

Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, February 21, 2012
412 Main St. - City Hall
Frankfort, Michigan 49635 (231) 352-7117

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Johnson at 6:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call - Present: Condon, Haan, Holwerda, Jackson, Johnson Absent: None

Request to Appear Before Council

Mike Trombly – Utility Service Company – Mr. Trombly gave a presentation of the Utility Service Company. Trombly presented to the council an overview of the company, the services they provide, testimonials from other municipalities and an assessment of what their company could do for the Frankfort water tower.

Trombly was in Frankfort in November 2010 and took pictures of areas that are in need of repair and areas that should be made compliant with federal and state safety regulations. Trombly addressed issues with the water tower and what his company could do to remedy those issues. He also laid out a plan as far as painting and maintenance of the tower and payment options available.

Public Input

John Mead – 413 Ninth – Mead introduced himself as candidate for Benzie County Probate Judge. Gave an overview of his educational background, judicial experience and previous jobs in law enforcement.

Correspondence

None

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Holwerda seconded by Haan to approve the regular minutes of 01/18/2012 as amended and special meeting minutes of 01/31/2012 and 02/07/2012 as presented.

RC: Yeas: All

Nays: None

Motion CARRIED

Approval of Bills

Motion by Johnson, seconded by Condon to approve to approve prepaid vouchers #42029-42089 in the amount of \$136,781.72 of which \$93,613.66 was for tax distribution. Payroll vouchers #25527-25611 in the amount of \$44,076.93.

RC: Yeas: All

Nays: None

Motion CARRIED

Motion by Holwerda, seconded by Condon approving monthly Vouchers #42090-42135 in the amount of \$65,842.16 as presented.

RC: Yeas: All

Nays: None

Motion CARRIED

Committee Reports

a) Personnel/Public Safety

No meeting

b) Finance

Budget amendments are on the agenda in new business. Major and Local Street funds are doing well.

c) Water/Sewer & Solid Waste

No Meeting

d) Recreation Board

Did not meet.

e) Fire Advisory

No meeting

f) Planning Commission

Change of use was granted for the old Crystal Lake Art Center building with conditions.

g) Airport Authority

No meeting

i) BLUA

Slight increase in leach aid treatment.

j) Brownfield Redevelopment

No meeting.

k) Marina Authority

No meeting.

l) Tree Board

Tank Hill tree harvesting has begun and it looks like there are upwards of 200 trees and the City should be over the \$3,000 that was anticipated. Jim Grabowski is overseeing the cutting. The operations should be finished in about 3 (three) weeks and the hill will be reseeded after the harvest. Trying to organize firewood cutting for all the wood not taken from the harvest and a garlic mustard pull. Looking into an MDNR grant for \$20,000 with a 10% match. In-kind services can be used towards the match and there is also money in the tree fund. The tree nursery will be requiring a line item in the budget for next year. Tree grates were discussed and the cost is about \$800 per tree. They also discussed pavers as an alternative to the grates. The Tree Board is planning to be in the Water Festival in April.

m) Commissioner's Report

Stobie was not able to attend this meeting.

Departmental Reports

Clerk/Treasurer – Kidder is waiting to hear back from Wyant Computers regarding time logged over the last three years to see how much we have paid to them and our options for support.

The city has collected 95% of the taxes for this year which is better than last year at this time. Marina contracts are back and to-date there are 30 filled slips. We have 4 slips yet to fill. There are usually last minute requests right before the season begins.

There is still over \$68,800 coming from different grants to the City. We still have to receive monies from the MDNR launch ramp grant, HUD Launch ramp, CZM grant phase II and the MDNR grant for the marina.

The City has to have a Letter of Understanding with both unions to put the 457 plan in place with MERS. Kidder mentioned the election on Tuesday, February 28th is a closed primary election. This means that the voters must state which party they are voting in. They can only get a ballot for the republican or democrat party for only the candidates in that party.

Superintendent – Mother Nature continues to help keep winter maintenance down so far this year. There has been a savings in gas for major & local streets. The shop is getting an overhaul, inventoried and organized.

Mills reported on the Mineral Springs Park equipment and is working on grants and donations to assist in getting more money for the project. Mills has been in contact with Quay Chilcott, the Executive Director of Carter's Kids to work out the time line for the building of the play equipment. It is looking like the building will be in the middle of June. Mills has been busy contacting and mailing out donation letters to try to get more funding for the project to enhance other areas of the park.

Mills is waiting on the paperwork for the Frankfort North Breakwater Light. He wants to schedule a committee meeting soon to devise fundraising efforts and an action plan.

Lake Ann Hardwoods is on site removing timber from Tank Hill. There have been a few calls by unhappy residents. Mills explained that they are targeting dead, dying and diseased trees which will enhance the area and keep the other trees healthier.

Mills updated the council on fire & 1st responder runs. Fire runs are identical to last year but the 1st responder runs increased by 36 runs. Mills also gave comparisons from 2010 to 2011 for planning and zoning permits. Land use and sign use increased over the previous year, while site plan reviews and special use permits decreased and demolition permits remained unchanged. The Planning Commission did issue a Change in Use with conditions for the former Crystal Lake Art Center building located on 10th Street.

Chief of Police – Redder and Mills went down to Lansing for a Liquor Control Commission hearing concerning the Bayview Grille. As it ended up, Bayview Grille does have a liquor license for indoor service. Mr. Evans withdrew the application for the outdoor license. He will then look at a license for additional seating after he finishes up the requirements from the City and State.

Complaints and arrests are nearly identical as they were last year. Redder attended the 911 board meeting where they discussed contracts for the dispatchers and Director and went over the by-laws. The sheriff is waiting for final approval on the 800 mhz radios after which the City will take the training on the system.

Old Business

A) Recreation Center Lease - Mills

Nothing new to report.

New Business

A) Committee Appointments

Motion by Mayor Johnson, (no second required) to appoint Myra Elias and Doug Rath to serve on the committee for the Preservation of the Frankfort North Light.

RC: Yeas: All

Nays: None

Motion CARRIED

B) Budget Amendments

Motion by Holwerda, seconded by Jackson to approve the budget amendments as presented.

RC: Yeas: All

Nays: None

Motion CARRIED

C) MDOT Performance & Indemnification Resolution

Motion by Johnson, seconded by Condon to authorize Josh Mills, Street Administrator, to sign the Performance and Indemnification Commitment from the MDOT to allow work to be performed within MDOT right-of-ways.

RC: Yeas: All

Nays: None

Motion CARRIED

PUBLIC INPUT –

Alma House – 202 Michigan Ave – Questioned the excavation on 10th St and Main. Mills informed her that that was being done with escrowed money from the previous owners (Rengo Bros.) to clean up the contaminated soil.

Pim Dodge – There was an accident at the Shell Station today. Someone hit the store with their vehicle.

Bonnie Warren – Would like the Tree Management Plan on the website. That document contains a lot of information and may answer many of the questions and concerns from the tree harvesting.

John Mead – Commented that Linda Wilson will be retiring on June 1st and the County will be appointing someone to fill her position until the next election.

Adjournment

Motion by Holwerda, seconded by Condon to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

RC: Yeas: All

Nays: None
Motion CARRIED

Robert J. Johnson, Mayor

Kimberly K. Kidder, Clerk/Treasurer