

A regular meeting of the City Council was held at City Hall, 200 S. Main Street on Monday, January 14, 2013. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Platte called the meeting to order.

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

The invocation was given by Pastor Jim Riley of the Eaton Rapids Assembly of God Church.

The Agenda was approved with an addition under Special Business as 9a., Council Resolution Honoring Sergeant Jeff Verhougstraete.

The December 26, 2012, Regular Minutes and the January 7, 2013, Worksession Minutes were approved as printed.

Councilman Harri moved that disbursements of \$437,584.72 be approved, with the breakdown being General Fund Checks in the amount of \$147,812.22 - check numbers 60088 through 60154 and Wire Transfers in the amount of \$289,772.50; seconded by Councilman Norris, passed unanimously.

Mayor Platte read Council's Resolution Honoring Sergeant Jeff Verhougstraete for his retirement and years of service to the City. Sergeant Verhougstraete received applause. Sergeant Verhougstraete thanked the Council and all of the Chief's that he has worked under, but especially the citizens of Eaton Rapids for making this a great community to be a part of.

Russ Hicks, Columbia Highway, appeared before Council and gave them an update on the Eaton Rapids West Sanitary Dam Removal and Rock Ramp Replacement Project. Council thanked Mr. Hicks for the update.

Mayor Platte reported on the following: Congratulated Sergeant Verhougstraete on his retirement and thanked him for his service to the City, and that he was an asset and will be missed; and thanked Russ Hicks for all of his work on the project.

Councilman Greenhoe reported on the following: Congratulated Sergeant Verhougstraete and that he has been very much appreciated for his dedication to the City and the citizens of Eaton Rapids; and thanked Russ Hicks on all of his work on the rapids project.

Councilwoman Brown reported on the following: Congratulated Sergeant Verhougstraete on his retirement and that he will be missed, and that he had set an example for the Department and the City will continue to have that caliber of a Department with dedicated and loyal Officer's by the bar that has been set by Sergeant Verhougstraete and that he has been a rock for the City and thanked his wife for

sharing him with the City; thanked Mr. Hicks for his dedication to the rapids project; and that 2012 was a good year for some and bad year for others, but the City needs to continue to move forward and make 2013 positive.

Councilman Harri reported on the following: that he would like to reiterate what his colleagues had stated and that Sergeant Verhougstraete will be missed and he was sad to see him go as he has been a great Ambassador to the City and the Department, that he was a fair man and that it would be big shoes to fill; and thanked Mr. Hicks for his passion on the rapids project and thanked him for his service to the City.

Councilman Norris reported on the following: that his colleagues had given very eloquent comments and he agreed with them whole heartedly, that Sergeant Verhougstraete has been an asset and will be called upon in the future, so will hopefully still be around and active in the City; and thanked his colleagues during his personal time of tragedy for the cards and flowers.

City Manager Stoppels reported on the following: that he will miss Sergeant Verhougstraete at negotiations and appreciated his professionalism; and thanked Mr. Hicks for his work on the rapids project.

Councilwoman Brown moved Council go into Closed Session to discuss strategy and negotiations regarding collective bargaining; seconded by Councilman Harri, passed unanimously. Council went into Closed Session at 7:35 p.m.

Councilman Norris moved Council reconvene back into open session; seconded by Councilman Harri, passed unanimously. Council reconvened back into open session at 8:14 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Steven G. Platte, Mayor

Kristy Reinecke, City Clerk