

A worksession of the City Council was held at City Hall, 200 S. Main Street, on Monday, March 19, 2012, at 5:00 p.m.

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

Administrative Staff Present was City Manager Jon Stoppels, Police Chief Paul Malewski, Public Service/WWTP Director Todd Nichols, City Assessor Mike Baker, Utilities Director Scott Poyer, Fire Chief Roger McNutt, Deputy Treasurer Carla Mazur, Treasurer Lisa St. Aubin, Building Inspector Jon Hill, Library Director Sandy Porter and City Clerk Kristy Reinecke.

Purpose of the meeting was a worksession. Notice of the meeting was duly given.

Public Comments:

Mayor Platte passed around Eaton Rapids Bank Notes that are on loan from the Pocket Change Coin Shop to be displayed in the City Museum; Mayor Platte passed around the July 4th, 175th Schedule of events.

Russ Hicks, from the Paddle Club, passed around an update on the River Rapids Project.

Department Head Reports:

Utility Director Poyer reported on the following: that Well #1 is back in service; that K & R Construction has come and finished up the remaining projects.

City Treasurer St. Aubin reported on the following: that she has Cd's due and will be reinvesting them.

Old Business Topics of Discussion were:

Utility Director Poyer reviewed the Water Tower Color selection with Council. After a lengthy discussion it was decided to have the West Street Tower painted the Slate Gray color, and with the lettering on the tower to be revisited with possible different font types, and that the Water Tower at the School Complex be painted Tnemec White and the graphic of the Greyhound on the Tower to be updated.

New Business Topics of Discussion were:

Fire Chief McNutt reviewed with the Council the proposed Training Center that will facilitate training for the City Fire Department as well as Hamlin and Eaton Rapids Township Fire Departments. Fire Chief McNutt explained that this facility was looking at being located in the City due to the City having the proper water pressure with hydrants.

Kevin Hill, 318 Lake Street, appeared before Council and stated that he lives right across the street from where this is being proposed to be located and that he is opposed to this.

After a lengthy discussion, Council requested that Chief McNutt look at the possibility of locating this facility at another location and report back to Council at a future Worksession.

Mayor Platte reviewed with Council the monies that are being given in support of the City Street Clock that will be located at the corner of Hamlin and Main Street. Mayor Platte stated that there was still money in the budget under the Council's line items and wondered if Council was interested in donating to this project. After a lengthy discussion, Council stated that they wanted to consider this and have it brought back to a future Worksession.

Mayor Platte reviewed with Council the fountain that is located at Memorial Park. Mayor Platte stated that the fountain is costing the City approximately \$4,000 per year for maintenance. Mayor Platte wondered if Council would like to have this fountain remain at this site, or the possibility of demolishing the fountain. After a lengthy discussion it was recommended that the City look at the possibility of moving the artwork to another location in the City, either at the Industrial Park or the Amphitheater, and that the concrete remain at Memorial Park and be turned into a planter. City Staff will look into this and report back to Council.

City Manager Stoppels reviewed with Council the letter that the Michigan Strategic Fund is asking the City to sign in regards to the MSC 210006-EDIG, URV-USA Infrastructure Project Monies. City Manager Stoppels stated that a meeting is trying to be set up this week with Blaire so that the City can review this letter with URV, and that after the meeting the City will proceed.

Mayor Platte reviewed with Council that information has been received from the Chamber of Commerce regarding their Annual Chamber Dinner that is scheduled for Friday, April 20th, and that there is room for eight people and Council wishing to attend need to get with Kristy prior to March 28th.

Public Comments:

None.

Other Items of Discussion:

None.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:03 p.m.

Steven G. Platte, Mayor

Kristy Reinecke, City Clerk