

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
Regular Meeting
Monday, February 23, 2009

CALL TO ORDER: By Mayor Shaughnessy on Monday, February 23, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

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

ABSENT: None

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 9, 2009: Motion by Councilmember Lewis, second by Spielmaker to approve the minutes of February 9, 2009, as presented. Carried. 7 Yeas. 0 Nays.

EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBERS: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

CHARLOTTE HIGH SCHOOL LIAISON: Damian Spielmaker reported that with summer coming up, it would be nice to see more recreational opportunities for kids in the way of low to no cost, organized leagues for sports like volleyball and soccer. These opportunities could be publicized during morning announcements at the schools. There is a high school basketball game on Friday, and an upcoming school dance which will be held at the Charlotte Performing Arts Center.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion by Councilmember Spielmaker, second by Lewis to approve the agenda as presented. Carried. 7 Yeas. 0 Nays.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Second Reading and Adoption of an Ordinance changing the Sidewalk Snow Removal District
- B. Second Reading and Adoption of an Ordinance to Amend Chapter 52: Property Maintenance Code of the City Code of Ordinances
- C. 2009 MDOT Airport Design Contract
- D. 2009 Mead & Hunt Airport Design Contract
- E. Claims and Accounts – Total Claims - \$280,803.21

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Smith, second by Arnold, to approve the consent agenda as presented. Carried. 7 Yeas. 0 Nays.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS:

- A. **Public Hearing for Recreation Plan Amendment**
Public Hearing opened at 7:10 p.m. Bryan Myrkle, Charlotte Community Development Director, indicated that this is a resolution to amend the 2005 – 2010 Charlotte Area Recreation Plan, this is not the same as the City's local park plan, but a plan that was adopted by the now dissolved Recreation Council. All other entities who signed the original plan have adopted the amendment. This will allow the Can Do/Step By Step Committee to apply for grants, through the City, in order to fund the improvements which are estimated at \$300,000. The intention is to apply for secondary grants, and solicit in-kind donations and donors to pay for the 26% match that is required for the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant. The grant paperwork will come to Council for approval in March. Public hearing closed at 7:31 p.m.

B. Action on Recreation Plan Amendment
Motion by Councilmember Weissenborn, second by Lewis to approve Resolution 09-02, adopting an amendment to the 2005-2010 Charlotte Area Recreation Plan. Carried. 7 Yeas. 0 Nays.

C. Police Department Annual Report
Police Chief Bill Callahan stated that the Police Department has instituted a Review Board who determines if and when officers will receive recognition and the level of commendation he/she will receive. This year, the Review Board has recommended the following honorees:
Letter of Recognition – Officer Robert Antcliff
Unit Citation – Sgts. Lisa Sherman and Curtis Bristol, Det. Robert King, Ofcrs. Joel West, Jeremy Poortvliet, Paul Brentar, Bram, and Kevin Venton
Certificate of Merit – Sgt. Curtis Bristol, Det. Robert King, Ofcrs. Joel West, Fred Koning, Jeremy Hafner and Kevin Venton
Police Commendation – Sgt. Curtis Bristol, Det. Robert King

Chief Callahan indicated that overall 2008 was pretty successful. They have had some personnel changes with the retirement of Sgt. Curt Koffman and promotion of Officer James Falk to Sergeant, but did not hire an officer to take his place. The Department has instituted a stringent fitness program and the K9 Unit was re-certified. Statistically, there was an overall increase in activity of 1%; total reported crimes were up 12%, although arrests were down a little; juvenile offenders/crimes were down 25%; and warrants issued were up 20%.

D. Discussion of Community/Fire Department Meeting Room Policies

City Manager Guetschow explained that a policy for the City Hall Community Room has been created using the policy submitted at the last meeting for the Fire Department Meeting Room as a template. Based upon discussion, changes will be made as follows, and the policies will be brought to the City Councils next meeting for approval:

1. Language for cancelation of activities will be the same on both policies; the language from the City Community Room will be used.
2. The “no show” provision on both policies will be changed from “will be denied” to “may be denied”
3. The Fire Department Meeting Room Policy will add the City of Charlotte to the “Restrictions on Use” section, second paragraph will now read “The City of Charlotte and the Charlotte Fire Department reserve the right to refuse....”
4. The deposits will be \$50 for the City Hall Community Room and \$100 for the West Side Fire Station Meeting Room.

E. Discussion of Possible Millage Increase in Relationship to the 2009/2010 Budget

Councilmember Lewis indicated that he requested this item to be on the agenda since we are entering the budget season. He would like to hear how other Councilmembers feel about levying the one mill that is available to the City. The consensus of the Council is that they would not support the levying of that mill at this time.

F. Consider a Special Meeting for the Purpose of Budget Discussion

A tentative date of March 30, 2009, at 6:00 p.m. was suggested. City Manger Guetschow will speak with the Finance Director to ensure that date is good with her and will decide whether or not to require Department Heads to attend. It will be on the agenda for March 9, 2009, to set the date,

provided the Finance Director does not have a conflict with March 30.

COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT: A written report was included in the packet.

CITY MANAGER REPORT: City Manager Guetschow reviewed the information in his written report. In addition, he announced the second meeting of the Charlotte Citizens Symposium, which will feature Department of Public Works Director Amy Schoonover, is scheduled for Tuesday, February 24, 2009.

COUNCILMEMBER COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilmember Baker indicated that she and Mayor Pro Tem Smith attended a meeting of the Mayor Exchange Committee. On May 20th Mayor Shaughnessy will be in Hastings and on May 27th the Mayor of Hastings will in the City of Charlotte.

Councilmember Arnold attended a meeting of the Charlotte Area Recreation Council in January and they are meeting again next week. He has also been meeting with the Planning Commission Design Standards Committee the first Thursday of every month at 5:45 p.m. in Council Chambers. They are currently focusing on Downtown.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Councilmembers thanked Chief Callahan for his thorough and comprehensive report. They congratulated the Police Officers who were recognized this evening.

Councilmembers also made mention of the Arsenic and Old Lace performances at the CPAC, noting the quality of the acting group and the venue.

Councilmember Arnold thanked the public for their support of the Leadership Forums being held, and invited all to the next one on Wednesday, March 4, 2009. He also thanks Damian Spielmaker for his report.

Mayor Shaughnessy announced that the Optimists Youth Appreciation Awards Ceremony is February 26, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. at the high school.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:19 p.m.

Deb Shaughnessy, Mayor

Michelle M. King, City Clerk