

CITY OF SOUTHLYON
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 8, 2013

Mayor Wallace called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.
Mayor Wallace led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

PRESENT: Mayor Wallace
Council Members: Kivell, Kopkowski, Rzyzi, Wedell, Kramer, Dixon
Also Present: City Manager Murphy, Department Head Martin, Chief Collins, Chief Kennedy,
City Attorney Wilhelm and Clerk/Treasurer Deaton

MINUTES

Councilman Kivell stated on page 2, the sentence should be, he stated there are templates from other communities we can use to create bylaws for a Cable Commission.

CM 4-1-13 MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES

Motion by Kramer, supported by Wedell
Motion to approve minutes as amended

VOTE: MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MONTHLY BILLS

Some discussion was held regarding the monthly bills.

CM 4-2-13 MOTION TO APPROVE MONTHLY BILLS

Motion by Kivell, supported by Dixon
Motion to approve the payment of monthly bills

VOTE: MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

AGENDA

City Manager Murphy stated he would like to add an item for an employee buyout as item #5.

CM 4-3-13 MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA

4/8/13

Motion by Wedell, supported by Kivell
To approve the agenda as amended

VOTE:

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

PUBLIC COMMENT:

James Ramsey of 896 Oak Creek stated he is concerned regarding the rail road tracks on 9 Mile near Griswold and the rail road tracks by 10 Mile and Reynold Sweet Parkway. They are both in really bad shape and need to be repaired. City Manager Murphy stated that we have met with the rail road, and we have to go through MDOT because it is a county road. MDOT set up a meeting with them, and they didn't bother to show up. They were able to contact them on the phone, and they did say they will be working on that whole area in 2014. In the meantime they are supposed to fix some issues, but it won't make it a lot better. City Manager Murphy stated maybe if more people call and complain to them, it will possibly put more pressure on them to get it done sooner than later.

Bruce Nussbaum of 525 Willow stated he is working with a local group called Operation Injured Soldiers, and all the money donated is used for injured soldiers. They are always looking for volunteers to go hunting, fishing or other things with the soldiers. They have a lot of equipment that helps the injured to get out and still enjoy outdoor sports like hunting and fishing. It is a great way to give back, and they are a great group of guys. He further stated he hopes more people will get involved with the group.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Request for closing portion of Liberty Street

Chief Collins stated this is the next step in facilitating the move of the Farmers Market from Wednesday to Saturdays. The DDA has requested to close a small portion of West Liberty from Pontiac Trail to just east of the AT&T building during the Farmers Market. This will ensure the safety of the people walking between the two lots.

Discussion was held regarding closing the street at Washington. It was decided that they will put a small road block at Washington stating the road is closed ahead.

CM 4-4-13 MOTION TO CLOSE A PORTION OF LIBERTY STREET

Motion by Kramer, supported by Rzyzi

Motion to authorize the closure of W Liberty Street from Lafayette to just east of the AT&T driveway on Saturdays, from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. May 23rd, 2013 through October 10th, 2013.

VOTE:

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. MMRMA GRANT- FIRE DEPARTMENT

Chief Kennedy stated the MMRMA grant is through our risk liability carrier. The Police and Water Departments have also used grants from them. This is for an online fire officer command program. This was submitted back in November, and is a very lengthy process. It is a 50% grant, so we will need to submit payment, and then show proof of attendance, and we will be reimbursed 50%.

CM 4-5-13 MOTION TO APPROVE MMRMA GRANT FOR FIRE DEPARTMENT

Motion by Kopkowski, supported by Kivell

Motion to approve the expenditure of \$3,080.00 for the Blue Card Command training to receive a 50% reimbursement grant from MMRMA

VOTE:

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. FIRE DEPARTMENT EXPANSION OF MUTUAL AID COVERAGE AREA

Chief Kennedy stated we have a great mutual aid system with 3 different communities. He and Chief McClain of Lyon Township Fire Department are hoping to expand the existing mutual aid agreement. He stated they have discussed taking it a step further, and go beyond the standard structure fire, and expand it to other emergency incidents. Some departments are closer when incidents occur than others due to the geography of this area, such as the Lyon Township islands, located in the City. He further stated they are currently trying to figure out the dispatch side. He would like to retract the motion he was asking for, and just let Council know that he will be bringing this back to the Council in May. More discussion was held regarding the expansion of the current mutual agreement.

4. CABLE ACCESS CHANNEL DISCUSSION

Councilman Kivell stated he hopes members of Council had a chance to read over the examples of bylaws from other communities. This is the first sensible step in establishing a new era of cable for the City of South Lyon. He further stated there are many people in the community who want to get involved with the content of the current cable channel.

Councilman Kramer stated he doesn't think it is a good idea to have the City running a cable channel without knowing how much money it will cost. Councilman Kivell stated the cable commission would find the best solution to provide the best service and quality for the City. More discussion was held regarding forming a commission.

Councilmember Kopkowski stated she wants to make sure we are fair to everyone, including the people we have the current contract with. The current contract expires January 2014, and it states any citizen or organization that may have an issue with the programming, must first contact SLCTV and if no resolution can be found, they could then contact the City of South Lyon. She further stated this may be

premature, considering the contract isn't up until January. Attorney Wilhelm stated the discussion of forming a commission is not premature, but if a committee was formed, it would have to take into account when the current contract is up for renewal. Further discussion as held regarding the current contract.

Bruce Nussbaum of 525 Willow stated it is his understanding that less than 25% of the City residents have WOW cable. He is getting the feeling Council wants Tedd to keep running the channel until they find someone different and he doesn't feel that is fair to the Mayor or the City. He further stated the fair thing is to form a committee and give SLCTV another year under contract.

Councilman Rzyzi stated he feels that we should give the current contract another year, he also stated generally, private entities do a better job than government, and he would like it to be kept in the private enterprise. He further stated he feels there will be more of a cost to the tax payers if we change the current arrangement.

Carol Segal of 240 Brookwood stated she thinks this is witch-hunt. She was under the impression that the cable is a community channel and they accepted volunteers to run it. She further stated she sees no reason to have a commission to try drum up business for the City to run its own cable channel. She further stated if the Council wants to do a service for the community, they need to get a new cable company so WOW has competition. Ms. Segal stated the videos that are on the current channel are really cute, and her family enjoys them. She further stated Council needs to try to get volunteers to help Tedd with the content and the running of the cable channel.

Jay Hammer of 413 Wellington stated he has been a tax payer here for 20 years. He doesn't have cable, but he doesn't want his tax money that goes into the general fund taken away from that and used towards the cable station. Not many taxpayers watch the cable channel, therefore you would be spending everyone's tax money on a channel for a few people. He suggested that maybe the schools could get involved and help with the videos for the cable channel. He further stated \$50,000 a year is a large amount of money and it could go towards fixing the roads and lights, not running a cable channel.

Councilman Wedell stated he would like more information. We need to know who owns what, and who is willing to do what, as well as who will oversee the process.

CM 4-6-13 MOTION TO FORM A CABLE COMMISSION

Motion by Kivell,
Motion to form a Cable Commission

VOTE:

MOTION FAILED FOR LACK OF SUPPORT

5. Employee Buyout

4/8/13

City Manager stated Lt Sharp had approached him regarding a retirement buyout. He further stated they negotiated a price of \$17,000 for the lump sum. He further stated his position would be replaced by a Sergeant, and the Sergeants position with an officer, who will not be replaced. He further stated this will be a great savings to the City, and next year it will be a substantial savings. The one lump sum payout will not go towards the FAC or affect the pension, he has worked with Lt Sharpe and the attorney to make sure the City will be held harmless. It will take place at the end of the next payroll period on the 16th of April.

CM 4-7-13 MOTION TO APPROVE EMPLOYEE BUYOUT

Motion by Kramer supported by Kopkowski

Motion to authorize the further negotiation and final finalization of the documents between the parties.

VOTE:

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MANAGERS REPORT

City Manager Murphy stated he will be attending the Capital Conference this week. He further stated he has ordered a new computer because his hard drive crashed. He has a company in Livonia working on it trying to restore the budget information that was on it, so it will be just a little bit longer before the budget will be finished.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Councilman Kramer stated there will be a Recreation Center meeting on April 15th at 7:00 at South Lyon City Hall and as always the public is welcome and encouraged to come.

Councilman Kivell stated he received a call from the 911 reverse systems regarding a 50 year old man who went missing. He stated it is a great way to get the information out. Chief Collins stated there are 3 different mechanisms that can be used. He further stated the person was found and ended up being fine.

Mayor Wallace stated the Easter egg hunt was a huge success and a lot of fun for the kids. He stated the Kiwanis did a great job. He further stated the Farmers Market is growing, and there are up to 50 vendors and he hopes it will be a success.

CM 4-7-13 MOTION TO ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:45

Motion by Kopkowski, supported by Kramer

4/8/13

VOTE:



Tedd Wallace, Mayor

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



Lisa Deaton, Clerk/Treasurer

Mayor Wallace stated he along with others that are present met with a Supreme Court Justice at a luncheon and it was very exciting. He asked Department Head Martin if the DPW is ready for pothole patrol. He further stated May 18th is the Spring Clean up Day, and we will have a picnic for the workers at McHattie Park, and we hope to get more volunteers. He further stated this weekend the farmer will begin clearing the old pastures in Volunteer Park that we are trying to keep clear. Mayor Wallace stated the Easter Egg scramble will be held at Volunteer Park on March 30th, with many activities for the kids. He further stated there was a grease fire at Wendy's and the Lyon Township and South Lyon Fire Departments responded quickly.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Kivell, supported by Kramer
Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

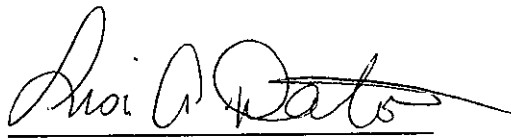
VOTE:

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully submitted,



Tedd Wallace, Mayor



Lisa Deaton, City Clerk/Treasurer