

Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, May 18, 2010
412 Main St. - City Hall
Frankfort, Michigan 49635 (231) 352-7117

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Johnson at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call - Present: Haugen, Higman, Holwerda, Johnson, Stransky
Absent: None

Request to Appear Before Council

Bryan Roth – Bryan Roth, a geophysicist, business man and avid surfer came before the council to inform them about artificial reefs. Roth would like to see an artificial reef here at Frankfort out from the pier. Roth showed a Power Point presentation showing that an artificial reef could be a big boost to the community, bringing surfers of which there are many different kinds. There are body surfers, boarders, wind surfers or kite surfers and boogie boarders. Surfers can be business professionals such as lawyers, doctors, engineers as well as the younger crowd of daredevils and extreme sports enthusiasts. He explained the reef could also be a great spot for fish and sport fishermen. It could be an economic boost to the City. Roth showed different ways that reefs are formed and different products used to make the reefs. He showed pictures of artificial reefs in other parts of the world. Roth figures the cost to be around \$17,000 for the design he created. He expressed that there may be grants, stimulus money or fund raising that could be available to fund as well as help from businesses and entities to help in the installation. Council asked that he e-mail his power point presentation to the City so it can be passed on to the Recreation Board.

Paul Olson – City’s liability insurance agent – Introduced himself to the new members of the council and the public. Olson was pleased to keep the insurance rates almost the same as last year; only a slight increase due to new police vehicle and a DPW truck. Olson gave a copy of the summary of coverages to the council

Public Input

Thelma Rider-Novak – Wanted to know if it was legal to have Katie Condon vote on the Master Plan after she resigned. Mills informed her that she did not resign, her term had expired and she was considered a hold over member until she is replaced.

Correspondence

- USW – Interest withdrawal USW Local 14557-01 and 14557-02
- Charter – Changes in mgmt structure and cable fees
- Mary Armstrong – resignation from Tree Committee
- David R. Gum – Resignation from the Frankfort Fire Department
- Russell K. Johnson - Resignation from the Frankfort Fire Department
- Jody White – Resignation from the Frankfort First Responders

g) Airport Authority

Higman report that the Airport Authority meeting went well. There were safety issues with the glider club that were presented. There is an investigation concerning the snow removal equipment.

h) Grant

Mills is looking at grants for playground equipment for mineral springs park and a grant for sidewalks through the safe access to schools grant. He is also looking at grants that don't require matches.

i) BLUA

BLUA members Dan Walenta and Kurt Luedtke were asked to have the increase in the sewer rates coincide with the City's fiscal year. They stated they would take it to their board. Council members would like an explanation for the increase in rates. Stransky reviewed the audit and stated there was \$400,000 in unrestricted funds. The BLUA meeting is on May 20th.

j) Brownfield Redevelopment

No meeting.

k) Marina Authority

No report.

l) Commissioners Report – Kristin Hollenbeck

The county is pursuing the search for a new administrator. They have 13 applicants vying for the position. A company called Merit gave a Power Point presentation for broadband which would make it available through a corridor called the middle mile for areas including Beulah, Interlochen and up to Traverse City. A group is also looking at bringing DTE natural gas to the Thompsonville/Copemish areas. This is being called the Thom-Cope project which may also bring in broadband to the areas. Hollenbeck stated that the building department will be firming up their hours so that contractors will have specific times to get their permits. The Maples removed Hollenbeck from the board and she was replaced with Tom Kelly.

Departmental Reports

Clerk/Treasurer – Kidder informed council that she is waiting to hear if she will be off work as the dates for surgery may be changing. The meeting is set for the hearing on budget and millage rates followed by a special meeting for the adoption of both.

Kidder informed council that rates from Mutual of Omaha for STD/LTD and life insurance will remain the same as last year. BC/BS rates were increased slightly over last year by 7%. Cadillac Insurance stated that this was a great renewal rate; one of the best they have seen.

There will be an election workers refresher course in June for all election officials. It will be held on Wednesday, June 23rd at 9:00 a.m. and last about three hours.

Superintendent – Mills stated that the community participation in the City Master Plan was the best according to Chip Smith from Wade-Trim. Smith plans on using the City of Frankfort as a model for other communities. MDOT is coordinating with Gateway Village for surface water runoff. Mills stated that the spring clean up would come in under budget according to Allied Waste. Mills will be meeting with them in June to renegotiate a new contract and urged someone from council to attend the meeting.

There was a variance granted for the Bayview Grille (formerly Celia's) due to a change in parking. They will need to monitor the parking and seating area for drainage and will have to install curb cuts. A special use permit from the Planning Commission will allow for outdoor seating.

The fire department had 15 calls last month. They received a grant from FEMA and are now waiting on the paperwork to get the \$38,000 for the cascade system at the fire department. This will allow the department to fill their own air tanks.

The Hollander Development (Gateway Village) should have the 1st building ready in late June. There will be a total of 36 units when completed. The management company has already received 80 applications for the units. Hollander has a intern working on the wetland park. There will be an increase in parking for school functions due to the parking provided by the wetland park.

There will be a tree board meeting and a launch ramp progress meeting scheduled for Thursday, May 20th. A city tree with grate will be planted on Wednesday. This tree and grate was purchased with tree fund money.

Chief of Police – Complaints are up this year, but arrests are down for the year so far. Last month the undersheriff and Chief Redder gave a presentation on bullying to Benzie Central students. Redder was going to do a presentation for Frankfort students also but was called out. Frankfort government students attended Law Day held at the government center. Speakers from law enforcement, court administration, family court, probation and parole were present to speak to the students who also sat in the court room.

Officer Lozowski attended a domestic violence training seminar. The pier safety equipment is out and there are some stands that need to be repaired. Another movie is being filmed in Frankfort. A low budget horror movie titled "Creep Van" is using the backdrop of the 600 block of Forest, Glen's Market parking lot and Bayview Party Store for some of their scenes.

Old Business

None

G) Grant of Easement and Agreement to permit encroachment - Mills

Motion by Stransky, seconded by Holwerda to authorize Mayor Robert Johnson and Clerk/Treas. Kimberly Kidder to sign on behalf of the city the grant of easement appurtenant to the land and agreement to permit encroachment.

RC: Yeas: All Nays: None Motion **CARRIED**

PUBLIC INPUT –

Alma Penfold House – Wanted to know if the parking at Bayview Grille would be reduced. Mills stated that parking would not be reduced.

Norma Elias – Would like to know where it is stated that a person can stay on the Planning Commission after they resign. Mills explained that her term had expired but she had not yet been replaced. Condon was staying on until a replacement was found.

Adjournment

Motion by Stransky, seconded by Higman to adjourn the regular council meeting at 9:05 p.m.

RC: Yeas: All Nays: None Motion **CARRIED**

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Robert J. Johnson, Mayor

Kimberly K. Kidder, Clerk/Treasurer