



City Council Regular Meeting

2/7/2022 - Minutes

1. Call To Order

Mayor Damm called the meeting to order at 7:00pm

2. Pledge Of Allegiance/Invocation

3. Roll Call

Members present: Mayor Damm; Mayor Pro-Tem Fabbro; Councilor Armstrong; and Councilor Mecham.
Members Absent: Councilor McTaggart

Motion by Fabbro; second by Mecham to excuse Councilor McTaggart. Motion carried.

4. Approval/Adjustment To The Agenda

Motion by Armstrong; second by Fabbro to approve the Agenda as presented. Motion carried.

5. Adoption Of Regular Minutes

Motion by Fabbro; second by Mecham to approve the January 3, 2022 City Council Meeting Minutes as presented. Motion carried.

6. Public Comment

Carson Atkins - 133 N Cass, Vassar - Mr. Atkins wanted to thank the DPW staff for all the long hours and hard work they put in during the last snow storm.

7. Consent Agenda Items

Motion by Fabbro; second by Armstrong to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion carried.

7.I. Vendor Listing

January 2022

7.II. Boards And Commission Minutes

8. New Ordinance - First Reading #2022-01

#2022-01 - To Amend in part Chapter 78 - Utilities; Section 35 - Cross Connections

City Manager Niedzinski stated that the City's current Cross Connection Ordinance is out of date and Michigan Rural Water has suggested that the City start from scratch so that the ordinance contains all the necessary requirements from the State for back flow prevention.

Motion by Fabbro; second by Mecham to schedule a Second Reading and to hold a Public hearing for Ordinance #2022-01 - To Amend in part Chapter 78 - Utilities; Section 35 - Cross Connections at the March 7, 2022 Regular City Council Meeting. Motion carried.

9. New Business

9.I. Consideration Of Public Participation Plan

Chris Frazer gave a presentation on the proposed Public Participation Plan that the Council will consider at tonight's meeting. City Manager Niedzinski stated that adoption of a Public Participation Plan is a requirement for certification of becoming a Redevelopment Ready Community (RRC).

Motion by Armstrong; second by Fabbro to approve the Public Participation Plan as presented. Motion carried.

9.II. Consideration Of Poverty Policy

City Manager Niedzinski stated that in recent years the City had to adopt a Poverty Policy for the Board of Review to use as a guide for Poverty Exemption requests every year. But, due to a change in the language of the Policy up for consideration at tonight's meeting, if passed, the Board of Review can use this policy until the Council deems it necessary to be changed.

Motion by Fabbro; second by Mecham to approve the Poverty Policy as presented. Motion carried.

9.III. Consideration Of 501c-3 Status

Resolution #2022-04 -Recognition of Tax Exempt Status - Shifter of Vassar

City Manager Niedzinski stated that a new non-profit group , Shifter of Vassar, has been formed. This group is responsible for the organization of the Annual Vassar Car Show. In order for this group to obtain Tax-exempt status, a group must be recognized by the Local Government as a non-profit organization.

Motion by Fabbro; second by Mecham to approve Resolution #2022-04 -Recognition of Tax Exempt Status - Shifter of Vassar as presented. Motion carried.

9.IV. Consideration Of City Hall Parking Lot Light Light Replacement

City Manager Niedzinski stated that the parking lot lights at City Hall are in need of repair. After contacting Cooper Electric it was determined that it was more beneficial to replace the four (4) existing fixtures. It was also determined that the four (4) poles would need to be replaced as well. The City received a quote from McNaughton-McKay in the amount of \$5140 for both the poles and Fixtures. Cooper Electric provided a quote of \$3100 for the installation of both the poles and fixtures.

Motion by Mecham; second by Fabbro to purchase replacement fixtures and poles for City Hall Parking Lot lights from McNaughton-McKay in the amount of \$5140. Motion carried.

Motion by Fabbro; second by Mecham to approve the quote by Cooper Electric in the amount of \$3100 for the installation of 4 new parking lot lights. Motion carried.

9.V. Consideration Of Fire Department Grass Truck Replacement

City Manager Niedzinski stated the according to the Fire Contract that the Fire Department has with the surrounding Townships for fire services, the City/Fire Department must give each participating Township a year's notice when purchasing Vehicles. The Fire Department is hoping to replace a 2000 Chevy Grass Truck next year. So the City/Fire Department must now notify Vassar Township, Tuscola Township, and Juniata Township to make them aware of the upcoming purchase.

Motion by Armstrong; second by Mecham to approve the intent to purchase a new grass truck for the Vassar Fire Department and to notify the townships of interest. Motion carried.

10. Council Discussion, Direction To City Manager & Future Agenda Items

Mayor Pro-Tem Fabbro questioned whose responsibility it is to safely shovel sidewalks of snow. He said that he has noticed that cleared sidewalks were hit-or-miss throughout the City.

Mayor Damm suggested that a letter be sent to all businesses to remind them of the snow removal responsibilities and that it may be necessary to fine for continued violations. He also suggested that all residents be reminded that if they have a sidewalk on their property, it is their responsibility for snow removal.

Mayor Pro-Tem Fabbro stated that he was part of a Recovery Addiction Coalition and that the coalition is hoping to host an upcoming event that would benefit from Council Participation.

11. Public Comment

Carson Atkins - 133 Cass Ave, Vassar - Mr. Atkins asked if there was an update on the timeline for Pavilion repair and maintenance. He also suggested that the City consider a make-over for IMH and updates to the Band Shell.

Dan Grimshaw - Tuscola County Commissioner - Commissioner Grimshaw stated that Tuscola County will receive \$10.5 million from the Federal Government in ARPA funding. The County is looking for projects within the County to pair up with the local governments. He encouraged the City to come up with projects that would benefit from the County's help.

12. City Manager Announcements & Statements

City Manager Niedzinski provided the following updates:

- The non-profit group, Corkpine Fair, is requesting use of the Fairgrounds for a carnival. They will first take their requests to the Parks & Rec Commission.
- The City Council will be reviewing the Master Plan updates after Planning Commission approval
- It was the consensus of Council that City Manager Niedzinski attend a 6-month Assessor Training program
- City Manager Niedzinski praised the DPW for their efforts during the last snow storm

13. Adjourn

Motion by Fabbro; second by Mecham to adjourn the meeting at 8:26pm. Motion carried.

