

**COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Monday, January 23, 2012**

**CALL TO ORDER:** By Mayor Smith on Monday, January 23, 2012, at 7:00 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Councilmembers Conway, Dyer, Kruger, Sanders, Weissenborn, Mayor Pro-Tem Baker, Mayor Smith, City Manager Guetschow and City Clerk King

**ABSENT:** None

The invocation was offered by Councilmember Conway followed by the pledge of allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF JANUARY 9<sup>th</sup>**  
Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Baker, second by Sanders to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of January 9, 2012, as presented. Carried. 7 Yeas. 0 Nays.

**EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBERS:** None

**PUBLIC COMMENT/PRESENTATIONS:** None

**CHARLOTTE HIGH SCHOOL LIAISON:**  
Shelby Lamb announced the following:

- A number of students participated in the Business Professionals of America regional competition at Baker College two students placed in three events and will move on to state competition.
- Harvard Model Congress students had a great time in San Francisco
- New semester started January 23<sup>rd</sup>
- There will be a band concert on January 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. The High School Band is selling pasties as a fundraiser for a trip to the Smokey Mountain Music Festival on May 4<sup>th</sup>. January 23<sup>rd</sup> is the last day to purchase them.
- Boys and Girls Varsity Basketball teams both won on Friday, January 20<sup>th</sup> against Jackson Northwest.

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

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:**

- A. Appoint Branden Dyer as City Council Representative to the Charlotte Area Recycling Authority

- B. Appoint Lloyd Conway as one of the City Council Representatives to the Charlotte Area Recreation Cooperative
- C. Re-appoint Wayne Kruger as the City Council Representative to the Planning Commission
- D. Approve Claims and Accounts - \$237,067.01

**Motion by Councilmember Conway, second by Sanders to approve the consent agenda as presented. Carried. 7 Yeas. 0 Nays.**

**ITEMS OF BUSINESS:**

**A. Discussion regarding the 2012/2013 Fiscal Year Budget**

The City Manager indicated that a draft budget for General Fund and Streets was presented to Council at the last meeting. The budget reflected no good source of revenue for funding street capital improvements. Staff has created a 5-year preventive maintenance plan based upon Paser street/road rating and if followed, would leave a \$1 million negative fund balance. In addition, in that time, there will be roads that require significant repair. The City manager indicated that Council needs to have discussions on how it will raise the funds. There are three likely options – bonding, millage, and special assessment. Council decided by consensus to create a committee to generate awareness and educate the public of the need to

fund road maintenance. The committee should consider the feasibility of putting a millage question on the November 2012 ballot. The target for bringing its recommendation back to Council would be July 1, 2012.

**B. Discussion regarding the design of Parking Lot #2 Improvements**

City Manager Guetschow indicated that this informational item is before Council as a result of a request from Councilmember Weissenborn following a report that the Downtown Development Authority and City representatives had removed significant design elements from the improvement plan due to cost. The plan was discussed and most of those design elements replaced include landscaping plants which are expensive and require costly maintenance. Plants have been replaced with stamped concrete hardscape which will still separate the areas such as the alley from parking. There is also still wrought iron fencing and ballasts which will identify the lot as city parking. These design elements are intended to be carried on throughout all of the city parking lots as they are upgraded. The goal of the DDA was to improve the aesthetics of the lots without sacrificing any parking spaces. The plan as presented, adds one space to this lot. Pursuant to the request of Councilmember

Weissenborn, it will be reviewed to see if it is possible to add some more vertical hardscape without sacrificing parking spaces.

**COMMUNICATIONS AND COUNCILMEMBER COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- The City Attorney will be at the next meeting to give an update on the MDEQ determination.
- The City Manager reviewed his written report.
- Councilmember Conway indicated that Councilmember Weissenborn and he attended the Recreation Cooperative meeting on January 12<sup>th</sup> where they discussed the opportunity to put a softball field on property owned by Eaton Township adjacent to Peebles. Further information will be gathered, no commitments were made.
- Chief Callahan’s Year End Police Department Report is included in the Council Packet. He will be at a future meeting to discuss its contents.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** John Forte, owner of What’s Your Forte and co-owner of Tasty Twist, has concerns about snow removal downtown and at the Corral Building

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

Mayor Smith congratulated Shelby Lamb on attending the Business Professionals of America Conference and Keith Moss on receiving a repeat invitation to represent the Michigan Rural Water Association in Washington, DC to lobby for funding for clean water initiatives.

**There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:17 p.m.**

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Deleski R. Smith, Mayor

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Michelle M. King, City Clerk