

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
Regular Meeting
Monday, August 10, 2009

CALL TO ORDER: By Mayor Shaughnessy Monday, August 10, 2009, at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Councilmembers Arnold, Cuttle, Lewis, Weissenborn, Mayor Pro-Tem Smith, Mayor Shaughnessy, City Attorney Tom Hitch and City Manager Guetschow

ABSENT: Councilmember Baker

The invocation was offered by Mayor Shaughnessy, followed by the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF JULY 27, 2009: Motion by Councilmember Lewis, second by Cuttle to approve the minutes of July 27, 2009, as presented. Carried. 6 Yeas. 0 Nays.

EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBERS: Motion by Mayor Pro-Tem Smith, second by Arnold to excuse Councilmember Baker from the August 10, 2009, Regular Meeting. Carried. 6 Yeas. 0 Nays.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

David Skidmore, 412 W. Shepherd Street, following up regarding the replacement of trees on Shepherd St. following last years construction project; and inquiring about the procedure for letting the Police Department know when the glow golfers will be in the park for a little longer than 10 p.m., and if there is a problem with that. They are seldom there longer than a few minutes after 10 p.m.

Mary Holt, 624 N. Sheldon St., expressed concerns regarding the condition of the property at 628 N. Sheldon St.

CHARLOTTE HIGH SCHOOL LIAISON: No Report

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

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Approve Proclamation for Johnson Lumber 100th Anniversary
- B. Set Hearing for Dangerous Building at 220 Shaw Street for the Regular City Council meeting on September 28, 2009
- C. Approve purchase of 2010 Ford 4-Wheel Drive Truck for the Fire Department from low bidder, Candy Ford in the amount of \$22,230 plus title fees
- D. Appoint Christine Mossner as Officer Delegate to the MERS Annual Meeting September 15 – 17, 2009, and Michelle King as Alternate
- E. Claims and Accounts – Total Claims - \$286,728.28

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

Mayor Shaughnessy presented Mark and Tim Johnson with the L.L. Johnson Lumber Company Proclamation, congratulating them on 100 years of business in the community.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS:

- A. **Consider Special Assessment Resolution No. 3**
After some discussion, Council decided to meet with the DDA on Thursday, August 13, 2009, at the DDA regular meeting to propose and discuss a compromise to the Special Assessment that both the City Council and DDA could approve.
Motion by Councilmember Weissenborn, second by Lewis to refer the Special Assessment issue back to the

Downtown Development Authority for consideration of a proposal to gradually increase the amount the business owners would pay for the special assessment so that at the end of year three, the DDA Contribution would be little or \$0. Carried. 5 Yeas. 1 Nay (Smith).

Motion by Councilmember Arnold, second by Lewis to set a special joint meeting of City Council with the DDA for 7:30 a.m. on Thursday, August 13, 2009 in Council Chambers. Carried. 6 Yeas. 0 Nays.

B. Consider Approval of Contract with Randy Jewell for Assessing Services

City Manager Guetschow indicated that the contract is for five-years with a one-time 3% increase in the rate over the last year of his recently expired contract. The rate is then frozen at \$34,692 annually over the duration of the contract. It also includes an additional \$14,000 per year for the Re-appraisal/Re-inspection Program.

Motion by Councilmember Arnold, second by Weissenborn to approve a five-year contract with Randy Jewell for Assessing Services. Carried. 6 Yeas. 0 Nays.

Attorney Hitch left at 8:00 p.m.

C. Discussion Regarding possible Budget Reductions

City Manager Guetschow indicated that after writing a lengthy memo, outlining the opportunities for increasing revenues and decreasing expenditures, he concluded that it is best to wait to see what the Michigan Legislature will do with statutory revenue sharing before making any decisions. He encouraged the Council to postpone making any decisions regarding his memo. Councilmembers thanked him for his extensive analysis.

COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT: Attorney Hitch submitted a written report for Council.

CITY MANAGER REPORT: City Manager Guetschow reviewed the information in his written report.

COMMENTS ON REPORTS:

COUNCILMEMBER COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilmember Lewis attended the Charlotte Area Recycling Authority Board meeting. Member John Geddie has resigned because of a conflict in meeting dates. Plans for moving the center have been slowed due to the lack of grant funding. Results from the participation survey that was done at the center are available.

Councilmember Arnold announced that there was a Recreation Committee meeting the last Wednesday in July which he was unable to attend do to a conflict, however, at that meeting, one of the Townships submitted proposed changes for the agreement based upon their attorney's recommendation. Those changes are being reviewed; therefore, it will probably be the first meeting in September before the agreement comes to the City Council. The next Recreation meeting is August 26th, at 7 pm in Eaton Township Hall.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Councilmembers congratulated L.L. Johnson Lumber and thanked them for being a part of our community.

Councilmember Cuttle noted that he is starting to be approached by members of the community who are sharing their concerns with him.

Mayor Pro-Tem Smith indicated that the business plans that were the result of the Evening with the Experts series have been received, and they will start reviewing them tomorrow. He would like to recognize the “winning” business plan at a future City Council meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

Deb Shaughnessy, Mayor

Michelle M. King, City Clerk