

**CITY OF MONROE
COUNCIL WORK SESSION
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2012**

Work Session of the City Council of the City of Monroe, Michigan held on Wednesday, December 12, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers.

Present: Council Members McKart, Beneteau, Bica, Kansier, Molenda, Hensley and Mayor Clark.

Also Present: George Brown, City Manager
Ed Sell, Finance Director

Mayor Clark explained that the purpose of the Work Session is to discuss budgeting and the Retirement Health Care Trust Trustees.

Ed Sell, Finance Director gave a power point presentation regarding the end of 2012 fiscal year, an update on the 2013 fiscal year and a projection for the 2014 fiscal year. He stated that 2012 ended up with good results in terms of revenues as compared to expenses and the ending fund balance. The 2013 budget appears to be balanced still; there were some changes but they are workable changes, and the 2014 budget projection appears good. He stated that Plante & Moran would be at the Council meeting on Monday to present the audited Financial Statements for 2012.

Mayor Clark asked Council for suggestions as to what they would like to see in the Capital Improvements program. Some of the suggested ideas were: blight enforcement, gateways, bike trails, Island and Front Streets, tennis courts, Munson Park restrooms, graffiti cams and the Christianity/Lincoln Lot. Mayor Clark asked Council to submit any other ideas to the City Manager.

Mayor Clark stated that the next topic of discussion would be the appointments of the Retirement Health Care Trust Trustees.

Ed Sell, Finance Director, addressed questions regarding the fiduciary liability insurance stating that the Pension Board has its own fiduciary liability insurance with Chubb Group. He stated that the new Board of Trustees and the Council would also have to have this insurance.

George Brown, City Manager gave a brief history of the creation of the Retiree Health Care Fund. Discussion was held regarding the appointment of the Board of Trustees to the newly formed Trust, their responsibility, and the makeup of the current board. He reminded Council that they can appoint as few as three or as many as nine members and they have the option to appoint the current board or appoint a new board. Ed Sell stated that in his opinion there is a difference in the jobs the Retiree Health Care Board and the Pension Boards do explaining that the Retiree Health Care is the investment fiduciary and their job is basically to invest the funds; whereas the Pension Board also deals with some benefit decisions and interpretations. He stated that Pension Boards across the state are set up differently. Mayor Clark told Council they could request further information by emailing the City Manager.

George Brown, City Manager responded to a concern regarding the house on the corner of Elm and Michigan Avenue stating that Council did approve demolition with a caveat to allow the city time to try to find someone with authority to potentially negotiate something for a different solution and he is currently in the process of taking legal action regarding this matter.

Mayor Clark gave an update on the Winchester property stating that Council did not order a demolition on this property. He stated that the owner is working on the inside of the house but still needs to address the outside of the house.

George Brown, City Manager responded to concerns regarding potential vandalism on the new bridge, stating that they are looking at some proposed Capital Improvement funding for enhanced lighting on the Riverwalk, Riverfront Park and at St. Mary's Park and are also trying to develop some costs for a surveillance system at those areas.

It was moved by Council Member Beneteau and seconded by Council Member Hensley that the meeting adjourn at 8:10 p.m.

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0

Motion carried.

Charles D. Evans
Clerk-Treasurer

Robert E. Clark
Mayor