

CITY OF MONROE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2011

Regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Monroe, Michigan held on Monday, November 21, 2011 at 7:30 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers.

Present: Council Members Conner, Beneteau, Hensley, Paisley, Bica, Molenda and Mayor Clark.

Rosalind Boswell, Secretary to the Clerk-Treasurer gave the invocation.

Mayor Clark led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

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.)

- A. Approval of the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on Monday, November 7, 2011 and the minutes of the Special Meeting to Canvass the Vote held on Thursday, November 10, 2011.
- B. Approval of payments to vendors in the amount of \$554,796.84.
Action: Bills be allowed and warrants drawn on the various accounts for their payment.

Mayor Clark noted that item 241, Attorney Service Policy, has been revised with a change to one word in the policy.

237 Retiree Health Care Plan Actuarial Valuation.

- 1. Communication from the Finance Director, submitting a proposal for an Actuarial Valuation to calculate the annual required contribution and the total liability related to the Retiree Health Care Plan, and recommending that Council approve the proposal submitted by Gabriel, Roeder, Smith & Company for the performance of an actuarial valuation of the Retiree Health Care Plan for the City of Monroe as of December 31, 2010 in the amount of \$15,000.
- 2. Supporting documents.
- 3. Accept, place on file and the recommendation be carried out.

238 Public Safety Officer Training for Firefighter I & II.

- 1. Communication from the Deputy Director of Public Safety, submitting a request to provide Firefighter I & II Certification Training to 12 Patrol Officers and 2 Command Officers, and recommending that Council approve this request for training in the amount of \$14,000.
- 2. Supporting documents.
- 3. Accept, place on file and the recommendation be carried out.

239 City of Monroe Emergency Operations Plan Update and Resolution.

- 1. Communication from the Deputy Director of Public Safety, submitting a proposed resolution and the City of Monroe Emergency Operations Plan that provides a framework for the City of Monroe to use during a natural disaster, technological incident or a hostile attack, and recommending that Council approve the resolution and this Emergency Operations Plan.
- 2. Supporting documents.
- 3. Accept, place on file and the resolution be carried out.

240 COMEA I Ratification.

1. Communication from the Director of Human Resources, submitting the tentative agreement between the City of Monroe and COMEA Unit I/TPOAM, and recommending that Council approve the attached Collective Bargaining Agreement.
2. Supporting documents.
3. Accept, place on file and the recommendation be carried out.

241 Attorney Service Policy.

1. Communication from the City Manager, submitting a proposed Attorney Service Policy to provide Council and the members of the City boards and commissions better clarity and defined criteria for the provision of legal services, and recommending that Council approve the attached "Attorney Service Policy".
2. Supporting documents.
3. Accept, place on file and the recommendation be carried out.

It was moved by Council Member Molenda and seconded by Council Member Beneteau that item 238 of the Consent Agenda be approved as presented and that item 237, 239, 240 and 241 be removed and considered separately.

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0

Motion carried.

237 The communication from the Finance Director was presented, submitting a proposal for an Actuarial Valuation to calculate the annual required contribution and the total liability related to the Retiree Health Care Plan, and recommending that Council approve the proposal submitted by Gabriel, Roeder, Smith & Company for the performance of an actuarial valuation of the Retiree Health Care Plan for the City of Monroe as of December 31, 2010 in the amount of \$15,000.

Council Member Paisley said that he pulled this item for informational purposes for those who asked him if this item was set out for competitive bid and why do we have to do it. He explained that this is a required process by GASBY and it is a professional service as opposed to a bidding type thing and that the service is being performed by the same company that the Pension Board uses for the City of Monroe Employees Retirement Actuarial Valuation.

It was moved by Council Member Paisley and seconded by Council Member Bica that item 237 be accepted, placed on file and the recommendation be carried out.

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0

Motion carried.

239 The communication from the Deputy Director of Public Safety was presented, submitting a proposed resolution and the City of Monroe Emergency Operations Plan that provides a framework for the City of Monroe to use during a natural disaster, technological incident or a hostile attack, and recommending that Council approve the resolution and this Emergency Operations Plan.

Council Member Molenda asked for the City Manager to comment on this item and if it would be appropriated to pass this as presented.

George Brown, City Manager said that all of the punctuation and form issues brought to his attention by Council Member Molenda have been changed and noted that the substance of the policy was not changed.

It was moved by Council Member Molenda and seconded by Council Member Hensley that item 239 be accepted, placed on file and the resolution be adopted.

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0

Motion carried.

240 The communication from the Director of Human Resources was presented, submitting the tentative agreement between the City of Monroe and COMEA Unit I/TPOAM, and recommending that Council approve the attached Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Peggy Howard, Human Resources Director noted that in the Letter of Understanding, there were two added positions to those who are going to a forty (40) hour work week, the City Electrician at Wastewater and the CAD Operator Inspector in the Engineering Department instead of the Engineering Aide and she thanked the Executive Board of COMEA Unit I for all of their hard work and said they did an excellent job.

George Brown, City Manager commended Ms. Howard and her team also for their professional work during the negotiation process and said that the end result will not only benefit the employees but also the property owners and others who receive services within the city.

It was moved by Council Member Molenda and seconded by Council Member Beneteau that item 240 be accepted, placed on file and the recommendation be carried out.

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0

Motion carried.

241 The communication from the City Manager was presented, submitting a proposed Attorney Service Policy to provide Council and the members of the City boards and commission's better clarity and defined criteria for the provision of legal services, and recommending that Council approve the attached "Attorney Service Policy".

Council Member Conner asked if the outstanding invoice for attorney services will it be paid when this policy is approved.

Mayor Clark said that there are some pending invoices for attorney services through one of the commissions and that there is discussion with the chair person of that commission for comments and clarification of some of those expenditures and that they have not been paid at this time. He also noted that the pending invoice will be dealt with.

George Brown, City Manager said that from this point forward this policy, if adopted, will provide guidance and direction regarding attorney services and representation for City boards and commissions but will not directly deal with invoices received prior to the policy.

Pat McElligott, 813 Reisig Street said he would like more clarification because it is still unclear to him.

Tom Ready, City Attorney said that the policy, as drafted, states that Council is to determine the amount and basis to be charged for attorney and other associated charges and that decision is subject to municipal budgeting requirements and constraints.

It was moved by Council Member Conner and seconded by Council Member Beneteau that item 241 be accepted, placed on file and the recommendation be carried out.

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0

Motion carried.

Council Comments.

Council Member Conner reported back on foreclosures within the city and announced that the NAFA, National Association Insurance & Financial Advisors of Monroe will hold their Economic Summit on Wednesday, December 7th at the Monroe Golf & Country Club.

Council Member Beneteau recognized and thanked the DDA, Downtown Development Authority and the Monroe County Chamber of Commerce for their joint effort and success with the holiday parade and tree lighting event. He also thanked the volunteers who decorated the downtown area.

Council Member Paisley wished everyone a happy thanksgiving.

Council Member Bica reminded everyone about the ALCC Queen of Hearts raffle, thanked COMEA Unit I for ratifying their contract and wished everyone a happy thanksgiving.

Council Member Molenda announced the River Raisin Ballet Company presentation of the Nutcracker on Saturday, December 3rd at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. and Sunday, December 4th at 3:00 p.m. at the River Raisin Center for the Arts.

Mayor's Comments.

Mayor Clark commented on Veterans Day, thanked all of the Veterans for their service, and also the 6th grade class at Manor School who held a walk from the school to Veterans Park. He also commented on the ceremony at the VFW Hall and an event held at St. Mary's Park about bullying. He commented on the holiday parade and tree lighting event and announced the Habitat for Humanity "Home Sweet Home" event at the MB&T Expo Center at the Monroe County Fair Grounds on December 1st at 6:00 p.m., and the Monroe Exchange Club's "Breakfast with Santa" at the K of C Hall on Saturday, December 3rd, and wished everyone a happy thanksgiving.

City Manager's Comments.

George Brown, City Manager wish everyone happy holidays.

Adjournment.

It was moved by Council Member Molenda and seconded by Council Member Beneteau that the meeting adjourn at 8:05 p.m. until the next Regular Meeting on December 5, 2011.

Rosalind Boswell
Secretary to the Clerk-Treasurer

Robert E. Clark
Mayor