

January 17, 2017

**IMLAY CITY COMMISSION
150 N. Main Street
IMLAY CITY, MI 48444
REGULAR MEETING
January 17, 2017**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Bargaen called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Bargaen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Walt Bargaen
Commissioner Joi Kempf
Commissioner Marty Rankin

Commissioner Al Ramirez
Commissioner Robert Tanis

Absent: Commissioner Amy Planck and Commissioner Mike Romine

Also Present: City Manager Tom Youatt; Fire Chief Richard Horton; Retired WWTP Operator Brad Snyder; and three members of the community.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Ramirez, seconded by Tanis, to approve the agenda as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Motion by Rankin, seconded by Kempf, to approve the following Consent Agenda Items as presented:

- A. Approval of Minutes - Regular Meeting – January 3, 2017
- B. Other Minutes - DDA – January 9, 2017
Parks & Recreation – January 10, 2017
- C. Payment of Bills - Payroll totaling \$196,236.00
Accounts Payable and Trust & Agency totaling \$271,690.55

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Rankin, Kempf, Ramirez, Tanis, Bargaen

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED 5 - YEAS; 0 - NAYS

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6. CITIZENS FROM THE FLOOR

Mr. Alan Rosenbalm, Imlay City, addressed the Commission regarding the former market site near the Tractor Supply Company and his desire to see the vacant store filled with another small grocer. Mr. Rosenbalm added that perhaps the City, DDA or Chamber of Commerce could incentivize the process.

Mayor Barga commented on Mr. Rosenbalm's observant nature and noted that someone is looking to purchase the vacant building.

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. Present Proclamation to Brad Snyder

On behalf of the City, Mayor Barga read and then presented a proclamation to former WWTP Operator Brad Snyder for his dedicated service to the City. Mayor Barga recognized Brad as a distinguished employee of the City of Imlay City and extended best wishes to Brad and his family.

City Manager Tom Youatt expressed his appreciation for Brad's high level of dedication to the City, noting that Brad had previously delayed his retirement to aid the City in a time of need. Youatt wished Brad well in his retirement.

B. Wayfinding Sign – North Almont/Capac Road

City Manager Tom Youatt reported that the topic of the Wayfinding Sign located at N. Almont Avenue and Old M-21 had been addressed by the City's DDA at its meeting of January 9, 2017. Youatt noted that the DDA had been presented with photographs of the sign placement and held good discussion on the questions of visibility and safety. Youatt reported that the DDA voted to take no action with regard to the sign placement, and the matter was placed on the agenda to bring this to the attention of the City Commission.

C. First Street Sanitary Sewer Pay #2/Final

City Manager Tom Youatt presented Progress Payment No. 2/Final Payment from DiPonio Contracting, Inc. for the First Street Sanitary Sewer Project in the amount of \$5,675.30. Youatt noted that payment will not be forwarded until the subcontractors and suppliers have completed waivers showing proof of payment on the project and the few items remaining on the punchlist are addressed.

Motion by Rankin, seconded by Tanis, to approve Progress Payment No. 2 to DiPonio Contracting, Inc. for the First Street Sanitary Sewer Project in the amount of \$5,675.30, to be held until the satisfactory completion of an administrative review.

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Ayes: Kempf, Ramirez, Tanis, Rankin, Borgen

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED 5 - YEAS; 0 – NAYS

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Public Hearing – Community Recreation 5-Year Plan

Motion by Rankin, seconded by Kempf, to enter all notices, publications and communications into the record and open the Public Hearing for the 5-Year Community Recreation Plan.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Mayor Borgen opened the Public Hearing at 7:12 p.m.

City Manager Tom Youatt noted that the 5-Year Community Recreation Plan had expired last October and he and the Parks and Recreation Commission had been working to update the Plan. Youatt detailed the process involved including a survey of community opinions that was conducted last fall which helped to guide the Plan development. Youatt noted that, in accordance with DNR regulations, the draft Plan was made available to the public for a thirty day period. Youatt revealed that minor changes arose from the review, resulting in the addition of the role of volunteers on page 4 and property acquisition to the Action Program, all comprising the final Plan as presented. Youatt noted that, upon approval, the Plan will be submitted to regional Planning Commissions and to the DNR and will position the City with eligibility to apply for grants.

Commissioner Ramirez inquired as to whether there are plans to utilize the community opinion survey periodically. City Manager Tom Youatt responded that the survey was conducted specifically for the Plan update, but agreed that it is a very useful tool and should be further utilized. Commissioner Ramirez supported the further use of the survey so that residents do not have to wait another five years to provide their input.

Alan Rosenbalm, Imlay City, reiterated a point he has made in the past regarding the need for this community to offer more activities for the 12-17 year old demographic. Mr. Rosenbalm spoke in regards to the benefits of non-competitive opportunities to socialize and noted that if Imlay City had more of these activities offered, it may serve to curtail vandalism.

Stu Davis, Imlay City, noted that each park had been designated by age because it makes a difference to those who utilize them.

City Manager Tom Youatt recognized Administrative Assistant Lisa Kapron for her tremendous efforts in putting the Plan together.

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Commissioner Ramirez complimented the Parks and Recreation Commission for their work on the Plan.

Mayor Barga closed the Public Hearing at 7:20 p.m.

B. Resolution 2017-1 – To Adopt the Community Recreation 5-Year Plan

Motion by Rankin, seconded by Tanis, to approve Resolution 2017-1 to adopt the five year Community Recreation Plan for the City of Imlay City, as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Tanis, Rankin, Kempf, Ramirez, Barga

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED 5 - YEAS; 0 – NAYS

C. Appoint Frank Demske to the Parks and Recreation Commission for a Partial Term to Expire June 2018

Mayor Barga appointed Frank Demske to the Parks and Recreation Commission for a partial term to expire June 2018. City Manager Tom Youatt noted that Mr. Demske is very active with the Polly Ann Trail and excited to work with the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Motion by Ramirez, seconded by Kempf, to approve the mayoral appointment of Frank Demske to the Parks and Recreation Commission for a partial term to expire June 2018.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9. MANAGER’S REPORT

Additional information was attached to the packet.

City Manager Tom Youatt distributed information regarding the MML Capital Conference taking place on March 21-22, 2017 and encouraged commissioners to inform him of their interest in attending. Youatt reported that he and Clerk/Treasurer Nicole Frost met with Financial Advisor Tom Traciak on January 13, 2017 to discuss a number of upcoming projects and to examine the City’s debt service, debt limits, and available funding mechanisms. Youatt noted that this better positions the City to prioritize and fund much needed projects such as Fourth Street reconstruction, new Fire Hall, and M-53 improvements. Youatt reported a lot going on with EMS upon the passage of the November millage proposal, including the consideration of Elba Township to rejoin the EMS Authority.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

Fire Chief Richard Horton relayed details of a major house fire that morning and noted that the condition factors could not have been worse in terms of weather and available manpower. In

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spite of this, Chief Horton reported that the Imlay City firefighters performed excellently and proved the competence of the department. Chief Horton thanked the Commission for its continued support of the Fire Department.

Mayor Bergen inquired as to details of the Fourth Street Reconstruction Project, including whether road widening and complete sidewalk replacement was planned. City Manager Tom Youatt responded that the reconstruction was proposed with bike lanes. Commissioner Rankin inquired as to the amount of City right-of-way available on Fourth Street. Commissioner Ramirez noted his preference to widen the road rather than install bike lanes.

Commissioner Ramirez inquired as to the prioritization of projects. City Manager Tom Youatt responded that it is up to the Commission to prioritize the City projects and detailed various potential funding mechanisms. Commissioner Rankin noted the importance of being able to afford the projects, recalling past discussions involving cutting costs and personnel. Youatt reiterated the importance of maintaining a healthy fund balance.

Commissioner Rankin applauded the increased visibility of law enforcement along M-53 and noted how it has served to slow traffic. Commissioner Rankin inquired as to the City's collaborative efforts with the Lapeer County Sheriff's Department and the Michigan State Police. City Manager Tom Youatt responded that the collaborative office space may require a minor agreement between the parties, and Police Chief Scott Pike had received a donation of office furniture from Habitat for Humanity. Commissioner Rankin inquired as to available funding from Homeland Security for an intersection camera at the corner of Newark and M-53. Youatt responded that he would investigate funding.

Mayor Bergen inquired as to the speed limit sign placed throughout the City and whether it had affected change. City Manager Tom Youatt responded that slowing of traffic had been noticed and Chief Pike is recommending purchase of another.

Commissioner Tanis noted that it was very nice to have the Michigan State Police on scene controlling traffic at the house fire that morning so that firefighters did not have to do it.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Tanis, seconded by Ramirez, to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully submitted by: Nicole F. Frost: _____
City Clerk/Treasurer

Approved: February 7, 2017