

A regular meeting of the City Council was held at City Hall, 200 S. Main Street on Monday, February 25, 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 Assembly of God Church.

The Agenda was approved as printed.

The February 11, 2013, and February 18, 2013, Worksession Minutes were approved as printed. Mayor Platte asked that the January 28, 2013, Regular Minutes be approved with the following correction: "That a discussion transpired at this meeting regarding the expenditure on page 4 of the Claims Report in the amount of \$1,034.42 for the Audit Conference and that it was questioned as to why it was being charged to the "Utility/Sewer Account", when the Treasurer is the one attending the educational class and Council had earlier **decided** changed to **consensus** to not have the Treasurer attend this Conference during this budget term." Mayor Platte asked if Council agreed with these changes. Councilwoman Brown stated that she felt this was important to add to the minutes. Councilman Harri had no problem with this being added. Councilman Norris had no problem with this being added. The January 28, 2013, Regular Minutes were approved as amended.

Councilman Norris moved that disbursements of \$301,855.42 be approved, with the breakdown being General Fund Checks in the amount of \$40,755.20 - check numbers 60276 through 60312 and Wire Transfers in the amount of \$261,100.22; seconded by Councilman Harri, passed unanimously.

Mayor Platte and Utility Director Poyer presented Lee Sifton with his Journeyman's Certification. Mr. Sifton received applause from Council.

Councilwoman Brown moved Council approve the Resolution to allow easement parking to the Dollar General Store; seconded by Councilman Norris, passed 3 yeas, 2 nays (Platte and Harri).

Councilman Norris moved that Council approve the recommendation from the Michigan Public Power Agency for the purchase of capacity and authorize the City Clerk to sign the letter of authorization; seconded by Councilwoman Brown, passed unanimously.

Councilman Harri moved Council approve the Budget Adjustments as recommended by the City Treasurer; seconded by Councilman Greenhoe, passed unanimously.

Councilwoman Brown moved Council approve the Agreement with the DPW Bargaining Unit for 2013 pay; seconded by Councilman Norris, passed unanimously.

Reuben Green, 630 Forest Street, appeared before Council regarding the Cemetery.

Mayor Platte reported on the following: congratulated Lee Sifton for his hard work and dedication to the City; and that there will be a Chili Cook-off on March 7th at Union Street School.

Councilman Norris reported on the following: that he is on a sub-committee of the Council of Governments and they are currently reviewing the Area Wide Master Plan; and that he respected and it was an honor to know Robert Warner, who was the City Attorney for over 3 decades and he will be greatly missed in the community and offered his condolences to the family.

Councilman Harri reported on the following: congratulated Lee Sifton for his dedication and work and effort and that he is an asset to the City team; and commended the Department Heads for their work on the budget adjustments and thanked the Police Department for giving up a new vehicle to help with the adjustments.

Councilman Greenhoe reported on the following: congratulated Lee Sifton on his hard work and all of the studying that he had to do to complete this and that the City is very proud of him and he is a big asset to the City team and hoped that he would be with the City for a very long time; that Robert Warner is a big loss to the community and offered his condolences to the family; and that the School Election is tomorrow and remember to vote.

Councilwoman Brown reported on the following: congratulated Lee Sifton and his family for the sacrifices that they have made for him to accomplish all of this hard work and dedication; that Robert Warner's memorial service was very moving; and that the Reader's Digest has listed the City of Eaton Rapids as one of the top 10 billed town slogans in the United States.

City Clerk Reinecke reported on the following: congratulated Lee Sifton.

City Manager Stoppels reported on the following: congratulated Lee Sifton as becoming an electrical journeyman is one of the hardest programs to get through and it is also a very dangerous job day to day and he should be proud of his accomplishments.

Councilman Harri moved Council go into Closed Session to discuss strategy and negotiations for collective bargaining; seconded by Councilman Norris, passed unanimously. Council went into Closed Session at 7:30 p.m.

Councilwoman Brown moved Council reconvene back into Open Session; seconded by Councilman Norris, passed unanimously. Council reconvened back into Open Session at 7:48 p.m.

Councilwoman Brown moved Council approve the Memo of Understanding with the DPW Bargaining Unit and to pay the 35% Life Insurance amount to the beneficiary of Robert Hoffman's Life Insurance Policy immediately; seconded by Councilman Norris, passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Steven G. Platte, Mayor

Kristy Reinecke, City Clerk