested a survey that LAFF conducted be included in the Plan.

McDermott suggested sending the Plan back to the Parks and Recreation Board before any material changes are made. He would like the whole Board to have input before the Plan is adopted if changes are made.

RESOLUTION NO. 17-11

A motion was made by McDermott and seconded by Smith to table Resolution No. 17-11, which formally adopts the 2017-2022 Parks and Recreation Master Plan, and refer the matter back to the Parks and Recreation Board for additional consideration of the comments received tonight. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

TRAFFIC SIGNAL MATERIALS FOR POPLAR STREET

Czarnecki stated the traffic signal at Silver Lake Road and Poplar Street will be replaced as part of the upcoming construction project. MDOT will reimburse the City for the purchase of materials needed to replace the traffic signal. Because it takes three months to obtain materials, MDOT will allow the City to purchase the materials and be reimbursed at a later date. He is recommending Council approve the purchase.

A motion was made by Grossmeyer and seconded by Smith to accept the bid from Carrier & Gable, Inc. for the purchase of three (3) strain poles and one controller/cabinet for the MDOT funded Poplar Street construction project in the amount of \$29,321.75, with MDOT providing reimbursement. Motion carried by a unanimous voice vote.

CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING AND GEOTECHNICAL SERVICES FOR POPLAR STREET PROJECT

Czarnecki stated the Poplar Street project will need engineering oversight during construction. The City's engineers, OHM Advisors provided a scope of services to perform this work. In addition, items such as material testing will be performed by G2 Consulting Group and will be coordinated through OHM. He reviewed the work included in the scope of services and is recommending Council approve the scope of services received from OHM Advisors and G2 Consulting Group.

CONSTRUCTION AND DESIGN SERVICES

A motion was made by Lockwood and seconded by Grossmeyer to approve Construction and Design Services with OHM Advisors as outlined in their scope of services dated June 30, 2017 in an amount not to exceed \$93,700 and authorize the City Manager to sign the document. Motion carried by a unanimous voice vote.

GEOTECHINCAL SERVICES

A motion was made by Smith and seconded by McDermott to approve Geotechnical Services for the Poplar Street Rehabilitation Project with G2 Consulting Group, as outlined in their scope of services dated July 6, 2017 in an amount not to exceed \$14,000 and authorize the City Manager to sign the document. Motion carried by a unanimous voice vote.

TRAFFIC STUDY AT NORTH AND TORREY ROADS

Markland commented this was discussed at last week’s work session. There is a lot of traffic congestion at this intersection and he is recommending Council approve the proposal.

A motion was made by Lockwood and seconded by Grossmeyer to accept the proposal from Progressive Engineering to conduct a traffic study at the intersection of North and Torrey Roads in the amount of \$3,715. Motion carried by a unanimous voice vote.

CALL TO THE AUDIENCE – None.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:37 PM.

Smith noted a vote had not been taken on the motion for the traffic study. Mayor Osborn re-opened the meeting at 8:37 PM to record the vote. Meeting was adjourned at 8:38 PM.

Mayor Sue Osborn

City Clerk, Renee Wilson

Date approved: August 14, 2017