

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS FOR OCTOBER 8, 2001

Meeting called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Mayor Kelly Pavel.

Pledge of Allegiance led by City Manager Clint Holmes.

PRESENT: Mayor Kelly Pavel, Councilmembers – Laura Carpenter, Frank Lukacs, Michael Stain, Julie Miller, Judy Murray, and Patricia Jacobson; City Clerk Christine Lee, City Manager Clint Holmes, City Attorney Gerard Garno.

ABSENT: None.

CORRECTION AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion by CM Lukacs, support by CM Murray, to approve the Minutes of September 24, 2001, as submitted. Motion Carried.

PAY BILLS: Motion by CM Murray, support by CM Carpenter, to pay the bills as presented in the following funds: General -\$20,790.23, Payroll - \$13,765.19, Sanitary Sewer - \$4301.98, Major St. - \$1,215.56, Local St. - \$890.57, Water Recreation - \$36.37, Investment - \$25,540.24, Wastewater Debt Fund \$25,937.50. Motion Carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. City Ordinance Chapter 5 Work Session Scheduling: Pending
2. Rezoning Request – Keith Muxlow: Pending

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS.

William Walters – Informed the Council that US Senator Debbie Stabinaw was at the Human Development meeting and he had asked her about arsenic levels in drinking water. He told her that if they lower permissible levels to 10 ppb or less, it will have a major financial impact on small communities like Brown City. She hopes to provide money to help small communities.

PERSONAL APPEARANCES: None.

PUBLIC HEARING: None.

RESOLUTIONS: None.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

Preapplication Building Permits:

1. Rod Hughes, 6920 St. Marys St. – Fence.

Motion by CM Carpenter, support by CM Murray, to approve the above listed pre-application building permit as submitted. Motion Carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Building and Grounds (Carpenter)– Detroit Edison Street Light Contract – The committee will look at the contract after the meeting.
2. Streets and Sidewalks (Lukacs)–
 - a. CM Lukacs asked if we have enough salt for the winter. City Manager Holmes said yes, we ordered 100 tons through the State Program and with what we have left from last year we have about 120 tons total. The price is set by contract.
 - b. The Shell Service Station’s trees were trimmed.
3. Police (Miller)- None
4. Water and Sewer (Stain)- None
5. Tax and Finance (Murray)- Meeting Wednesday October 17th at 7:00 PM.
6. Personnel (Jacobson)- None

ATTORNEY’S REPORT:

1. Mapleview Estates vs City of Brown City: The City has a court date on October 15, 2001.
2. MML Legal Defense Fund Update. – The MML Legal Defense Fund Committee has not yet met; however, MML has already contacted the state expert on Bolt vs. City of Lansing, Cynthia B. Faulhaber, concerning the case, so it looks like they might help us.

CITY MANAGER’S REPORT:

1. **DPW Pick-up Truck:** The DPW Supervisor has checked the local area for available trucks. The Sanilac County truck is a half-ton 4-wheel drive with 35,000 miles and is in good shape (~\$8-\$9K). A one ton in Marlette is 2-wheel drive with low mileage is available (~\$15K). A ¾ ton high mileage in Sandusky is available (~\$14K). And a 1998 low mileage lease return one

ton 4X is available in Lapeer (~\$16K). How does the Council wish to proceed? The Council discussed the issue and the consensus was to have the Tax and Finance Committee review the issue at their next meeting.

- 2. Hydrant Flushing and Clean Up Days:** Hydrant flushing is scheduled for 8-12 October. Clean Up Days will take place October 15th & 16th. Apparently there was a misprint in the ad in *The Banner*, the fee for appliances containing Freon is \$15 not \$5. The City started flushing hydrants today on the east end of town.
- 3. City Mailing List:** Various sales people have requested a copy of the City's mailing list of names and addresses of City residents. To date, I have not provided this list; I have however provided copies of business addresses in the City to community groups. Does the Council wish to set a policy concerning the availability of City mailing lists? Consensus of the Council was not to allow distribution of the City's mailing lists.
- 4. Halloween Hours:** The Council needs to set trick-or-treat hours. The past two years, the hours have been 5-7 PM. Additionally, does the City wish to contract with the fire department for extra patrols on Devil's Night and Halloween? **REQUIRES MOTION.**

Motion by CM Miller, support by CM Carpenter, to set Halloween Hours from 5-7 PM on October 31st. Motion Carried

Tabled discussion concerning contracting for extra patrols with the fire department for Devils' Night and Halloween until the next meeting.

- 5. Brown City Festival Committee:** This group is planning the 2002 Brown City Days and has already had two meetings. They are scheduling monthly meetings and fundraisers between now and June. To date they are doing an excellent job. They meet on the second Tuesday each month in the Library at 6:30 PM.
- 6. City Master Plan:** McKenna Associates plan to meet with the Planning Commission at their next meeting (Nov 1st) to discuss the Master Plan. The Planning Commission requests the opportunity to meet with the Council prior to this meeting to insure that common goals/ideas/concerns have been identified. They propose to either 1) schedule a special working group meeting for Monday Oct 29th, or are added to the agenda for the Oct 22nd

meeting. What is the Council's preference? The council will meet with the Planning Commission on Monday, October 29, 2001, at 7 PM.

Motion by CM Carpenter, support by CM Jacobson, for the Council to forgo their pay for the meeting with the Planning Commission. Motion Carried.

- 7. Health Insurance Coverage:** Currently, when the youngest child in a family turns 19, they are no longer covered by the City's Blue Cross policy unless they meet certain requirements such as being a full time student. If not, the child is dropped from coverage, if so, the family policy converts to a couple policy with a rider for the child. The couple rate is lower, but the rider increases the overall cost. The informal procedure of the City has been to require the employee to pay the difference between the family rate and the couple/rider rate. This is about \$70-\$80 per month. Does the Council wish to formalize or modify this policy? Council discussed the issue and the consensus was to continue the same procedure.
- 8. Legislative Testimony:** On October 4th, I represented the Sanilac County Veteran's Board and testified before the Education Committee of the State Legislature in support of Bill 4733. This would award high school diplomas to individuals who enlisted or were drafted before they could complete high school during WWII. The Committee unanimously approved the bill be sent to the full House. I want to thank the Council for allowing me to support our veterans in this way.
- 9. Parker Brothers:** Contracted trees have been removed. They still have three stumps that need to be removed in order to complete their contract with the City.
- 10. Sidewalk:** The missing sidewalk square on George Street has been replaced.
- 11. Spicer Group:** The application to MDOT for the Streetscape Grant has been submitted. A copy is available at City Hall for review. Anticipate grant awards will be announced in the spring of 2002.

MAYOR'S REPORT: None

Motion by CM Miller, support by CM Carpenter, to close the City Library on Tuesday, November 6, 2001 to hold the City Election. Motion Carried.

Motion by CM Miller, support by CM Stain, to approve the following individuals to work at the City Election: Eva Gottler, Pat Hahnefeld, Betty Spencer and Elva Walker. Eva Gottler appointed chairperson. Motion Carried.

Motion by CM Lukacs, support by CM Stain, to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 PM. Motion Carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine Lee
City Clerk