

A worksession of the City Council was held at City Hall, 200 S. Main Street, on Monday, May 20, 2013, 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, DPW/WWTP Director Todd Nichols, City Assessor Mike Baker, Building Inspector Hill, Library Director Sandra Porter, Police Chief Joseph FitzGerald, Utility Director Scott Poyer, Treasurer Lisa St. Aubin, Deputy Treasurer Carla Mazur and City Clerk Kristy Reinecke.

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

Public Comments:

Doc Hastay, 435 N. East Street, appeared before Council regarding brush removal and chipping service.

Department Head Reports:

None.

New Business Topics of Discussion were:

Utility Director Poyer reviewed with Council the proposed redevelopment liquor license Resolution. Utility Director Poyer stated that they were asking Council to pass this Resolution in preparation of new development coming to Eaton Rapids as part of the DDA. This item will appear on the May 28th Agenda.

City Manager Stoppels reviewed with Council that last year the cost for contracted mowing services for citizens who were in violation of the weed ordinance was \$25.00 per hour. City Manager Stoppels stated that the price has increased this year to \$35.00 per hour. City Manager Stoppels said at the current time the City was charging \$50.00 per hour when billing the property owner in violation. City Manager Stoppels stated that it was Staff's recommendation to increase the fee to \$70.00 per hour for the first violation. Council agreed that this was a good Administrative decision to increase the fee.

Old Business Topics of Discussion were:

City Manager Stoppels reviewed the proposed 2013/2014 Budget with Council and answered questions. This item will again be on the June 3rd Worksession Agenda.

Mayor Platte reviewed with Council Chapter 11 and 12 of the City Code with Council. Council reviewed the recommendations made by legal review as well as staff recommendations. Mayor Platte asked if Building Inspector Hill will further review Chapter 12 and come back to Council with his recommendations.

Mayor Platte stated that at the next Worksession Council would be reviewing Chapter 12, 12 1/2 and 13 of the City Code.

Public Comments:

None.

Council Comments for the Good of the Order:

Councilwoman Brown stated that it was good to be back and thanked her colleagues and staff for their concerns, and that she will be back as allowed by her Doctor.

Councilman Harri asked what the solution was for the residents on Michigan Street having access to the back of their property. City Manager Stoppels stated that he and DPW Director Nichols have been working on this and have come up with a solution that would require minimal extra security added to the location and that he has also been in communication with Robert Broughman and that both sides are happy with the result that is being worked toward.

Councilman Greenhoe asked if there was further information on the Holman property issue. City Manager Stoppels, Police Chief FitzGerald and Building Inspector Hill all stated that due to the circumstances of this situation, that this could not be treated as an unregistered vehicle to have him evicted, but that before the Police Department entered this property they would need a Court Order and would be proceeding for both the eviction and property maintenance issues together with the City Attorney to have this issue resolved.

Closed Session:

Councilman Harri moved Council go into Closed Session to discuss strategy and negotiations for collective bargaining; seconded by Councilman Greenhoe, passed unanimously. Council went into Closed Session at 6:29 p.m.

Councilwoman Brown moved Council reconvene back into Open Session; seconded by Councilman Norris, passed unanimously. Council reconvened back into Open Session at 6:39 p.m.

Police Chief FitzGerald gave Council a brief update on how things were going at the Department.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:54 p.m.

Steven G. Platte, Mayor

Kristy Reinecke, City Clerk