

A worksession of the City Council was held at City Hall, 200 S. Main Street, on Monday, March 20, 2017, at 5:00 p.m.

Present were Mayor Platte and Councilpersons Harri, Burke, McGee and Colestock. None were absent.

Administrative Staff Present was City Manager Jon Stoppels, Police Chief Larry Weeks, Quality of Life Director Troy Stowell, Fire Chief Roger McNutt, Library Director Anna Curtis, Building Official LeRoy Hummel, and City Clerk Kristy Reinecke.

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

Public Comments:

None.

Department Head Reports:

Councilman Burke asked questions regarding the arson investigation and the bond that was set.

New Business Topics of Discussion were:

City Clerk Reinecke reviewed with Council the MPPA Credit Report Card. City Clerk Reinecke stated that she and City Manager Stoppels and City Treasurer Carr had met with Amy DeLeeuw who is the CFO from MPPA and that MPPA is very impressed and pleased with the City's Electric Utility. City Manager Stoppels stated that the MPPA likes to see a 90 day cash reserve and the City has a 134 day cash reserve which was very impressive to the MPPA. City Clerk Reinecke stated that the City has improved from previous report cards and received an Excellent Performance status with 85 points out of a possible 102 and will be looking at a couple of areas where in the future years the City can improve their scoring. Council thanked the Clerk and Manager for the review.

City Clerk Reinecke invited Council to attend the upcoming MPPA Stakeholders meeting that will be held on Wednesday, May 10th from 1:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. in Lansing. City Clerk Reinecke stated that MPPA will give a brief synopsis of what MPPA does for the City as well as have a guest speaker and a tour of the Capitol. City Clerk Reinecke asked that anyone who was interested in attending get with her so that she gave reserve their spot.

City Clerk Reinecke reported to Council that currently there is a Bill on the Floor for a substitute for HB 4220. City Clerk Reinecke pointed out that the change would make the City exempt from any Legislation and removal of Smart Meters as it would only apply to

Electricity Companies that are regulated by the Commission, which the City is not. City Clerk Reinecke stated that she will keep Council informed on whether the new Bill passes or not. Council thanked City Clerk Reinecke for the update.

City Clerk Reinecke reviewed with Council the request from the Business and Professional Women's Club to hold their Annual Scrap Drive Event on Saturday, April 29th from 8:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. at the Department of Public Works. This item will appear on the March 27th Agenda for Council consideration.

City Clerk Reinecke reviewed with Council the request from Tammy Oliver for the Light the Town Blue Event for Autism Awareness which would take place on Saturday, April 22nd. The event would be a walk from the High School Parking Lot to the Downtown and would take place from 5:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. The group is asking that ribbons be placed along State Street and Main Street and on the bridges, with removal of the ribbons happening on Monday after the event. This item will appear on the March 27th Agenda for Council consideration.

City Clerk Reinecke reviewed with Council the request from Robbins United Methodist Church to hold a Good Friday event on Friday, April 14th. The event would be gathering at Memorial Park and proceeding down Main Street to Knight Street, crossing at Knight and coming back up Main Street and ending across the street from Memorial Park, with prayer and devotions along the route. This item will appear on the March 27th Agenda for Council consideration.

Old Business Topics of Discussion were:

City Manager Stoppels reviewed with Council that the current Audit Contract is up with Abraham and Gaffney and that he and Mayor Platte have met with the current auditor's and have addressed several concerns that they have and have been assured that this will not continue. City Manager Stoppels is recommending that we continue using Abraham and Gaffney as the City's Auditors and renew a three year contract with them. This item will appear on the March 27th Agenda for Council consideration.

City Clerk Reinecke read for First Reading Ordinance 2017-1, and Ordinance for Tax Exemption for 208 King Street Limited Dividend Housing Association Limited Partnership for a Senior Housing Development. This was for First Reading Only, No Council action was required. City Manager Stoppels did review with Council that the City Attorney still needs to review the contract as well as the percentages and years of the Agreement need to be worked out. After a lengthy discussion it was agreed upon on what the terms of the Agreement should be and the language will be included in the Second Reading and Adoption of Ordinance 2017-1 which will be on the March 27th Agenda for Council consideration.

City Manager Stoppels reviewed with Council a Resolution that the City Attorney is recommending that the Council adopt regarding the Medical Marihuana Facilities Licensing Act. This item will appear on the March 27th Agenda for Council consideration.

City Clerk Reinecke reviewed with Council the proposed electric rate increase that is being recommended by the City's Electrical Consultant. City Clerk Reinecke stated that she is in the process of getting information from MPPA as to all of the rates in the State of Michigan to see where this would put Eaton Rapids. City Clerk Reinecke stressed to Council that the City has not had an Electric Rate Increase since 2009, and that the recommendation is for only a 1.65% rate increase. This item will appear on a future Council Agenda once Council continues the review and a Public Hearing is set.

Public Comments:

None.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:49 p.m.

Steven G. Platte, Mayor

Kristy Reinecke, City Clerk