

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
Regular Meeting
September 14, 2015

CALL TO ORDER: By Mayor Burch on Monday, September 14, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Councilmembers Baker, Ridge, Mayor Pro-Tem Sanders, Mayor Burch, City Clerk Terpstra and City Manager Guetschow.

The invocation was offered by Mayor Burch followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF AUGUST 10, 2015: Mayor Pro-Tem Sanders moved, supported by Baker to approve the minutes of August 10, 2015 as presented. Carried. 4 Yes. 0 No. 3 Absent.

Councilmember Ridge moved, supported by Sanders to rescind motion to approve regular session minutes of August 10, 2015 as presented. Carried. 4 Yes. 0 No. 3 Absent.

Mayor Pro-Tem Sanders moved, supported by Baker to approve the minutes of August 24, 2015 as presented. Carried. 4 Yes. 0 No. 3 Absent.

ABSENT: Councilmembers Conway, Dyer and Johnston.

Councilmember Ridge moved, supported by Sanders to excuse Councilmember Dyer (attending conference),

Councilmember Conway (out of town on business) and Councilmember Johnston (ill). Carried. 4 Yes. 0 No.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Ben Phlegar, 425 Horatio, announced and explained the criteria for the Candidate Forum for the November 3, 2015 City Election to be held at the Historic County Courthouse on Thursday, September 24, 2015 at 7 p.m.

Shelli Smith, Barry Eaton Health Department, announced the opening of the new Eaton Community Health Center in Charlotte. She also announced Eaton County Recycling's, Recycle Palooza will be held on Saturday, September 26th from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

CHARLOTTE HIGH SCHOOL LIAISON: Madelynn Hull, introduced herself as the new High School Liaison. She is a senior at CHS, Captain of the Varsity Cheerleading Squad, member of NHS, Student Council and has the lead role in the upcoming musical at the High School. She stated that the fall sports are well under way. The Homecoming will be Friday, October 2, 2015.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Councilmember Baker moved, supported by Sanders to approve the agenda as presented. Carried. 4 Yes. 0 No.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

- a) Approve Amendment #2 to agreement with Prein & Newhof for Professional Engineering Services for airport runway project in the amount of \$7,000.00
- b) Approve request for Homecoming Parade on Friday, October 2, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. for MDOT street closure
- c) Approve Claims & Accounts in the Amount of \$365,791.41

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA BY ROLL CALL VOTE: Mayor Pro-Tem Sanders moved, supported by Baker to approve the consent agenda as presented. 4 Yes. 0 No.

A. AUTHORIZE PREPARATION OF ORDINANCES ESTABLISHING A LOCAL BUILDING BOARD OF APPEALS AND DESIGNATING THE BOARD AS FIRE BOARD OF APPEALS:

City Manager Guetschow explained that this was previously handled by the Zoning Board of Appeals. City Council has now taken over that responsibility of the Zoning Board. It is felt that a Building Board should be established with members being made up of citizens with building trade backgrounds.

Motion by Ridge, second by Sanders to authorize the City Attorney to prepare the necessary ordinances to establish a Local Building Board of Appeals and designate the board as Fire Board of Appeals. Carried. 4 Yes. 0 No.

B. DISCUSSION ON CIVICS EDUCATION INITIATIVE:

City Manager Guetschow explained that this initiative is planned to modify how we conduct city business in the future and to help citizens get more involved. It is expected to slow down the process and give more time for citizen input. There will be opportunities for citizens to participate through mail and email.

Councilmembers discussed the need to educate citizens to become more knowledgeable of local government and it's process.

C. CONSIDER APPROVAL COUNCIL POLICY 2015-03 RE: CITIZEN COMMENTS:

It was consensus of councilmembers present to discuss at the next meeting.

D. CONSIDER APPROVAL COUNCIL POLICY 2015-04 RE: ORDINANCE ADOPTION:

It was consensus of councilmembers present to discuss at the next meeting.

E. CONSIDER APPROVAL COUNCIL POLICY 2015-05 RE: ORDER OF BUSINESS:

It was the consensus of councilmembers present to discuss at the next meeting.

F. CONSIDER APPROVAL COUNCIL POLICY 2015-06 RE: RESOLUTIONS:

It was the consensus of councilmembers present to discuss at the next meeting.

G. DISCUSSION ON THE DISPOSITION OF OWENS-BROCKWAY JUDGMENT FUNDS:

It was the consensus of councilmembers present to discuss at the next meeting.

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT: None.

CITY MANAGER REPORT: City Manager Guetschow stated that City officials have met with the state team regarding Project Rising Tide. The City of Charlotte has been chosen as one of the pilot communities for this state initiative.

COUNCILMEMBER COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Councilmember Ridge stated that she had attended two Recreation Co-op meetings and they are working on the Park’s 5 Year Master Plan. The DNR grant scores are in and the Land and Water (\$150,000) scored the highest for the Softball project.
- Councilmember Baker stated that Eatran is looking for part time drivers. The connector route to the Lansing Mall operates throughout the day from 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. daily. It runs between Walmart, Potterville and Lansing Mall. The ridership total for Eatran in August was 10,625.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Ben Phlegar, 425 Horatio, explained that the planned Candidate Forum is not a debate but only a forum. He offered information sheets to anyone interested.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS:

- Councilmember Ridge thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. She stated that she is excited about Project Rising Tide. She thanked Madelynn for becoming the High School Liaison.
- Councilmember Baker thanked the Frontier Days Committee for all the hard work they put into the festival year round. She thanked Ben Phlegar for setting up the Candidate Forum. She thanked everyone for attending the meeting.
- Mayor Pro-Tem Sanders thanked everyone for coming. He stated that it was another thriving Frontier Days with lots of people in town.

- Mayor Burch offered her condolences to the family of Dennis Rodeman for such a tragic loss. She thanked the entire Frontier Days Board for a great success and their tireless efforts to this community. She encouraged everyone to take part in candidate forum. She thanked Madelynn for agreeing to become the High School Liaison. She encouraged everyone to shop local and support Charlotte.

Mayor Pro-Tem Sanders moved, second by Ridge to adjourn at 7:45 p.m. Carried. 4 Yes. 0 No.

Mayor Burch

Ginger Terpstra, City Clerk