

**CITY OF FENTON COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
WORK SESSION
Monday, December 5, 2005
City Hall Conference Room
301 South Leroy Street**

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Osborn at 7:30 P.M.

Present: Angeluski, Hammond, Moffitt, North, Osborn, Rauch.

Absent: King (excused).

Others Present: Michael Senyko, City Manager; Christopher Wren, Assistant City Manager; David Lossing, Linden Mayor; Cynthia Shane, Treasurer; Tad Harburn, Plante Moran.

NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

David Lossing, Mayor of the City of Linden, stated he would be presenting a very creative and unique concept. The proposed project is a national recreational area involving 21 miles of water to canoe, tube or kayak. Lossing has received numerous phone calls in support of the idea, but also a number of concerns from lake residents. This recreation area is designed for the type of people who enjoy passive water recreation, noting there should be little impact on the waterfront residents. He brought along a conceptual drawing and asked that it be placed in the city hall lobby for a few weeks in order for the public to view it. He also informed council that the Linden City Council has approved a resolution in support of the national recreational area concept.

Hammond stated he felt the City of Fenton was far enough removed from the area that he would not feel comfortable supporting a concept which would effect 4000 acres of land that is not in the City. He prefers to see if all the people directly impacted act on the resolution first. Lossing explained the resolution is only supporting the concept and does not represent a long term commitment.

Rauch reported having received calls from lake residents who would rather not have additional canoe and/or kayak traffic on the rivers or lake.

Angeluski was strongly against the plan at this time due to the possible expense involved in acquiring property. He would not want the City committed to any extra expense given the current condition of the budget.

Osborn felt it is a very interesting concept. She will remain open minded, but also has received calls from lake residents. She agreed with Hammond, stating she would rather see others more closely impacted support the concept first.

Moffitt agreed with Osborn and Hammond. He also stated he is in favor of the concept to preserve natural features.

FISCAL YEAR 2005 AUDIT

Tad Harburn from Plante Moran, the City's auditing firm, was present to review the

Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for fiscal year ending June 30, 2005. The audit was conducted in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States. He reviewed the statement of the City's assets which total 58.7 million. The City's combined net assets increased one percent from last year, increasing from 35.4 million to 35.7 million. The audit also revealed that the sewer and water funds had a slight regression, showing an operating loss of \$160,000.00. He went on to review several points of interest and concluded by informing Council that the audit revealed nothing involving internal control issues. There were a few comments in prior years which have been addressed and no longer exist.

It was also noted that the City is collecting 96% of property taxes levied, with the remainder paid in full by the Genesee County Delinquent Tax Revolving Fund, which results in 100% collection.

Angeluski asked about the difference in this audit and a certified audit. Harburn stated that Plante Moran is contracted to perform a financial statement audit, not a review of 100% of the City's transactions, which would be cost prohibitive. The purpose of this audit is to give an opinion based on general accounting practices.

FIRE SERVICES CONTRACT

Senyko provided in the Friday memo a compilation of all the information provided since Council was first approached on this contract. In addition, he provided a spreadsheet of the last twenty four fire runs in Tyrone Township.

Hammond, referring back to previous work sessions, felt City Council had discussed this contract thoroughly. There also had been a decision to compromise on the per run charges at \$1100. Osborn explained the discussion was extended for Moffitt's sake, who had not been privy to all the past information.

Moffitt pointed out several examples of possible costs to the City which result in no cost to Tyrone Township. Senyko noted the per run charge includes insurance costs of the firefighters. Moffitt felt the amount is fair after looking at the figures, but suggested that it should be reviewed every six months.

John Randle, a Tyrone Township resident, expressed his concern over response time if Fenton is first responder, noting a possible delay in calling out mutual aid. Senyko stated that Tyrone Township has approached the City to provide protection to the southern end of township east of US23. He asked pointed out that mutual aid is provided automatically in certain cases. Administration is only saying that it can provide services very similar to that in the past.

Angeluski stated there are more homes, more distance and more responsibility now. He expressed concern over the wear and tear on the City's equipment from the rough roads in the township. He felt that \$1200 was a reasonable fee. Angeluski also suggested a 5% cost of living increase. Hammond pointed out that the current rate is paying expenses and can be changed if there is an increase in cost to the City.

Ron Stokes, of Tyrone Twp, stated the Hartland Fire Chief gave him a run total of seventy one for the City of Fenton, the Fire Authority did sixty four and Fenton Township did twenty one.

Linda Primeau was present and made statements in defense of Chief Smith. She also

questioned North regarding information she provided on the Lapeer Fire Department. She felt that because of the difference in the size of areas covered, it was not an accurate comparison.

The majority of council was in favor of the \$1100.00 per run charge with a six month review. Schultz also indicated that it would be wise to require Tyrone Township to pass a cost recovery ordinance. Angeluski expressed his opposition to the agreement.

CITY MANAGER'S CONTRACT

A memo from Mayor Osborn was presented indicating the committee's proposal. She reviewed the terms of the contract which included a one-year contract beginning July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006, and a three percent increase which has been budgeted. There will be a review in February for the next fiscal year.

OTHER

Senyko reported a special meeting is scheduled at 5:00 on December 12th before the regular council meeting to discuss the John Dziurman's proposed Downtown Development Guidelines. Dziurman will provide an introduction and overview of the project to date. Senyko explained the document will need adoption by the DDA, Planning Commission and City Council. Two public hearings and two open houses will be held to gather input from the public. Before adoption of the plan. He also noted that the consultant will speak briefly on proposed Elizabeth Street parking solutions.

Osborn received a letter from the City of Linden informing her that the results of a survey on the Southern Lakes Planning Initiative are in. They would like to hold a meeting on January 11th at 7:00 pm in the new Lake Fenton High School to review the results. Senyko will provide additional information in the Friday memo. Hammond, who sits on the committee, expressed surprise that the information was coming through a meeting, noting he has not seen the letter. He also explained that information has not been provided to Council because the committee is not receiving any information.

North reported she was present at an accident scene earlier in the day and she received a compliment on the City's good response time.

Moffitt felt the constitution provided by local third graders was excellent.

CALL TO AUDIENCE

Linda Primeau welcomed Moffitt to the City Council.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:40 PM

Sue Osborn, Mayor

Melinda Carrier, City Clerk