

CITY OF MONROE
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, AUGUST 25, 2008

Special meeting of the City Council of the City of Monroe, Michigan held on Monday August 25, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers.

Present: Council Members Paisley, McGhee, Molenda (arrived 7:55p.m), Conner, Beneteau, and Mayor Worrell.

Excused: Council Member Clark.

Charles Evans, City Clerk gave the invocation.

Mayor Worrell led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Public Hearings.

226 This being the date set to hear public comments on Proposed Ordinance No. 08-013, an Ordinance to amend Chapter 296, Municipal Employees' Retirement System to revise Section 296.48(b)(2)A, Hybrid Pension retirement window, and there being no persons present commenting and no comments on file in writing in the Clerk-Treasurer's Office, the Mayor declared the hearing closed.

Council Action

226 It was moved by Councilman Paisley and seconded by Councilman Beneteau that Proposed Ordinance No. 08-013, an Ordinance to amend Chapter 296, Municipal Employees' Retirement System to revise Section 296.48(b)(2)A, Hybrid Pension retirement window, be placed on it's final reading.

Ayes: 5 Nays: 0

Motion carried.

Proposed Ordinance No. 08-013 was then presented for the second time, after which the Mayor asked, Shall this ordinance pass?

Ayes: 5 Nays: 0

Motion carried.

Consent Agenda. (All items listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by Mayor and Council and may be approved by one motion. Any item may be removed for separate discussion by a Councilperson or citizen.)

227 2008 Water Main Rehabilitation Program

1. Communication from the Director of Engineering, Public Services and Planning, reporting back on the Labor Harmony Resolution waiver and recommending that council approve a waiver in the Labor Harmony standards for the temporary bypass piping and other related work for the 2008 Water Main Rehabilitation Program.
2. Supporting documents.
3. Action: Accept, place on file and the recommendation be carried out.

Councilman Beneteau asked if the city would collect money from the original bidder for the difference in the original and current bid.

George Brown, City Manager said that the city did collect on the difference in bids.

Barry LaRoy, Director of Water & Wastewater Utilities explained that about 96% of the contract would be unionized and that the prior contractor, Liqua Force, did not have unionized labor. He further stated that the company previously pursued had never done any work on the water side, only on sewer work.

Councilwoman Conner asked for clarification on the "Labor Harmony".

Barry LaRoy, Director of Water & Wastewater Utilities explained that the City of Monroe encourages the employment of local labor, the use of local materials and that any contracts that the city sends out for bid, over \$50,000, shall include the terms "to promote harmonious relations", with a company that has jurisdiction in our area. He also explained, the work that was bid is specialty work and there are not many companies locally that perform this kind of work which is a necessity for this particular project

Councilman Molenda asked who did the work on the Huber Drive project and is it possible to keep the work in-house and let the Water Department personnel do the job.

Barry LaRoy, Director of Water & Wastewater Utilities said that Huber Drive was a private project and that the Water Department did the digging and the bypass but it tied up the crews for over a month causing other projects to be put on hold. He further stated that we could hire more staff and do the project in-house but that is not something he recommends.

Bob Lambert, Business Representative for Engineers Local 324 stated that Insituform Technologies is their signatory contractor as is Zieler and it is their opinion that Insituform is not making a good faith effort to ensure that all of the work is done by union workers. He further stated that the local gave Insituform a list of local contractors and they chose to go with Zieler. It is the opinion of the local that this request should be denied for Labor Harmony.

Dan Minton, 311 Hubble Street, Business Agent for Labors Union, stated that the union has not been contacted by Insituform Technologies for input on contractors to perform this work and said they do have signatory contractors that can perform the work and would urge council to deny the request.

Barry LaRoy, Director of Water & Wastewater Utilities explained that the original bid was in May and the timeline is noteworthy.

It was moved by Councilwoman Conner and supported by Councilman Molenda to table item 227 until the next regular council meeting.

Ayes: 5 Nays: 1 (Paisley)

Motion carried

It was moved by Councilman Paisley and supported by Councilwoman Conner that the meeting adjourn at 7:50 p.m.

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0

Motion carried.

Charles D. Evans
Clerk, City Clerk's Office

Mark G. Worrell
Mayor