

A regular meeting of the City Council was held at City Hall, 200 S. Main Street on Monday, February 22, 2010, at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Platte called the meeting to order.

Present were Mayor Platte and Councilpersons Greenhoe, Brown, Letarte and Harri. None were absent.

The invocation was given by Pastor Scott Boles of the First Baptist Church.

Councilman Letarte moved the Agenda be amended to add Item 12a., Closed Session for Strategy and Negotiations; seconded by Councilman Harri, passed 4 yeas, 1 nay (Brown.) Councilwoman Brown moved the Agenda be amended to add Item 10b., under New Business, MDOT Presentation by Greg Losch; seconded by Councilman Harri, passed unanimously. The Agenda was approved as Amended.

The February 8, 2010 Regular minutes and the February 1, 2010 and February 12, 2010 Worksession minutes were approved as printed.

Councilman Harri moved that disbursements of \$165,379.97, with the breakdown being General Fund Checks in the amount of \$104,031.21 - check numbers 51814 through 51856 and Wire Transfers in the amount of \$61,348.76 be approved; seconded by Councilman Greenhoe, passed unanimously.

Russ Hicks, Chair of the Quiet Water Symposium, gave a presentation on the Michigan Heritage Water Trails. Mr. Hicks stated that the City has a gem in the Grand River, and that with little effort, could be a Heritage Water Trail, which would bring business to the City and also provide Economic Development. Mr. Hicks stated that there were many paddle clubs in Michigan, as well as surrounding States, that looked for yearly events and new trails to travel. Mr. Hicks stated that the main thing that Council would have to do would be to provide signage that met the requirements of the Michigan Heritage Water Trails Group, and that the main problem was already resolved, in that the City had public property in many different areas for the paddlers to access. Mr. Hicks stated that the only other problem that Council might want to consider in the future would be the removal of the Dam at State Street, as when paddlers came, they had to get out at McArthur River Park and carry their canoes/kayaks to Island Park, which was about a three block hike. Mr. Hicks shared information showing what a City in Michigan had just done by removing a Dam allowing for the waterway to flow and be accessible by paddlers. Mr. Hicks stated that what his Association would like to see the City claim as their project would be from Gale Road to McNamara Landing. Council thanked Mr. Hicks for the presentation.

Greg Losch, Project Manager from the Michigan Department of Transportation, gave a presentation to Council regarding the M-99/M-50 Reconstruction Project scheduled for March 2010 through September 2010. Mr. Losch stated that he had several meetings scheduled on Thursday with businesses and interested residents. Mr. Losch presented Council with flyers that will be distributed at the meeting. Mr. Losch stated that traffic will

continue one-way (northbound) and parking will be maintained through the project, and that southbound traffic will be detoured, with the detour route being Brook to W. Knight to Hall to Broad, and then coming out on Main Street. Mr. Losch stated that construction is slated to begin in mid April, with traffic control being placed in early April. Mr. Losch stated that there will also be utility improvement for Knight Street and Hamlin Court, which will begin in mid July to mid/lat August. Mr. Losch stated that tree plantings, landscaping and street lights will be done in early August to September. Mayor Platte stated that the detour route in the power point presentation was a better design than the one in the flyers, and that if this information could also be available at the upcoming meeting. Mr. Losch stated that he would see that this was done. Council thanked Mr. Losch for the presentation.

Rod Schultz, 1303 Montgomery Street, appeared before Council regarding cell phones use; E-mails; and the 2009 Audit.

Reuben Green, 630 Forest Street, appeared before Council regarding tree trimming costs and replacement cost for trees.

Russ Hicks, 7900 E. Columbia Hwy, appeared before Council regarding time limits on public comments.

Mayor Platte reported on the following: that he had attended the Chili Cook-off at Greyhound Central; that he had helped with a bake sale at Darb's for the Service Groups; that the Website Committee held a meeting on Friday and would be holding another one in the near future; and that at the next Worksession the Michigan Municipal League will be giving a presentation and information on conducting the City Manager search.

Councilwoman Brown reported on the following: thanked Mr. Hicks and Mr. Losch for the presentations as they were very enlightening; and to contact her with any concerns or questions.

Councilman Greenhoe reported on the following: thanked Mr. Hicks for his concerns regarding public comments and thanked him for his presentation.

Councilman Harri reported on the following: that Council had just had a Goal Setting Session and that the City needed to be creative with the next Budget as funding and Revenue Sources were being cut due to the current economic situation in the nation, but that Council was up for the task and would be presenting a solid budget for the citizens to get the City back on track.

Councilman Letarte reported on the following: that to follow-up on Councilman Harri's report that the Lansing State Journal had just had an article about Healthcare and retiree funding for local and state government, and that the budget needs to be reduced

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revenues are being reduced and urged citizens to become involved and let Council know any cost savings ideas that they had.

Police Chief Malewski reported on the following: that he had participated in the Chili Cook-off at Greyhound Central; that he had helped with the Bake Sale on the 19th at Darb's; that all of his Officer's had attended a Criminal Law Procedural update that was put on through the Eaton County Prosecutor's Office; that the first week of April his Officer's will be receiving training on Use of Force and Radar, and that all of this training will be done in house; that on the 3rd and 17th the Department will be hosting a Dating Seminar at the Eaton Rapids Medical Center on abusive dating situations; presented information regarding Hearts & Hands and what a great organization this was and his Department will continue to assist with food and clothing items.

City Assessor Baker reported on the following: that Assessment notices will be mailed out by the end of this week and that the March Board of Review will be held on the 8th and 9th, and notice of this will be published in the paper.

Councilman Harri moved Council go into Closed Session for strategy and negotiations on the Fraternal Order of Police Contract; seconded by Councilman Letarte, passed 4 yeas, 1 nay (Brown. Council went into Closed Session at 8:09 p.m.

Councilman Letarte moved Council reconvene back into Open Session; seconded by Councilwoman Brown, passed unanimously. Council reconvened back into Open Session at 8:50 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Steven G. Platte, Mayor

Kristy Reinecke, City Clerk