

A regular meeting of the City Council was held at City Hall, 200 S. Main Street on Monday, October 10, 2011, at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Platte called the meeting to order.

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

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

The Agenda was approved as printed.

The September 26, 2011 Regular Minutes and the October 3, 2011, Worksession Minutes were approved as printed.

Councilman Letarte moved that disbursements of \$92,484.60, with the breakdown being General Fund Checks in the amount of \$88,276.99 - check numbers 57969 through 58054, Meter Deposit Refund Checks in the amount of \$1,522.37 - check numbers 100647 through 100653, and Wire Transfers in the amount of \$2,685.24; seconded by Councilman Harri, passed unanimously.

Mayor Platte opened the meeting for a Public Hearing on the City's Application for a Michigan Economic Development Corporation Community Development Block Grant. The Public Hearing opened at 7:07 p.m.

Kim Byerly explained that the Grant was for improvements for the Mill Street Landing Parking Project. Ms. Byerly stated that the Grant amount was for \$352,500.00. And would support the Fire House Grill and Pub, a new river trail from Mill Street to the Knight Street bridge, and boardwalk that would be handicap accessible, and also the employment of 34 people in the Mill Street Landing area.

Councilman Harri asked what the \$350,000.00 amount was on the Grant application and who was paying this money. Ms. Byerly stated that this was the Eaton Rapids Development Corporation, which was a private group.

Gary Wichman, a member of the ERDC stated that he was here and would answer questions of Council.

Councilman Letarte stated that the plan that was before them tonight was different from the one that he had seen back in April and wondered about the changes. Ms. Byerly stated that this was the first phase of the project, and that this part of the Grant could not do everything that had been proposed, but that when the City obtained this Grant, then it could be used for a match to apply for more Grant monies.

Gary Wichman, a member of the ERDC stated that the development was much more than the Fire House Grill and Pub, but the building south of the old Fire Station would be an Italian Bistro, that there were plans for the development of the old Miller Restaurant, and that the home by the River was also in the plans for renovation and use. Mr. Wichman stated that this project would deal with four large buildings in the City for development, and also included a banquet center on the second floor of the Fire Station and that all the projects would support each other, as well as allow growth in other areas of the City.

Councilman Greenhoe asked if the same people owned the Fire House Grill as the Italian Bistro and would operate both developments. Mr. Wichman stated that the same people owned both buildings and would be operating both developments.

Councilman Greenhoe asked what the time frame was for this development. Mr. Wichman stated that they would be starting on the Italian Bistro first, then the Miller Restaurant, then the Fire House Grill and then the Mill Street area, and that they hoped to be starting within the next 30 to 60 days.

There were no further comments.

Mayor Platte closed the Public Hearing on the City's Application for a Michigan Economic Development Corporation Community Development Block Grant at 7:17 p.m.

Councilman Letarte moved Council approve the Resolution to make application for a Community Development Block Grant to fund the Mill Street Landing Parking Project, and to authorize the City Manager to sign and proceed with filing said application in the amount of \$352,500.00; seconded by Councilman Harri, passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Greenhoe moved Council approve the DPW Director's recommendation to accept the bid from Ross & Associates in the amount of \$11,450.00, for the roof bid for the Water Department; seconded by Councilwoman Brown, passed unanimously.

Councilman Letarte moved Council approve the Municipal Employees' Retirement System of Michigan ("MERS") Defined Contribution Plan Loan Procedures, and authorize the City Manager to sign said Plan; seconded by Councilman Harri, passed unanimously.

Councilwoman Brown moved Council approve the Municipal Employees' Retirement System of Michigan ("MERS") Defined Contribution Plan Loan Addendum, and authorize the City Manager to sign said Addendum; seconded by Councilman Letarte, passed unanimously.

Councilwoman Brown moved Council approve the Halloween Trick-or-Treat Hours to be on Monday, October 31, 2011, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., with the emergency siren signaling the beginning and ending; seconded by Councilman Greenhoe, passed unanimously.

Rod Schultz, 1303 Montgomery Street, appeared before Council regarding PA 32 and the City being in compliance; thanked the City Manager for his prompt response to the Citizen Response Form; and School phone issues.

Mayor Platte reported on the following: that the Jean Kline Building Dedication at the Historical Society's Apple Fest Event was a very nice event and well attended; and that

he was very excited about the ERDC and the long term plans and goals of this group.

Councilman Greenhoe reported on the following: that he wanted to compliment the ERDC and the investments that they are making in the Eaton Rapids Community.

Councilwoman Brown reported on the following: that the ERDC is doing wonderful things for Eaton Rapids; congratulated the City Clerk on the bra event and fund-raiser and representing the City of Eaton Rapids and taking 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the event; and kudos to the City Clerk on the High School Election for Homecoming that was held a few weeks ago and what a worthwhile event this was in educating the youth in our Community.

Councilman Harri reported on the following: that the ERDC and the Grants and Development that the City is working on as well are relaying moving Eaton Rapids forward; and that on October 28<sup>th</sup> at the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade building he and his son will be offering their services as DJ's at the Holiday dance event.

Councilman Letarte reported on the following: that the State of Michigan Dashboard Report is on the City's website, but it might still need some tweaking; and that there is a power outage scheduled for this weekend, and wondered how citizens were notified of this event.

City Manager Stoppels reported on the following: that the contracts for the DPW and Police Agreements are moving forward and that he has the DPW Contract at City Hall and will be signing this document and sending it back to the Union, and that the Police Contract is still at the FOP where the language is being worked through; that the Administrative Assistants as well as the Administrative Staff have given him their requests and he is working on responses to these; that half of the trees that were bid to be removed in the City have been done; that URV is moving forward and that financing is falling into place in a timely manner and that four major companies have made commitments for work and that groundbreaking is scheduled for the end of the month or the first of November; that the dashboard deadline was met and thanked Staff for their work on this, and that the City was required to use the State's format, and that it was not our format, so this is how it's presented on the website; that notifications for the electrical outage were made on the City's website, newspapers, TV and radio; and that he and the Mayor are on WLMI the first Friday of every month from 8:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. promoting Eaton Rapids and events taking place.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

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Steven G. Platte, Mayor

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Kristy Reinecke, City Clerk