

CITY OF FENTON COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
Monday, July 27, 2015
City Hall Council Chambers
301 South LeRoy Street

Mayor Sue Osborn called the meeting to order at 7:32 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; Mike Burns, Assistant City Manager; Jason Slater, Police Lieutenant; Dan Czarnecki, Director of Public Works and Stephen Schultz, Legal Counsel.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Osborn commented a Community Center Board of Governors meeting was held recently and a Restoration Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday and should be the final meeting.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Markland commented on the following:

- Gave an update on the Streetscape project and stated the brick work has begun.
- Administration met with Fenton Schools Superintendent Doug Busch to address maintenance of the islands on Donaldson Drive and the school district agreed to maintain the islands.
- He met with Gary Hicks from Republic Services regarding the solid waste contract and hopes to bring the contract forward at the next Council meeting.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Jacob commented the Shiawassee River clean-up has been rescheduled for August 2nd and begins at 8 AM.

Grossmeyer stated the brick work downtown looks great and reminded all that the Taste of Fenton is this Thursday.

Lockwood thanked the DPW for their work on Wood Street. She stated there was a Back to the Bricks meeting recently and the event seems well organized and should be a good event.

McDermott commented a local scout has been working on his Eagle project which is to fix the stairs and railings in Mill Pond Park and he also replaced the platforms and commented all the money was raised to complete the project; the City did not have to contribute any funds. He stated there was a baseball tournament last weekend that drew visitors from fifty different cities to Fenton.

King thanked the DPW for removing a dead tree that had fallen on South Long Lake Road and stated she would like to talk about Franklin D. Adams Park at an upcoming work session.

Bland stated he has family in from out of town who are impressed with all the work going on in the downtown area.

LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT – Schultz commented his office is working on union negotiations. He stated there is a meeting tomorrow to wrap up issues pertaining to Cornerstone and he has been working with the Building Department and Planner on an issue with the Wellbridge development.

CITIZEN COMMENTS – None.

CONSENT AGENDA

Osborn reviewed all items that were on the Consent Agenda.

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

- Authorize payment of invoices in the amount of \$499,447.21.
- Approve and place on file the minutes of the June 9, 2015 Parks and Recreation Board meeting, the June 16, 2015 Downtown Development Authority meeting, the July 6, 2015 City Council work session and the July 13, 2015 City Council meeting.
- Appoint Charles Ammon to the Election Commission.
- Designate Councilwoman Patricia Lockwood as the voting delegate and Mayor Sue Osborn as alternate for the Michigan Municipal League Annual Meeting.
- Authorize use of the Cornerstone parking lot, across the street from the Fire Station, for the placement of an entertainment tent for the “Run through the Color and Flames 5K” event to be held August 29, 2015.

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

NAYS: None.

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

PLACEMENT OF FLAG RETIREMENT BOXES AT POLICE AND FIRE STATIONS

Item postponed until the next City Council meeting.

UPGRADES TO DISPATCH CENTER

Slater stated he is seeking approval to fund the Next Generation 911 Upgrade for the dispatch center. This upgrade involves removing the existing copper wiring and transitioning to a fiber optic system capable of receiving texts, photos and other forms of communication. The current dispatch equipment was purchased in 2011 with the understanding that it would allow for the upgrade. The upgrade was delayed due to the State working on 911 protocol and that protocol has now been implemented. This was budgeted in the 2015 budget but due to delays in installing fiber optic cable, the expenditure will occur in fiscal year 2016.

A motion was made by Bland and seconded by McDermott to authorize funding for the Next Generation 911 Upgrade to the City of Fenton Dispatch Center at a cost of \$9,606.00. Motion carried by a voice vote.

JOYFUL NOISE EASEMENT

Burns stated City Administration has been working with Chris and Lisa Bayer to gain an easement on their property located at 111 W. Shiawassee Avenue to place an aesthetically pleasing handicap accessible walkway between Shiawassee Avenue and Elizabeth Street. In addition to

this project, Administration is attempting to address handicap accessibility issues on Elizabeth Street that were created when the street was paved approximately a decade ago.

At the July 21, 2015 DDA meeting, the Board agreed to purchase, or gain an eight foot easement east of the Bayers' property line to build the walkway. In addition, there would be an easement of two feet along the south of the property extending the length of their property (abutting Elizabeth Street). The DDA approved a transaction of \$5,000 for the property, which was originally proposed as an easement. After discussion at the DDA meeting, Administration was asked to consider purchasing the property. Burns stated in subsequent discussions with the Bayers' it was discovered the mortgage company would not allow a purchase, but will allow an easement.

Mr. Bayer is a member of a City Board and a land transaction is proposed between him and the DDA. This transaction can take place if all provisions mentioned in Section 5.13 of the City Charter occur. There must be unanimous approval from City Council to allow the DDA to enter into this agreement.

A motion was made by McDermott and seconded by Jacob to allow the Downtown Development Authority enter into an Easement Agreement with A Joyful Noise Music Studio, LLC. Motion carried by a voice vote.

CALL TO THE AUDIENCE – Michael Morey, 707 Davis Street, thanked the Council for their time and service to the community and specifically thanked Councilwoman King for her many years of service. He asked how the Streetscape project will impact parking in the Dibbleville area. Markland gave an overview of the parking that will be created as part of the Streetscape project and stated the amount of parking will result in a wash, or a net gain of a few spaces compared to what was downtown prior to the project.

Matt Everhard of the Fenton Firefighter Charities, asked for clarification whether the request for a tent as part of the 5K event the charity is sponsoring was approved. Osborn responded the request was approved as part of the consent agenda.

CLOSED SESSION

A motion was made by Osborn and seconded by McDermott to enter into a Closed Session to discuss union negotiations and the City Manager's evaluation.

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

NAYS: None.

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

Recessed to Closed Session at 7:57 PM.

Reconvened to Open Session at 8:28 PM.

A motion was made by McDermott and seconded by Bland to approve the COAM contract. Motion carried by a voice vote.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Mayor Sue Osborn

City Clerk, Renee Wilson

Date approved: August 10, 2015