



**MEETING MINUTES**

**MAY 2, 2017**

**CITY HALL – COUNCIL CHAMBER**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Daniel Balice called the regular meeting of the City Council to order at 7:00 PM and led with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

Roll called revealed Councilmembers John Milewski, Jeff Winters, Gordon Kelley, Ted Paton, Kim Patrick, Tom Millard, Paul Lentz, Janice Gustafson and Mayor Daniel Balice present.

Staff present included Chris Hyzer, Heidi Wenzel, Troy Thomas, Jason Eppler, Gary Cunningham and Chris Kenyon.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was moved by Councilmember Patrick, seconded by Councilmember Lentz to approve the April 11, 2017 regular meeting minutes as presented.

Roll Call Vote:           Ayes: Milewski, Winters, Kelley, Paton, Patrick, Millard, Gustafson,  
Lentz and Balice.  
Nays: None  
MOTION CARRIED

**NEW BUSINESS**

**2016 Community Library Annual Report**

The City Manager introduced Dale Parus, Director of the Ionia Community Library, who presented Council its 2016 annual report of activities. No formal action was taken.

**Approve – Setting a Public Hearing – FY17-18 Budget, Capital Improvement Plan and Millage Rate**

The City Manager reported that the City Charter requires that the City Council adopt the fiscal year budget by June 15<sup>th</sup> each year. Prior to adopting the budget, Council is required to conduct a Public Hearing on the proposed budget and millage rate to support the budget. The City Manager provided Council with a notice of the Public Hearing which is proposed to be held as part of the Tuesday, June 6, 2017 Council Meeting.

It was moved by Councilmember Paton, seconded by Councilmember Milewski to schedule a Public Hearing regarding the proposed FY17-18 Fiscal Year budget, capital improvement plan and millage rate for 7:00 PM, Tuesday, June 6, 2017 in the Council Chamber of City Hall.

Roll Call Vote:           Ayes: Winters, Kelley, Paton, Patrick, Millard, Gustafson, Lentz,  
                                  Milewski and Balice.  
                                  Nays: None  
                                  MOTION CARRIED

**Approve – Introduction and First Reading – Ordinance No.533 – Utility Rates**

The City Manager reported that the FY17-18 budget proposes an increase in both the water system facilities maintenance charge and water commodity charge and the sanitary sewer facilities maintenance charge. The City Manager stated that the facilities maintenance charge is intended to off-set a portion of the cost of retiring outstanding debt issued to complete improvements to both utility systems while the commodity charge is intended to cover the cost of pumping and delivering water to customers and a portion of debt. The current quarterly water facilities maintenance charge is \$21.50 per residential equivalent unit (reu) per quarter. The charge is proposed to be increased by \$1.50 per reu per quarter for a new charge of \$23.00. The City Manager reported that the increase will assist in offsetting the increase in annual debt service payments from the Water Fund due to the recent bond issue. The current water commodity charge is \$2.70 per 1,000 gallons used. This charge is proposed to be increased by \$.10 per 1,000 gallons for a new charge of \$2.80 per 1,000 gallons used. The current quarterly sanitary sewer facilities maintenance charge is \$43.00 per residential equivalent unit (reu) per quarter. The charge is proposed to be increased by \$.50 per reu per quarter for a new charge of \$43.50. The current sanitary sewer commodity charge is proposed to remain at the last fiscal year level of \$4.00 per 1,000 gallons. If approved, both increases are to take effect with the July 1, 2017 utility billing.

The City Manager also stated that utility rates and charges are set by ordinance.

It was moved by Councilmember Millard, seconded by Councilmember Paton to permit the record of the May 2, 2017 meeting to reflect the introduction and first reading of Ordinance No. 533, an amendment to Chapter 214 of the City Code regarding fees, and to schedule a Public Hearing on the proposed ordinance for 7:00 PM, Tuesday, June 6, 2017 at City Hall.

Roll Call Vote:           Ayes: Kelley, Paton, Patrick, Millard, Gustafson, Lentz, Milewski,  
                                  Winters and Balice.  
                                  Nays: None  
                                  MOTION CARRIED

**Approve – Updated Drug and Alcohol Policy – Dial-A-Ride**

The City Manager reported that the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) is requiring local transit agencies to update their Controlled Substances and Alcohol Misuse Testing Policies. Through FTA and MDOT, City staff has worked with the FTA policy consultant, Current Consulting Group, LLC, and has developed an updated policy. The policy has been reviewed by both the FTA and MDOT who both have determined that the policy is in compliance with their latest standards. Local governing body approval is required.

It was moved by Councilmember Milewski, seconded by Councilmember Winters to adopt the updated City of Ionia Controlled Substances and Alcohol Misuse Testing Policy for its Dial-A-Ride Department dated March 15, 2017.

Roll Call Vote:           Ayes:  Paton, Patrick, Millard, Gustafson, Lentz, Milewski, Winters  
  Kelley and Balice.  
  Nays:  None  
  MOTION CARRIED

**Approve – Purchase of Late Model 4x4 Pick-Up Truck – Public Works**

The City Manager reported that the FY16-17 Central Garage Fund budget contains funds to purchase one late model 4x4 pick-up truck for the Public Works Department. The new truck will replace a 1995 model. The City Manager stated that Signature Ford, Owosso, has the State of Michigan Mi-Deal bulk purchasing contract for three-quarter ton, 4x4 pick-up trucks with an 8’ box. Based on the City’s needs, the purchase price per the contract for the new truck is \$27,133. The truck being replaced will be sold via the State’s surplus equipment auction.

It was moved by Councilmember Lentz, seconded by Councilmember Gustafson to authorize the City Manager to purchase one (1) 2017 Ford F-250 regular cab 4x4 pick-up truck with an 8’ box from Signature Ford, Owosso, per the State of Michigan Mi-Deal bulk purchasing program for \$27,133.00.

Roll Call Vote:           Ayes:  Patrick, Millard, Gustafson, Lentz, Milewski, Winters, Kelley,  
  Paton and Balice.  
  Nays:  None  
  MOTION CARRIED

**Approve – Support Emergency Operations Plan**

The City Manager reported that with the elimination of the Department of Emergency Management (through the repealing ordinance enacted by Council at the April meeting) and migration to the County’s program, the State is requiring the City to prepare and enact an Emergency Operations Support Plan. A proposed plan was provided for council review and is based on the template prepared by the State. The plan is intended to illustrate the process that will be followed if an emergency is declared.

It was moved by Councilmember Paton, seconded by Councilmember Kelley to approve the City of Ionia Support Emergency Operations Plan dated March 31, 2017.

Roll Call Vote:           Ayes:  Millard, Gustafson, Lentz, Milewski, Winters, Kelley, Paton,  
  Patrick and Balice.  
  Nays:  None  
  MOTION CARRIED

**Confirm – Mayor’s Appointment to the Planning Commission**

The City Manager reported that with the resignation of Evonne Ulmer from the Planning Commission there is a vacancy that needs to be filled. Mayor Balice has recommended that Judy Swartz, 767 Oakwood Drive be appointed to this position with a term to expire December 31, 2019.

It was moved by Councilmember Millard, seconded by Councilmember Patrick to confirm the Mayor’s appointment of Judy Swartz, 767 Oakwood Drive, to the Planning Commission for a term to expire December 31, 2019.

Roll Call Vote:           Ayes: Gustafson, Lentz, Milewski, Winters, Kelley, Paton, Patrick, Millard and Balice.  
                                  Nays: None  
                                  MOTION CARRIED

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS**

Balice: Stated ground breaking ceremony for the Ionia County Court House addition went very well. Also, stated that the Sparrow Ionia Hospital Foundation Charity Ball was very successful and well attended.

Lentz: Stated that it is refreshing to hear positive comments about the Community from people who live outside of Ionia.

Millard: Inquired when the Dexter Street burned house will be torn down. Also reminded Councilmembers of the upcoming Memorial Day Parade and Ionia Main Street Car show.

Patrick: Commended Consumers Energy and CL Trucking for their work on Brooks Street and commended Linda Curtis for her work on the Wizard of Oz program. Also, commended Ionia Public Safety for their efforts in removing a child who became stuck in a swing seat at a City park.

Milewski: Stated that the Sparrow Ionia Hospital Foundation Charity Ball was a great event.

**ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Councilmember Kelly, seconded by Councilmember Milewski to adjourn the meeting at 7:41 p.m.

By Voice Vote:           MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully submitted:

Lynn Lafler, Clerk