

CITY OF MONROE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 3, 2014

Regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Monroe, Michigan held on Monday, March 3, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers.

Present: Council Members Vining, Molenda, Rafko, Sisk, Hensley, Iacoangeli and Mayor Clark.

Michelle J. LaVoy, City 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 Council Member or citizen.)

A. Approval of the Minutes of the Work Session held on Tuesday, February 18, 2014 and the Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting held on Tuesday, February 18, 2014.

B. Approval of payments to vendors in the amount of \$1,122,391.86.

Action: Bills be allowed and warrants drawn on the various accounts for their payment.

26 United Way of Monroe County Banner Request.

1. Communication from the City Manager's Office, reporting back on a request from the United Way of Monroe County for permission to display an overhead banner across Monroe Street from October 13 – 31, 2014 announcing their annual campaign, and recommending the request be approved
2. Supporting documents.
3. Action: Accept, place on file and the recommendation be carried out.

27 2014-2018 Lawn Maintenance Contract Bids.

1. Communication from the Director of Engineering & Public Services, reporting back on bids received for the 2014-2018 Lawn Maintenance Contract, and recommending that Ron Noel Lawn Service be awarded a five-year contract for Work Groups A, C, and D for a 2014 cost of \$127,600, that US Lawns be awarded a five-year contract for Work Groups B and E for a 2014 cost of \$25,500, and that City staff be authorized to contract with US Lawns on an "as needed" basis for ordinance mowing at the submitted pricing, with Jack's Lawn Service authorized as a backup vendor if necessary, and further recommending that the Mayor and Clerk-Treasurer be authorized to execute the contracts on behalf of the City.
2. Supporting documents.
3. Action: Accept, place on file and the recommendation be carried out.

28 Michigan Community Development Block Grant Local Match for the La-Z-Boy, Inc. World Headquarters Project.

1. Communication from the Director of Economic & Community Development, reporting back on the Michigan Community Development Block Grant Local Match for the La-Z-Boy, Inc. World Headquarters Project, and recommending that Council authorize the expenditure of up to \$35,000 from the City's Economic Development Fund to provide 50% of the requisite local match for the Michigan Community Development Block Grant that was awarded to Monroe County for the La-Z-Boy, Inc. World Headquarters Project.
2. Supporting documents.
3. Action: Accept, place on file and the recommendation be carried out.

- 29 Light Emitting Diode (LED) Street Light Conversion – 210 Locations.
1. Communication from the Director of Engineering and Public Services, submitting a proposed agreement with the Detroit Edison Company to provide Light Emitting Diode (LED) Street Light Conversion for the remaining 210 mercury vapor lights on the north side of the river, and recommending that the attached agreement with the Detroit Edison Company be approved, and that the Director of Engineering & Public Services be authorized to execute it on behalf of the City.
 2. Supporting documents.
 3. Action: Accept, place on file and the recommendation be carried out.
- 30 Monroe County Fair Parade.
1. Communication from the City Manager's Office, reporting back on a request from the Monroe County Fair Association for permission to hold the annual Fair Parade on July 27, 2014 at 1:00 p.m., to close the affected streets and for assistance from the City and Police Department, and recommending that Council approve this request contingent upon items being met as outlined by the administration, subject to insurance requirements being met, parade permit, emergency vehicle access being maintained, and that the City Manager be granted authority to alter/amend the event due to health and/or safety reasons.
 2. Supporting documents.
 3. Action: Accept, place on file and the recommendation be carried out.
- 31 New Public Safety Building – Professional Services Award for Existing Facility – Change Order.
1. Communication from the Director of Engineering and Public Services, submitting the New Public Safety Building – Professional Services Award for the existing facility change order, and recommending that Council award a change order to the original service agreement to Redstone Architects, Inc. for further feasibility study of the potential re-use of the existing Central Fire Station building at a fixed fee of up to \$15,200, and that the City Manager, Director of Engineering & Public Services, or their designee be authorized to execute any necessary and appropriate agreements on behalf of the City.
 2. Supporting documents.
 3. Action: Accept, place on file and the recommendation be carried out.
- 32 Agreement between the City of Monroe and the River Raisin National Battlefield Foundation.
1. Communication from the Director of Economic & Community Development, submitting an agreement between the City of Monroe and the River Raisin National Battlefield Foundation, and recommending that Council approve the proposed Agreement between the City of Monroe and the River Raisin National Battlefield Foundation to employ or enter into a professional services agreement with an environmental and/or real estate attorney; and authorize the Mayor and Clerk-Treasurer to execute the Agreement.
 2. Supporting documents.
 3. Action: Accept, place on file and the recommendation be carried out.
- 33 Traffic Committee Meeting.
1. Communication from the Director of Engineering & Public Services, submitting the minutes of the Traffic Committee meeting on February 26, 2014, and recommending that the minutes be accepted and placed on file and that Traffic Control Orders 021-005, 056-013, 066-008, 112-007, 167-010, 168-003, 208-006, 303-004, 304-003, 306-004 and 309-003 be adopted.
 2. Supporting documents.
 3. Action: Accept, place on file and the recommendation be carried out.

It was moved by Council Member Sisk and seconded by Council Member Iacoangeli that item 26, 27, 28, 30, 31 and 32 be approved as presented and that item 29 and 33 be removed and considered separately.

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0

Motion carried.

29 The communication from the Director of Engineering & Public Services was presented, submitting a proposed agreement with the Detroit Edison Company to provide Light Emitting Diode (LED) Street Light Conversion for the remaining 210 mercury vapor lights on the north side of the river, and recommending that the attached agreement with the Detroit Edison Company be approved, and that the Director of Engineering & Public Services be authorized to execute it on behalf of the City.

Council Member Hensley said that this item is in direct conflict for him because he is employed by Detroit Edison Company so he will abstain from the vote.

Council Member Molenda noted that part of the fees paid for lighting go toward future capital investment and asked what would fall under that category.

Patrick Lewis, Director of Engineering & Public Services said that he is not entirely sure what goes into DTE's capital replacement model because the system is theirs, so when a light bulb burns out or someone hits a pole, the Engineering Department notifies them and they replace their equipment.

Council Member Iacoangeli said he understands that Edison depreciates the value of the existing system and then they add that amount in along with three or four years of what their capital investment would be for the new lights.

It was moved by Council Member Iacoangeli and seconded by Council Member Rafko that item 29 be accepted, placed on file and the recommendation be carried out.

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Abstain: 1 (Council Member Hensley)

Motion carried.

33 The communication from the Director of Engineering & Public Services was presented, submitting the minutes of the Traffic Committee meeting on February 26, 2014, and recommending that the minutes be accepted and placed on file and that Traffic Control Orders 021-005, 056-013, 066-008, 112-007, 167-010, 168-003, 208-006, 303-004, 304-003, 306-004 and 309-003 be adopted.

Council Member Iacoangeli said that as he reviewed the minutes of the meeting he wondered about the request from Harold Caldwell because it was tabled and has not been addressed. He noted that Mr. Caldwell's suggestion was that in order to allow for better street sweeping along the curb, the City may consider that on garbage removal days, have residents remove all vehicles from the street, which would make it efficient for garbage removal and street sweeping.

Mayor Clark explained that at the meeting this was one of the items that was most discussed, and noted that when he was younger he lived in a community where street sweeping and trash collection were done on the same day. He said it was mandatory that vehicles were removed from the street on that day and noted that east/west streets were cleaned in the morning and north/south streets were cleaned in the afternoon which gave residents an opportunity to move their car within a block's radius. He further explained that while there was no motion made to establish that in the Traffic Committee meeting, the discussion went back to staff to consider and they will continue to look at that process.

Following discussion, it was moved by Council Member Iacoangeli and seconded by Council Member Molenda that item 33 be accepted, placed on file and the recommendation be carried out.

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0
Motion carried.

Council Comments.

Council Member Rafko thanked the Police Department for keeping the community safe and the Department of Public Service for their efforts to keep the streets cleared.

Council Member Sisk said that he's had more than his share of complaints from residents in his district regarding pot holes and asked Mr. Lewis if there is an issue with patching the holes and if there is how it can be remedied.

Patrick Lewis, Director of Engineering & Public Services said he is not aware of a supply issue but there was a two – three day window where there was some difficulty getting the cold patch because it is purchased and picked up as needed in Romulus. He explained that there have been days where they did not address specific complaints that were made on that day and said that last Monday they purchased three 10 ton truck loads of cold patch and it was spread within a 24 hour period. He said it's a function mostly of everything popping simultaneously across town so they are focusing their efforts first and foremost on the major streets. He noted that DPS crews were working a week ago on Saturday and Sunday.

Council Member Hensley said there are pot holes in need of attention on West Fourth and Smith Street over to Front Street. He asked Mr. Lewis to update Council on the needed repair of the railroad crossings.

Patrick Lewis, Director of Engineering & Public Services noted that they had a diagnostic safety review of the three crossings; CXS at West Front Street, CSX at West Elm Avenue and Canadian National at East First Street. He explained that the two CSX crossings are to be fully reconstructed within 180 days and in a meeting with MDOT Rail Safety personnel the following day; CSX indicated that they plan to rebuild their entire line all the way through Monroe County in 2014. He said CSX is going to try and patch them until the weather opens up. He also noted that Canadian National also attended the meeting and they plan to rebuild their crossing sometime in 2014 and added that the work will probably take place in August or September.

Council Member Iacoangeli thanked Mr. Lewis, Council Member Hensley, Linda Compura and State Representative Bill LaVoy for their effort in working and communicating with the railway companies.

Council Member Hensley noted that citizens with complaints regarding pot holes can access the City of Monroe website and send an Action Line alert with the information to the Department of Public Service.

Council Member Iacoangeli said he thinks it would be beneficial to have a calendar of issues when a topic is brought up by Council because over the past couple of months Council has talked about a desire to have presentations on the rental housing inspection program, neighborhood enterprise zone and on street sweeping. He asked if Council and staff have a calendar that they make notations on so that Council can keep on track with presentations that staff owes Council.

Mayor Clark said that Council does not have a calendar for presentation requests but those have been directed back to staff and the information is being compiled. He said that he will meet with staff to create a calendar to track specific requests and it will be on a share view for Council to view.

Mayor's Comments.

Mayor Clark said that the Monroe County Drain Commissioner sent out letters regarding the Mason Run Drain, as a follow up to a petition that was given to the Drain Commissioner, and how it affects some of the residents. He said there will be a meeting on Wednesday, March 5 at Frenchtown Charter Township Hall on Vivian Road at 6:00 p.m.

He also noted that the final meeting of Resilient Monroe is on Thursday, March 13th at 6:00 p.m. in City Hall in the third floor conference room and he commented on the Action Line. He recognized the students who were in attendance from Monroe County Community College and asked them to state their names.

Citizen's Comments.

Jack Adams, 49 South Monroe Street said he has been an entrepreneur for 40 years and moved his business, Superior Health Plans, to downtown Monroe about 9 years ago. He said that last September Michigan was chosen, from many applicants nationwide, to participate in the Social Impact Bond which is called a "pay for success" program. He explained that there has to be a social impact on a community to be chosen to participate. He cited some social impacts that may be present in this community and asked Council to get involved in the program.

Mayor Clark said he would like Mr. Adams to share information about the program with staff and it will be further reviewed by Council pending staff recommendation. He asked what the title of the program is.

Jack Adams, 49 South Monroe Street said the title is Social Impact Bond, SIB, Job Creation. He said that he has shared information with Dan Swallow and George Brown in the past. He noted that the State will issue an RFP by the end of this month or sometime early next month so a decision would need to be made soon.

Quarterly Executive Closed Session.

It was moved by Council Member Iacoangeli and seconded by Council Member Hensley that Council go into Executive Closed Session to discuss Pending Litigation at 8:10 p.m.

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0

Motion carried.

It was moved by Council Member Iacoangeli and seconded by Council Member Sisk that Council reconvene to open session at 8:51 p.m.

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0

Motion carried.

Adjournment.

It was moved by Council Member Iacoangeli and seconded by Council Member Vining that the meeting adjourn at 8:51 p.m. until the Regular Meeting on Monday, March 17, 2014 at 7:30 p.m.

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0

Motion carried.

Michelle J. LaVoy
City Clerk-Treasurer

Robert E. Clark
Mayor