

Minutes of the regular Durand City Council meeting held on Monday, November 1, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of Durand City Hall.

Mayor McDonough called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

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

Absent: None

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Boggs moved, Folaron supported to approve the agenda with the addition of F: Approval of Concrete for Sidewalks/Approaches, G: Approval of Special Land Use for Tattoo Parlor at 8871 E. Monroe.

Carried

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mayor McDonough moved, O'Connor supported to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on October 4, 2021 and the special meeting held on October 25, 2021 and the closed session held on October 4, 2021, as presented.

Carried

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Schaefer moved, Folaron supported to approve bills #53993-54097.

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

NAYS: None

Carried

HEARING OF REPRESENTATIVES AND CITIZENS PRESENT:

Kent Edward: 607 Wickshire, Representative of the Lions Club. He told the council that the Lions Club along with Randy Wise and the Durand Chamber will sponsor the Holiday Decoration Contest this year.

Douglas Biroth, 216 Maple Street. He said that he will wait to speak until agenda item E is discussed.

Deb White, 512 N. Saginaw. She offered a prayer. She also asked what happened to the concrete in front of the school administration building. She said it is all broken up.

COUNCIL RESPONSE TO CITIZEN'S COMMENT:

Brands thanked Ms. White for the prayer. He also asked that council member don't talk over others and are courteous to each other.

Folaron thanked Ms. White for the prayer.

Schaefer agreed with Brands.

Boggs, Cobley, O'Connor and Mayor McDonough thanked Ms. White for the prayer.

DPW, UTILITIES, MECHANICAL REPORTS:

DPW Foreman: He told the council that he has scheduled training classed for staff, has installed new stop signs, has patched streets, gotten Christmas decorations ready to be put up, and has worked on the Library this month.

Water Foreman: He told the council that he has been working with Zito to be able to have Vinewood Street paved yet this month. He said that Jordan and Dwain are sitting for their water tests tomorrow. He said that he and Jason will sit for the sewer test next week.

DPW Director: He said that the water department has been working with Zito Construction on the street project. All the trees have been planted from the Consumer's grant. Syntas did a safety inspection walk through this week and found some items that need to be addressed.

Police Chief: He said that the new guns have arrived and that Halloween went well.

City Engineer: He said all the streets are done except Vinewood, and they are pushing to get this street done this year. He said that they are trying to get Brownfield grants for the old Simplicity building.

City Manager: He said that he and Lisa met with the company that determined lost revenue due to Covid and they determined that the ARPA funds that are approximately \$240,000 can go into the general fund. He said that the old Simplicity project is going well.

Deputy City Clerk: She told the council that there is not an election in Durand tomorrow. Residents are hearing on TV that other municipalities are having elections and they think we are also.

Mayor McDonough recessed at 6:52 p.m.

Mayor McDonough reconvened at 6:56 p.m.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS:

Schaefer moved, O'Connor supported to move item G to A1.

Carried

Boggs moved, Schaefer supported to approve the special land use for the Tattoo Parlor and Art Gallery located at 8771 E. Monroe Rd.

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

NAYS: None

ASTAIN: Brands, McDonough

Carried

Presentation: The Michigan Masonic Charitable Foundation presented the City with a check for \$2,000.00 for the purchase of AED's that will be put in City Hall and two of the police cruisers.

Boggs moved, Cobley supported to accept the list provided by the City Treasurer and authorize her to place delinquent invoices totaling \$6150.00 on the winter 2021 tax roll.

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

NAYS: None

Carried

Folaron moved, Copley supported to approve Change Order 4a for the 2021 Street (Southside) Project with changes of schedule, and no changes of costs.

YEAS: Brands, Copley, Folaron, Mayor McDonough, O'Connor, Schaefer, Boggs

NAYS: None

Carried

Boggs moved, Schaefer supported to approve Change Order 4b for the 2021 Street (Southside) Project with changes of schedule and no changes of costs.

Yeas: Folaron, Mayor McDonough, O'Connor, Schaefer, Boggs, Brands, Copley

NAYS: None

Carried

Boggs moved, Folaron supported to approve the invoice for \$3,500 to Morrison Masonry for sidewalk and approach repairs.

YEAS: Mayor McDonough, O'Connor, Schaefer, Boggs, Brands, Copley, Folaron

NAYS: None

Carried

Presentation: Baker Tilly/Rate Study

Andy Campbell provided the Council with documentation regarding the water and sewer costs. He said that water bills need to be raised \$3.50 for ready to serve fees and water usage need to be raised \$1.10 per 1000/gallons. The sewer rates need to be raised \$2.90 for ready to serve fees and sewer usage needs to be raised .86 per 1000/gallons. Mr. Campbell said that the water increase is due to the lead/copper rule. The Council discussed when the rates should be raised and how the public should be informed. It was decided that the Council will have a workshop on December 1, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. to discuss the process to inform the residents and a time frame in which to implement the increase.

Boggs moved, Mayor McDonough supported to approve Zito Construction to complete the base price option and shoulder option #1 on Maple Street for an amount not to exceed \$34,250.00

YEAS: O'Connor, Schaefer, Boggs, Brands, Copley, Folaron, Mayor McDonough

NAYS: None

Carried

CITIZENS SPEAK – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:

Doug Biroth, 216 Maple Street He spoke about the water/flooding issue that he has on his property.

Paula Brooks, She said that the Vernon Township residents that receive water and/or sewer need to be informed on the price increase also. She asked if Vernon Township residents' rates could be "changed".

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Boggs: He asked who is doing the "point of sale" inspections to determine if a home has illicit discharge into the sanitary sewer.

Copley: She said that we have to face the water/sewer increase; she said that we should inform the public by meeting them at the wastewater sewer plant so they can see the needed improvements.

O'Connor: He asked when the Maple Street repairs will be done. Kent Edwards said that the repairs will be done before the end of the season. O'Connor also said that he hoped that the residents will attend the rate increase workshops.

Brands: He said that he likes the idea of the workshops but feels that people will not come.

Folaron: Nothing to add

Schaefer: He said that maybe people won't attend the rate increase workshop but we have to try to inform them. He said that tonight was a good example of a professional discussion and he hopes we will get participation.

McDonough: He said that he was impressed with Zito Construction and their crew. He said that he recently attended a township meeting and heard people say they were upset about the sewer overflow.

Mayor McDonough adjourned the meeting at 8:46 p.m.

Ken McDonough, Mayor

Mindy McKay, Deputy Clerk