

CITY OF GRAYLING
CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Monday, March 14, 2022

I. Meeting called to order by Mayor Forbes at 6:30 pm

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call

Members Present: Forbes, Schreiner, Pettyjohn, Moshier, Sloan

Members Absent: None

Vacant Seats: None

Also, in Attendance: Doug Baum, City Manager, Chelsea Goodwin, City Clerk/Treasurer, Jill Tremonti, Grayling Main Street Manager, and other members

IV. Public Comment

Sierra Koch, Crawford County Prosecuting Attorney, wanted to update Council on status of Lisa Johnson's restitution hearing. She still hasn't received an update after Judge Mertz decided on a written and it could take a while. She stated that she received a written letter from Council Member Schreiner and wanted to ask if there were any additional questions or concerns for her to address. Council had no comments for Ms. Koch.

V. Approval of Agenda

Mayor Forbes asked for the addition of item #A – Planning Commission recommendation – Nontraditional Storage Containers to be added under unfinished business and item #H – Forrest Heritage Trail under new business.

22-013

Moved by Sloan seconded by Schreiner to approve the agenda with the addition of item #A – Planning Commission recommendation – Nontraditional Storage Containers to be added under unfinished business and item #H – Forrest Heritage Trail under new business.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 5 Nays: 0, Abstain 0, Absent: 0, Vacant: 0

Motion Carried

VI. Approval of Consent Agenda

22-014

Moved by Schreiner seconded by Sloan to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 5 Nays: 0, Abstain:0, Absent: 0, Vacant 0

Motion Carried

VII. City Manager's Report

City Manager Baum briefly talked about his report. He's been working on consumers projects and looking into the Michigan and Maple intersection for the 4-way light. GPA is interested in installing poles near the river for banner displays. There will also be 3 poles installed on city property for the automated meter project. Consumers will not install for free and they are running behind several months. Consumers suggested hiring a private contractor if we are on a time schedule.

The new owner of the old dance studio building has concerns about the lack of parking at the property.

He is also looking into the signs and no parking in front of Member Pettyjohn's house.

There is an upcoming status meeting on sawmill lofts. Part of the sale included \$25,000 for trail improvements. City Manager Baum mentioned it's currently on the agenda under new business to be discussed.

He is currently getting ready to submit for a grant for infrastructure upgrades to EGLE.

He met with a rep from AT&T about their FirstNet program and will be looking into that further.

The ongoing action against the union by Hatfield still has not been resolved.

Camp Grayling has increased their training and will continue to increase as summer approaches.

There have been 7 applicants so far that have applied for the full-time Fire Chief position. First round interviews will be scheduled within the next month.

Schreiner asked City Manager Baum what changed with the Michigan and Maple intersection that the 4-way light has come up again. He thought it wasn't needed.

City Manager Baum replied that the crash data showed that it was more needed at Michigan and Peninsular but being so close to the main intersection makes it unnecessary. He is currently exploring different ideas.

VIII. Main Street Manager's Report

Grayling Main Street Manager Tremonti mentioned she completed the online portal training for Initiate Prosperity for small businesses.

Spike's and the Artisan village have been submitted at the state level for the vibrancy grant.

Spike's will use the money for their outdoor patio and the Artisan village will use the money for multiple ADA updates if chosen.

Currently there are 8 businesses showing interest for the \$2500 technology grant but only 5 are able to apply. There is a committee that was formed to go over the applications. The committee was formed by individuals whom are familiar with the application process and requirements.

Wednesday, March 16th is the Community Cocktail Hour at the new Chrysler dealership.

May 25th is the Spring Clean-up.

June 10th is the Clock installation and downtown block party.

IX. Project Updates

City Manager Baum explained that the city was working with Suez on the infrastructure for the AMI project to get it going.

The vibrancy grant for the pavilion in the city park and gazebo is underway and moving along.

The trailhead project that would run along behind city hall and the fire department is stalled. He is still waiting to hear back about the easement from the military.

He is working with Rowe on updating the wastewater treatment plan.

Just received word that the state is interested in expanding the old fire station.

He submitted the plan for the PFAS sampling coming up in April.

Ben with DPW currently on light duty is working on the crosswalk ideas in front of the school and looking at making the landing areas and approaches bigger. Also looking into the costs associated with redoing the top layer of asphalt on Michigan Avenue.

MDOT rail did not accept the plans for the IBT. MDOT states there are too many crossings over the railroad tracks deeming it unsafe.

A. 150th Sesquicentennial of Grayling

Pettyjohn mentioned that the committee was currently working on funding but didn't have anything new to report. Maze Stephan, co-chair, would be taking on more for the fall due to Pettyjohn's work schedule.

The paddles in the crosswalk will be repainted during the spring clean up downtown. Maze is working on garbage removal and has taken that on herself.

The committee is still working on a Maple Street planting idea and deciding on whether or not to make it a fundraiser or private donation.

The idea for the island area where the clock will be installed in front of the courthouse was vetoed by the property owner for now so it will just be sodded currently. The property owners are unsure of the large maple tree and the problems it could cause down the road.

X. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**A. Planning Commission recommendation – Nontraditional Storage Containers**

Zoning Administrator Podjaske mentioned that the verbiage is the same as before it came before City Council.

22-015

**Moved by Schreiner seconded by Pettyjohn to approve Planning Commission's Verbiage Recommendation for Nontraditional Storage Containers Zoning Amendment.
Roll Call Vote**

Ayes: 5 Nays: 0, Abstain 0, Absent: 0, Vacant: 0

Motion Carried

XI. NEW BUSINESS**A. Marijuana Discussion**

Planning Commission Chair, April Hehir presented a PowerPoint to City Council summarizing the act and state law. Hehir explained that while she is not personally a fan of it, that her responsibility is to represent the voters. She reminded council that they chose to opt out in February of 2019 and has not been talked about since. There are so many different licenses and types of businesses that she wasn't aware of until she started doing research. Lara heavily regulates the industry with guidelines and requirements and that Section 6 of the Act focuses on Municipalities.

Hehir wanted Council's input on whether or not to move forward with forming an ordinance for the marijuana industry in Grayling. She did not want to have time spent on the ordinance wasted if it was known it would not be moving forward. Council agreed to have Hehir and the Planning Commission proceed with forming a marijuana ordinance draft.

B. Confirm Mayor's Appointment of McKenzie Nelson to the Planning Commission Board.

22-016

Moved by Schreiner seconded by Pettyjohn to confirm the Mayor's Appointment of McKenzie Nelson to the Planning Commission Board.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 5 Nays: 0, Abstain 0, Absent: 0, Vacant: 0

Motion Carried

C. Walking Trail Improvement

Sawmill lofts asked for the \$25,000 back that was given to the city when we sold them the property for the walking trail improvement. Since they are going to be doing work anyways, they will be doing the work themselves. The money would need to come out of fundbalance because it's from a previous fiscal year and the cost was not budgeted in the current fiscal year.

22-017

Moved by Sloan seconded by Schreiner to approve refunding money from the General Fund to Sawmill Lofts for the Walking Trail Improvement.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 5 Nays: 0, Abstain 0, Absent: 0, Vacant: 0

Motion Carried

D. City Manager's Recommendation for removal of Nicole Buck from the Housing Commission Board

City Manager Baum was notified by the housing commission director that Nicole Buck has missed every meeting for over 1 year. Per the ordinance, members are eligible to be removed by city council at the recommendation of the city manager.

Member Moshier stated that shortly after Buck was appointed to the Housing Commission board, she got a new job that prevented her from attending the meetings.

22-018

Moved by Sloan seconded by Moshier to confirm the City Manager's Recommendation for removal of Nicole Buck from the Housing Commission Board.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 5 Nays: 0, Abstain 0, Absent: 0, Vacant: 0

Motion Carried

E. City Manager's Appointment of Edward Kinkle to the Housing Commission Board

22-019

Moved by Sloan seconded by Moshier to confirm the City Manager's appointment of Edward Kinkle to the Housing Commission Board.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 5 Nays: 0, Abstain 0, Absent: 0, Vacant: 0

Motion Carried

F. Crime Lab Contract Change Order

Improvements to the old fire station started awhile ago but were delayed. Improvements include a partition wall, workout room and permanent generator. It will need to go out to bid and as long as we receive bids within range, the city will need to expend the funds from capital and then will be reimbursed from the State per council's approval due to it not being budgeted.

22-020

Moved by Schreiner seconded by Moshier to approve expending funds from capital for the crime lab and old fire station improvements.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 5 Nays: 0, Abstain 0, Absent: 0, Vacant: 0

Motion Carried

G. Fire Department Budget

City manager Baum explained that the township's fiscal year starts April 1st and this fire department budget was approved at the last fire committee meeting to go to the boards.

22-021

Moved by Sloan seconded by Moshier to approve the Fire Department Budget.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 5 Nays: 0, Abstain 0, Absent: 0, Vacant: 0

Motion Carried

H. Forrest Heritage Trail

City Manager Baum was contacted by Dan about the Heritage Trail and would like to install signs sometime in 2023 along the trail and in the city park.

Schreiner believes it's a good idea to explore and would like city manager Baum to work with Dan on it.

Moshier believes it's also a good idea and maybe it will get more people to use the trail.

XII. Reports

- A. Planning Commission** – See minutes from February 15, 2022
- B. DDA/GMS** – See minutes from February 10, 2022
- C. Housing Commission** – See minutes from March 8, 2022
- D. Fire Committee** – See minutes from February 2, 2022
- E. FD Activity Report** – January
- F. PD Activity Report** – February

Moshier commented that the Housing Commission board went into a closed session during their meeting to discuss position succession for the director. She currently oversees multiple counties in her HUD reporting. She has helped take the Housing Commission from a troubled HC to a high achieving HC. There is a commercial company to hire for inspection of rental facilities to make sure they're up to standards and regulations. This helps preventing unfair housing conditions for tenants.

XIII. Public Comment

Travis Potter lives at the corner of Michigan and Maple and wanted to comment that the traffic flies through there constantly. He isn't sure if they don't see the stop sign or they just don't care, but many vehicles do not stop at the intersection. He suggested maybe flashing lights, additional signage, rumble strips or something to help get drivers' attention. He notices that kids also use that intersection for crossing before and after school as well.

XIV. Council Member Comments

Sloan wanted to mention that he noticed the blower building will need a new roof soon. City Manager Baum stated that he was contacted by the family of Skip Mansion about putting a memorial bench in city park in his honor. He will let council know more once he has more information.

XV. Correspondence

None.

XVI. Adjournment

22-022

Moved by Sloan seconded by Schreiner to adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: 5 Nays:0 Abstain:0, Absent: 0, Vacant 0

Mayor Forbes adjourned the meeting at 8:01 pm.

Chelsea Goodwin
City Clerk/Treasurer

Approved Minutes can be found on our website: www.cityofgrayling.org