

Minutes of the regular Durand City Council meeting held on Monday, February 7, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of Durand City Hall.

Mayor Pro Tem Schaefer called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Brian Boggs, Jeff Brands, Connie Cobley, Rich Folaron, Pat O'Connor, Matt Schaefer

Absent: Ken McDonough

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Council led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Boggs moved, Cobley supported to approve the agenda as presented.

Carried

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Folaron moved, O'Connor supported to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on January 10, 2022 as presented.

Carried

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Brands moved, Folaron supported to approve bills #54375-54468.

YEAS: Boggs, Brands, Cobley, Folaron, O'Connor, Schaefer

NAYS: None

Carried

HEARING OF REPRESENTATIVES AND CITIZENS PRESENT:

Candyce Wolsfeld, Chamber Director. She presented a check for \$500.00 to the City Fire Department from the proceeds of the Car Show.

Bill Heilbronn, 113 W. Fauble St. He complained about his water bill that was being estimated for 12 months.

Debbie White, Light of Faith, offered a prayer and thanked the DPW crew for plowing the streets, "they do a great job".

CITY COUNCIL RESPONSE TO CITIZEN'S COMMENTS:

Boggs: He thanked Deb White for the prayer. He also said that our guys did a great job with plowing the streets.

O'Connor: Our guys did a great job with plowing the streets. Thanks for the prayer.

Brands: Great job again.

Folaron: Thanked Ms. White for the prayer. He said that the DPW did a great job with plowing.

Schaefer: He echoed what the other councilmembers said about the plowing.

DPW/WATER WASTEWATER/MECHANICS REPORT:

Sewer/Water: Andrew said that Rob will be back on Wednesday. We are looking to hire one more person for utilities.

DPW: He reported that they are keeping up with the snow plowing. The hockey rink is good to go. Helped with the main break at Simplicity last week. Several of the guys took a computer class at LCC.

City Manager gave an update on the Senior Care Rehab facility in regards to the residents flushing wipes down the sewer and the damage it causes our equipment. City Manager said that he and Andrew met with the maintenance manager from the center and suggested that they change to a different wipe, one that doesn't expand to three times its original size. The maintenance man said that he has suggested that to top management but it hasn't been done. They discussed three options: that the Senior Care Rehab facility would help pay for the pumps that are damaged by the wipes, the City would invoice the Rehab facility for wages, equipment and supplies used to repair sewer pumps or the easiest thing to do would be to have the rehab facility construct something that would catch these wipes before they went into the sewer system. Overall the City Manager said it was a productive meeting.

DPW Mechanic: Gave an update on the generator for the Fire Department truck.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS:

Presentation and Adoption of 2020-2021 Audit – Paul Bailey presented a summary of the FYE 6/30/21 audit. Our audit was Unmodified or “clean” opinion.

Boggs moved, O'Connor supported to accept the results of the audit and place on file with the Treasurer's Department.

YEAS: Brands, Cobley, Folaron, O'Connor, Schaefer, Boggs

NAYS: None

Carried

SSESA – Quarterly Report: Guy Hubbard gave the Annual Report showing response times for Durand to be well under seven minutes. SSESA is short staffed and are trying to recruit additional staff. They are going to need to purchase a new ambulance, sooner rather than later and are working out the particular of that issue.

Boggs moved, Folaron supported to approve the quote from Onix Networking Corporation in the amount of \$8,440.00.

YEAS: Cobley, Folaron, O'Connor, Schaefer, Boggs, Brands

NAYS: None

Carried

Folaron moved, Cobley supported to approve the annual cost for ongoing software service and maintenance from BS&A Software in the amount of \$10,156.00.

YEAS: Folaron, O'Connor, Schaefer, Boggs, Brands, Cobley

NAYS: None

Carried

O'Connor moved, Brands supported to adopt the City of Durand Cyber Security Policy as presented.
Carried

Schaefer moved, Brands supported to approve Durand Union Station Inc. (DUSI) to proceed with the grant application from Railway Heritage and if awarded DUSI will return to Council and update them on the final scope of work and the contractor selected to complete the work.
Carried

Boggs moved, Cobley supported to approve the amended Emergency Disaster Response Plan as presented.
Carried

O'Connor moved, Cobley supported to approve the first reading of the traffic Control Order #184 as presented.
YEAS: Boggs, Brands, Cobley, Folaron, O'Connor, Schaefer
NAYS: None
Carried

Brands moved, Folaron supported to amend the budget to hire a fifth full-time police officer if the necessary union flexibilities can be negotiated.
YEAS: Brands, Cobley, Folaron, O'Connor, Schaefer, Boggs
NAYS: None
Carried

Discussion: Vacant Buildings in the Downtown, City Manager included a sample ordinance from Muskegon. Boggs asked the City Attorney to reach out to the City Attorney for the City of Muskegon to see how many times this ordinance has been challenged in terms of litigation.

CITIZENS SPEAK – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:

Paula Brooks, 104 W. Summit She asked how much the invoice was from Onix? She said that people who have vacant buildings in the downtown don't know the process and any processes should be easy to understand.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Police Chief: He reported that he and Officer Alderman went to active shooter training. He also reports that Officer Shenk saved lives on Monroe Street in which he would like him to receive a commendation for his act of heroism.

Fire Chief: He discussed fire inspections and the fact that many items are already in our ordinances. He thanked Candyce and the Cruise organization for the \$500.00 donation. The Fire Chief said that the City needs to appoint an alternate to the SSES board. The Council appointed Jason Hartz to the SSES Board.

City Engineer: He stated that the Waste Water Treatment Plant ACO is thru EGLE. He said that testing is being done to determine the cause of some of the overflows. Rowe has submitted a scrap tire grant on behalf of the City. He also said that Rowe is surveying the old Simplicity Building in order for sale of building.

City Manager: He said that J & J Ag is moving forward with phase 1 & 2 of the Old Simplicity Building. He stated that he had a follow up meeting with the developer of the Reed Rd. property, he said it could be a 3 to 5 year process.

City Attorney: He said Mike Shenk is a “Hero” for saving lives on Monroe Street.

DPW Director: He talked about the signage for the parking lot in the 100 block of West Saginaw Street. He briefly talked about the meter read discrepancy with Mr. Heilbronn.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Boggs: He said the civil infraction issues need to be revisited and Building Inspector needs to attend the Council meetings.

Cobley: She asked how much refuse will be picked up by Waste Management each week. Several houses on W. Main Street had many large items out this week and not everything was picked up. Brown Street fire hydrant is totally under ice. The city golf cart needs repairs before Railroad Days.

O’Connor: Good luck to Chief Hartz on getting another full time officer. Good job with DPW on snow plowing.

Brands: He said there is a house on Brown Street that has fires on the front porch, and should be looked into. Good job DPW and thanks to Jason and Police Department.

Folaron: He talked about the importance of close backup for the PD Department. He asked if leftover concrete can be recycled. He talked about getting the library roof evaluated by an engineer and fixed.

Schaefer: He said that the DPW did a good job with snow removal. He said that the fire hydrants need to be shoveled around in case they are needed in an emergency and maybe residents could help with this issue.

Mayor Pro-tem Schaefer adjourned the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

Matt Schaefer, Mayor Pro-tem

Lisa David, City Clerk