

CITY OF FENTON COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
Monday, September 28, 2015
City Hall Council Chambers
301 South LeRoy Street

Mayor Pro Tem Lockwood called the meeting to order at 7:33 PM.

The invocation for the evening was given by Attorney Stephen Schultz and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Bland, Grossmeyer, King, Lockwood, McDermott.
Absent: Jacob and Osborn.
Others Present: Lynn Markland, City Manager; Dan Czarnecki, Director of Public Works; Mike Reilly, Building and Zoning Official and Stephen Schultz, Legal Counsel.

A motion was made by Grossmeyer and seconded by Bland to excuse the absences of Mayor Osborn and Councilman Jacob. Motion carried by a voice vote.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS – Mayor Pro Tem Lockwood commented there is a public meeting scheduled for September 30th to discuss the new solid waste and recycling program. She commented the stores in the City that sell tags are out, but they are still available for purchase at City Hall. She gave an update on Beautification Commission activities. She recently visited the Seminary site with the Building and Zoning Administrator and discussed items that can potentially be salvaged.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Markland commented on the following:

- Gave an update on the Streetscape project.
- The new sound system in the City Council chambers has been installed.
- Gave an update on the new solid waste program stating the program will begin November 1st. Bags & tags should be used until then and residents will be billed for two months of service for the new program on the upcoming utility bill.
- He asked that the route for the homecoming parade be approved tonight but allow for changes to be approved by Administration.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

McDermott thanked the City for all the effort put forth in making Applefest a success.

King visited the Seminary site during the demolition process and commented it was sad to see the building come down but there were safety concerns. She commented her time on Council is winding down and she will miss everyone. She asked for an update on the replacement of the sidewalks around the Cornerstone Building. Markland responded the developers will replace the sidewalk within five feet of the building.

Bland stated he attended the Michigan Public Service Institute last week and commented it had the biggest attendance ever for an Institute and is a really good program.

LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT – Schultz commented he, along with Administration, met with representatives from Pine Creek North to discuss the last few things to be completed on the project and has received a draft addendum to the PUD Agreement. The final order from Judge McCabe was received today regarding a code enforcement matter involving the property at 109 Shiawassee Avenue. He met with Mike Reilly and Carmine Avantini today to discuss proposed amendments to the signs portion of the zoning ordinance.

CITIZEN COMMENTS – Cherie Smith, 200 Union Street, asked to speak on the agenda item regarding the North Leroy Business District sponsor signs.

CONSENT AGENDA

Lockwood 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 and allow for changes to the homecoming parade route to be approved administratively:

- Authorize payment of invoices in the amount of \$52,862.25.
- Approve and place on file the minutes of the September 8, 2015 City Council work session and the September 14, 2015 City Council meeting.
- Approve the request from the Fenton High School Student Council to conduct the annual homecoming parade on Friday, October 2, 2015.
- Approve Traffic Control Order 15-01 which installs school speed limit signs on West Street near the World of Wonder Campus.
- Approve Traffic Control Order 15-02 which removes the school crossing and school crosswalk warning signs on Main Street at/near Lemen Street.
- Approve Traffic Control Order 15-03 which installs a sign indicating vehicles blocking a private drive will be towed at the owner's expense on the south side of Elizabeth Street, west of Leroy.
- Appoint Daniel Stickel to a vacant term on the Zoning Board of Appeals expiring June 30, 2016.
- Appoint John Carpenter and Michael Morey to a first term on the Planning Commission expiring September 1, 2018.

King commented she wanted it on record that she checked with Administration and verified there were no prior applications on file from individuals still interested in serving.

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

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Jacob, Osborn. Motion carried by a roll call vote.

STREETSCAPE STREET LIGHT IMPROVEMENTS

Czarnecki stated the City reviewed several different LED retrofits for the existing streetlights with the goal of reducing electrical costs and improving lighting. It was determined the Lumicon D1299 retrofit was the best choice; it is placed in the existing street light pole by replacing the standard incandescent bulb fixture and ballast with a LED retrofit fixture. Czarnecki stated this item is a sole-source item and the Lumicon supplier, Standard Electric Company in Brighton was contacted to obtain a costs to provide these retrofits along with the ten new light

poles needed to complete the Streetscape work. In addition, the poles are also a sole-source item and come from Sun Valley Lighting, whose supplier is also Standard Electric Company. The decision was made to replace the existing luminaire globes as they are faded and discolored due to the incandescent bulbs. These issues will not occur with LED lighting and the new globes will brighten the streetscape area properly.

Czarnecki stated since the lighting items are sole-sourced to be purchased from the same supplier, Administration wishes to make this overall purchase to keep the streetscape area looking consistent throughout the downtown. Section 14.1 of the City Charter allows for the purchase of public improvements without competitive bidding and states, in part “The council may authorize the making of public improvements or the performance of any other city work by any city agency without competitive bidding.” He is recommending approval to purchase the necessary sole-source street lighting items from Standard Electric Company.

King commented the budget for lights in the entire City is over \$100,000 each year and she would eventually like to see LED lighting used throughout the City.

McDermott asked what the cost savings would be by switching to LED lighting. Czarnecki stated it will probably cut the electric costs to a quarter of what they are now.

A motion was made by Bland and seconded by King to authorize the purchase of the necessary sole-source street lighting items from Standard Electric Company for a total of \$82,863.00. Motion carried by a voice vote.

BRIDGE INSPECTIONS

Czarnecki stated the City owns six bridge structures. The Federal Highway Administration and Michigan Department of Transportation requires five of the bridges to be inspected every two years and the bridge on Silver Lake Road to be inspected yearly. Inspections are due in 2015 and since the Silver Lake Road Bridge is scheduled for replacement, it does not need to be inspected.

Czarnecki further commented OHM has provided a letter of understanding outlining the work to inspect the bridges, complete the required forms and submit to MDOT for a lump sum of \$4,800.00. OHM has received MDOT approval to perform the inspections and access their online program for reporting.

King asked when the Silver Lake Road Bridge is replaced, that the plaque on the existing bridge be saved.

A motion was made by Bland and seconded McDermott by to approve the quote from OHM Advisors to provide bridge inspection services as outlined in their letter of understanding for \$4,800.00 and authorize the City Manager to sign the agreement. Motion carried by a voice vote.

NORTH LEROY BUSINESS DISTRICT SIGNS

Markland stated the North Leroy Street Business District group collected funds from sponsors to pay for Christmas decorations on the street poles in the district. They would like to be recognized by placing a sign on the business district poles during the holiday season and suggested Council approve a specific time period. In order for the signs to be placed in the right-of-way, approval from City Council is required. A copy of the sign has been provided in the meeting packet.

Bland asked what signs the poles would be placed on. Lockwood responded signs would only go on two of the poles, the one on Leroy Street by Sagebrush and the one near the intersection of North Road and Leroy Street.

Bland expressed concerns with the size of the signs, which is shown in the packet as 36.04 inches by 48 inches. Markland commented it is a large sign, but needs to be visible to motorists traveling City Streets where the speed limit is 35-40 MPH.

Grossmeyer commented he is in favor of the sponsors getting recognition but he has concerns with the signs. He asked if they are going to replace the existing sign and commented if they're placed below the existing sign, the sponsor signs would only be three feet off the ground. The right of way is only five foot wide and the signs would be right up near the road and sidewalk.

Lockwood commented it is her understanding the signs will go over the existing sign and there are individual signs for each sponsor. She thinks there is confusion as to what is being requested and the Chairman of the Business District group was unable to attend tonight's meeting. She commented there have been discussions with the D.P.W. as to what signs would work the best and be the least obtrusive. She suggested allowing Administration to work with the group to find a solution that works.

McDermott asked when do the decorations go up and come down. Lockwood responded it's up to the D.P.W. and really depends on the weather.

Cherie Smith, 200 Union Street, commented there is a sign at Oak and Union Streets indicating there is no outlet and that sign had to be eight feet off the ground. She said people go down Oak Street all the time because they don't see the 'no outlet' sign. She expressed concerns with the sponsor signs being placed below the existing signs. Markland responded he does not think the signs will be placed below the existing signs. He thinks one of two things will be done, the existing signs will be replaced or the signs will be placed elsewhere.

A motion was made by McDermott and seconded by Grossmeyer to allow approval administratively of the North Leroy Business District holiday lights sponsor signs. Motion carried by a voice vote.

SET PUBLIC HEARING DATE

A motion was made by King and seconded by Grossmeyer to set a public hearing for October 12, 2015 to consider the Commercial Facilities Exemption Certificate Application for Skypointe Ventures. Motion carried by a voice vote.

CALL TO THE AUDIENCE – Doug Tebo, 409 Bent Oak Street, thanked the Council for allowing him to utilize the cornerstone from the Seminary to be used as part of a Baptist Minister Memorial at Oakwood Cemetery.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Mayor Pro Tem Patricia Lockwood

City Clerk, Renee Wilson

Date approved: October 12, 2015