

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
Regular Meeting
Monday, January 12, 2009

CALL TO ORDER: By Mayor Pro Tem Smith on Monday, January 12, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Councilmembers Arnold, Baker, Lewis, Spielmaker, Weissenborn, Mayor Pro-Tem Smith, City Manager Guetschow and City Attorney Hitch

ABSENT: Mayor Shaughnessy

The invocation was offered by Mayor Pro Tem Smith followed by the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF DECEMBER 22, 2008: Motion by Councilmember Spielmaker, second by Arnold to approve the minutes of December 22, 2008, as presented. Carried. 6 Yeas. 0 Nays.

EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBERS: Motion by Councilmember Lewis, second by Baker to excuse Mayor Shaughnessy from the City Council Meeting held on January 12, 2009. Carried. 6 Yeas. 0 Nays.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Scott Cuttle, 710 High Street, spoke in favor of the Charlotte Trails Project presentation being made by Dr. Lisa Knowles of Step By Step at this meeting

CHARLOTTE HIGH SCHOOL LIAISON: Damian Spielmaker introduced himself to the Council as the new School Liaison and gave a brief report suggesting that the City consider a rope to help make the sledding hill safer.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion by Councilmember Spielmaker, second by Lewis to approve the agenda as presented. Carried. 6 Yeas. 0 Nays.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Re-appoint Frank Pawli to the Board of Review, expiring 12/31/2013; re-appoint Ron Joppie to the Compensation Commission, expiring 1/14/2014; reappoint Don Sovey to the Hospital Finance Authority Board, expiring 12/31/2011.
- B. Adopt Resolution to rescind Supplemental Agreement #3 to Development Cooperation Agreement (425 Agreement) with Eaton Township pursuant to terms of agreement
- C. Adopt Joint Resolution with Eaton Township to Annex Property located at 1421 Lansing Road
- D. Authorize amendment to the contract with Windemuller for fire station light boards to increase the amount of the contract by \$1,190.
- E. Claims and Accounts – Total Claims - \$353,073.59

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by Councilmember Weissenborn, second by Baker to approve the consent agenda. Carried. 6 Yeas. 0 Nays.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS:

- A. **Presentation by Dr. Lisa Knowles of Charlotte Step By Step Regarding Charlotte Trail Project**
Dr. Knowles presented an idea from Step By Step to use the area that the DNR used to access Battle Creek during the work that was done last year for a walking trail. The trail has already been stamped out and a lot of the clearing has been done. Step By Step Committee members have walked the trail and believe it will be the perfect location. They will be presenting the Council with their proposal and

recommendations in the near future. Meetings of Step By Step are held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at the County Journal Building and members of council and the public are invited to attend.

B. First Reading of an Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance Section 82-108, Conditional Uses and refer it to the Planning Commission for Public Hearing on February 2, 2009.

Motion by Councilmember Lewis, second by Baker to approve first reading of an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance Section 82-108, Conditional Uses and refer it to the Planning Commission for public hearing on February 2, 2009. Carried. 6 Yeas. 0 Nays.

C. Update from Police Chief Bill Callahan on the Police Department's Crime Response Activity

Chief Callahan presented a preview of the Police Department Annual Report by presenting some preliminary statistical information to the Council. He reviewed trends in the information and answered questions from the Council. He will be presenting his full report to Council as soon as it is complete.

COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT: Attorney Hitch highlighted the information in his written report, adding that he has a meeting scheduled on January 14, 2009, in regard to the Crittenden property.

CITY MANAGER REPORT: City Manager Guetschow reviewed the information in his written report and indicated that the issue of sidewalk snow removal will be on the next agenda.

COUNCILMEMBER COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilmember Weissenborn attended the City/Townships meeting where they had a presentation on and discussed Emergency Management Practices. Councilmember Arnold presented the council with the initial language for the interlocal agreement for Parks and Recreation, stating that is it in the first stages, and has a ways to go before it is presented formally to Council. The formal name for the committee will be the Charlotte Area Recreation Cooperative (CARC). He also attended the City Parks Board Meeting to keep them up to date on the progress of CARC. Mayor Pro Tem Smith attended the Planning Commission Meeting on January 6, 2009. At that meeting CVS presented their brick proposals for the new building and they were approved. A site plan for Aaron's Rental was also presented, but postponed until February.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Josh Thorne, 222 West Henry, thanked Damian Spielmaker for mentioning the sledding hill, volunteered to get involved in a neighborhood group for the Sheldon and Henry Streets area, and recommended a four way stop on Sheldon and Henry Streets.

Kathy Gillespie, 312 W. Henry Street, interested in a neighborhood watch group

Melody Crannell, 633 W. Lawrence, inquired into the standard the city uses before the DPW removes snow from the sidewalk in the snow removal district and charges it back to the city.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Councilmembers thanked and commended Step By Step and Can Do for the work that they have done on the walking path.

Councilmember Arnold announced that Can-Do is hosting a series designed to develop leadership skills. First Gentleman Dan Mulhern is keynote speaker at the first meeting February 4, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers. There is no cost to attend the program.

Councilmember Baker agreed that a snow fence or aid to help people, especially children get up the sledding hill is a good idea.

Councilmember Weissenborn thanked Damian Spielmaker for his report. He asked him to try to poll students regarding the areas recreation opportunities.

Councilmember Spielmaker thanked the audience for their participation in the meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Smith announced that Can-Do has started a lunch and learn more information regarding that is forthcoming in the newspapers. He congratulated thanked Councilmember Arnold for his involvement Can-Do and the Leadership program.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Deb Shaughnessy, Mayor

Michelle M. King, City Clerk