

CITY OF GRAYLING
CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Monday, June 10, 2019

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

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call

Members Present: Karl Schreiner, Clinton Ross, Kimberly Hatfield, Roger Moshier and Heather Forbes

Members Absent: None

Vacant Seats: None

Also, in Attendance: Doug Baum, City Manager, Lisa Johnson, City Clerk/Treasurer, Chelsea Goodwin, Deputy Clerk, Erich Podjaske, Zoning Officer, Russ Strohpaal, Fire Chief, Rae Gosling, Kyle Bond, Carey Jansen, Matt and Christine LaFontaine, Norman Spinelli, Wayne Fergeison, Alice Snyder, Lacey Stephen, Abigail Ertel, Cindy Mou, Jim and Diane Burtch and other members of the public.

IV. Public Comment

No public comment.

V. Approval of Agenda

Mayor Forbes asked to Move Norman Spinelli from public comment to Unfinished Business #A and to add Industrial park property to New Business #J.

19-56

Moved by Ross seconded by Schriener to approve the agenda with addition the of item number A under Unfinished Business & number J under New Business.

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

VI. Approval of Consent Agenda

19-57

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

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

VII. City Manager's Report

City Manager Baum explained his report.

Member Moshier asked when at the MDOT meeting if he asked about the signage at the Nature Center.

City Manager Baum said no, it was a presentation on distracted drivers.

City Manager Baum explained he would like Podjaski explain the Capital Improvement Plan that is currently being reviewed.

Podjaski explained what the items were and it was just a draft for them to look over, he is still waiting to go over items with a couple departments to finish. He mentioned that once complete it would go to the Planning Commission for review and recommend to Council. City Manager Baum also mentioned when the final draft is distributed it would have detailed pages for each area.

6:39 pm moved into Public Input

VIII. Public Input- Proposed City Blight Ordinance

Mayor Forbes asked if there were any comments from the public.

Alice Snyder commented she felt it would be great for the city, but would encourage the staff to remember older adults may need some help to be in compliance and the Commission on Aging is willing to help. But would need a letter from the resident.

No other comments were received.

6:41 pm closed Public Input.

6:41 pm moved into Public Hearing.

IX. Public Hearing – 2019-2020 City Budgets

Mayor Forbes asked if there were any comments from the public.

No comments were received.

6:42 pm closed Public Hearing and Resumed regular meeting.

X. Project Updates

City Manager explained project updates.

- A.** Force Main- Working on punch list items.
- B.** Canoe Launch-Parking Lot- Working on punch list items.
- C.** Trail Projects-Received a planning grant from the DNR towards this project.
- D.** Community Center-On hold for now.
- E.** DPW Building-Moving along, sides and roof going on.
- F.** Northern Market-Will discuss under new business
- G.** Lift Station-Pumps have been ordered.

XI. Unfinished Business

A. Norman Spinelli

Mayor Forbes asked Norman. Spinelli to voice his concerns.

Norman Spinelli asked that each council member tell him who they are and what they do. He asked Schreiner if he was the Fire Chief.

Schreiner said no, the Fire Chief is sitting behind you.

Norman Spinelli then said at the last meeting he asked who over see's the Police Chief Baum and you all said all Council members. He then stated, then you all are responsible for the altered police reports.

Member Schreiner asked what reports he was talking about.

Norman Spinelli said the June 2017 and April 2016 crash reports on himself. He stated they were altered by the Chief of Police when he wrote the report to what the officer had written in his report. He also mentioned that the police officers are not traffic trained, and the Chief of Police never has had police training because he looked into it and couldn't find anything. He stated that the Chief of Police didn't even own a uniform.

Mayor Forbes asked Mr. Spinelli what he was hoping to get done here today.

Norman Spinelli said for them to do their job. He has been without a license for six months because of the reports. He has showed the items to the State Police and they are looking into it.

Mayor Forbes asked Baum if he would like to address any of the items.

Baum mentioned he has talked with Mr. Spinelli and when he said the reports would not be changed. Mr. Spinelli slammed his police badge on the table and said he demanded respect. Mr. Baum then said, you should be ashamed of yourself.

Baum then mentioned that if he has contacted the State Police, he recommends council to be done with this discussion.

Member Hatfield told Mr. Spinelli that he is the City Manager and Police Chief and he has a uniform.

Mayor Forbes informed Mr. Spinelli that he would not get any more answers tonight.

Member Schreiner asked Mr. Spinelli if he thought the officers falsified their reports.

Norman Spinelli said no, the Chief of Police did.

Member Moshier asked if he was denying hitting the vehicles

Norman Spinelli said yes.

Mayor Forbes mentioned they would not be changing the reports as you are requesting.

Norman Spinelli started yelling at the Mayor.

Member Schreiner told him to have respect for the Mayor and that it was inappropriate.

Member Hatfield said we can't change the reports.

Norman Spinelli said then you all can say that in court.

7:02 pm Mayor Forbes stopped the discussion and moved to the next agenda item.

Norman Spinelli said the FBI would be looking into this and told Council Members 'don't be surprised if you feel like someone is watching you or looking over your shoulder'.

XII. New Business

A. Great Grayling Community Clean up.

Carey Jansen explained they did not receive the grant to help with the cost of the clean-up. That the committee did request a donation from the City, Grayling Twp. and the County. The City replied that it was not in the current budget to make sure a letter was asked for the new budget year.

Mayor Forbes asked where do we stand with the budget.

City Manager Baum explained it is an unbudgeted item and that City Council would need to approve if they wished to.

Mayor Forbes asked Jansen if the County and Grayling Township were also contributing to the clean-up.

Carey Jansen said they sent a request out six weeks ago and nothing has been received to date.

Member Hatfield asked if the ask was for \$2,000 from each of the entities.

Carey Jansen said yes.

Lacey Stephen said that last year all the dumpsters were used.

Mayor Forbes ask DPW Forman Kyle Bond how he felt last year went.

Bond mentioned that he saw three of the four dumpsters were not full and basically picked up empty and that residents came to the drop off location and just dumped items after the clean-up and residents set items out in front of their homes and were told someone would be back to pick the items up and no one ever came back, so the DPW workers picked the items up.

Carey Jansen mentioned she saw the City did budget for this next year.

City Clerk/Treasurer mentioned it was put in the budget, but a letter would need to be received from the committee. That the City did receive a letter this year requesting a \$3,000 donation, but was not budgeted for and sent a letter explaining so.

19-58

Moved by Hatfield seconded by Moshier to approve a \$2,000 donation to the Great Grayling Community Clean-up.

City Clerk/Treasurer asked from where in the budget.

Member Hatfield said the Capital Fund

City Clerk/Treasurer mentioned it was not for a capital purchase.

Member Moshier said to take it from the General Fund.

Ayes: 3, Nays: 2 (Moshier and Schreiner), Abstain: 0, Absent: 0, Vacant 0, Motion Carried

B. 5605 W M-72 Final Water/Sewer Bill ask for reduction (Diane's Car Wash)

Deputy Clerk Goodwin explained the background of the water account and how multiple new meters had been installed and at no charge to the owner. The owner requested this type of meter to be installed and again at no charge to her.

Diane Burtch explained this bill is higher than ever before and that she calculated out the cost per gallon and it has gone up.

DPW Forman Bond explained it is an ultrasonic meter and it picks up all usage and the past meters did not. He also mentioned all commercial businesses will be switched to these meters.

Member Hatfield asked about the notes on the work order for the account and the notes that there was a leak.

Diane Burtch said there are no leaks.

City Clerk/Treasurer explained that when meters are changed and installed that an ending read and a beginning read are entered in the system and that this bill is all based on accurate reads.

Mayor Forbes mentioned it was up to council to take action if they wished to reduce the bill.

No Motion was made, no action taken.

C. 611 Galen Street ask for late fee to be removed.

Deputy Clerk Goodwin explained the paperwork Mr. Ferguson submitted and also that he has never been late on his bill in the past.

Wayne Ferguson explained that the check has never cleared his account and had all his bills since 2012.

General discussion took place.

Members thanked him for his thorough explanation and documents on this.

19-59

Moved by Hatfield seconded by Schreiner to approve waiving the late fee of \$10 for 611 Galen Street.

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

City Clerk/Treasurer Johnson asked if he wished a check to be cut to pay him the refund or applied to his account for the next bill.

Wayne Ferguson said to just apply towards his next bill.

D. Cemetery – Mary Neal

City Manager Baum explained that everything has been taken care of and no action or discussion was needed.

E. Multi-Use Permit: AuSable River Canoe Marathon

City Manager Baum explained it is the same as in past years and it's come to City Council for approval due to serving alcohol and in the Crime Lab (City) parking lot. Members of the committee also spoke.

19-60

Moved by Schreiner seconded by Moshier to approve the Multi-Use Permit received from AuSable River Canoe Marathon as presented.

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

F. Delinq. Water/Sewer accounts to be placed on 2019 Summer Taxes

Members reviewed the list of accounts.

19-61

Moved by Ross seconded by Schreiner to approve placing delinquent water/sewer bills on the summer taxes as presented.

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

G. MDNR Iron Bell Trail Planning Grant Prof. Service Proposal

City Manager Baum explained the City received a grant for this and that there would be no cost to the city. It is to help locate the best trail route from the Market property to the existing trail at North Down River Road.

19-62

Moved by Schreiner seconded by Moshier to approve the Row Professional Service Proposal for the Iron Bell Trail Planning Grant as presented.

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

H. Approval of Resolution 2019-03 19/20 City of Grayling Property Tax Millage Rates.

19-63

Moved by Moshier seconded by Schreiner to waive the reading of Resolution 2019-03.

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

19-64

Moved by Moshier seconded by Hatfield to Resolution 2019-03 19-20 City of Grayling Property Tax Millage Rates as presented.

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

I. Approval of 2019-2020 City Budgets

Mayor Forbes explained that members questions asked before the meeting on the budget were included in the packet for members information.

Member Moshier asked one question of the sidewalk budget. The broom that was purchased for sweeping the sidewalks was from the current budget and the new blower will come from this budget. He also mentioned the address for the mausoleum is wrong. City Clerk/Treasurer Johnson mentioned she would get it corrected.

Member Hatfield mentioned she had lots of questions and they were addressed. She then asked about Line 51 in the General Fund Budget under City Manage – Past Employee Retirement and asked how many past employees.

City Clerk/Treasurer Johnson wasn't sure, but thought maybe 3.

Member Schreiner mentioned the past City Manager Thayer was one.

Member Hatfield asked why the city was paying on past employees that were let go because of criminal action. She didn't agree with that and it needed to be changed.

City Clerk/Treasurer Johnson explained that is was put in place years ago and was a government type retirement and that it could not be changed. That employees were and some still are on the MERS Defined Benefit plan. This plan you pay on employees until they pass away or the plan is fully funded. The New MERS Defined Contribution Plan was put in place some years ago and this is like a 401k and the city puts retirements in an account for each employee and when they leave or retire, the city no longer puts money in the fund for that employee.

Member Hatfield still doesn't agree with that and feels it is crap.

Member Ross said he had no question on the budget.

Mayor Forbes asked if any other questions

19-65

Moved by Ross seconded by Schreiner to approve the 2019-2020 City Budgets as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Schreiner, Moshier, Forbes, Ross

Nays: Hatfield

Abstain: 0, Absent: 0, Vacant 0, Motion Carried

J. Industrial Park Property

Zoning Officer Podjaske explained that the Planning Commission turned down the request for a conditional rezoning and that now the company is looking to purchase property in the industrial park. He said they would build approximately 15,000 sq. feet and hire 5-10 employees. He has an appraisal for the 36 acres the city owns in the industrial park from 2011, which would be approximately \$6,500 per acre. He was just wondering if council was still wishing to sell city owned property in the industrial park. Members were shown the area of the property that they could possibly purchase.

Members asked multiple questions of the property, possible building to be built/company, incentives and price point and if a new appraisal should be done.

Zoning Officer Podjaske and the City Manager Baum explained.

Members feel they would like to see site plans for what they are thinking before a decision is made, but are willing to sell if its right for the city.

XIII. Reports

- A. Mainstreet Managers Report-Given by Gosling
- B. Planning Commission – May 21, 2019 Meeting Minutes-Update given by Member Ross
- C. Parks and Rec Committee – May 14, 2019 Meeting Minutes-Update given by City Manager Baum
- D. DDA/GMS Meeting – No Meeting
- E. Housing Commission – May 14, 2019 Meeting April Minutes – Update given by Member Moshier.
- F. Public Safety May Activity Report
- G. Public Safety Police-May Activity Report

XIV. Public Comment

None

XV. Council Member Comments

Mayor Forbes congratulated Schreiner on his retirement and the Honor Flight. Member Schreiner thanked Wayne Ferguson for staying for the full meeting. He also stated he sees problems with the blight ordinance and some of the wording. He mentioned he doesn't like the ordinance.

Member Ross mentioned that the sawmill project was also approved by the Planning Commission to build 5 stories. He mentioned the Maple Street house is still allowing nonresidents to bring their trash in for pick up on trash day and he is going to try and deal with it first personally, since it is a neighbor.

Member Moshier mentioned he also has issues with the blight ordinance that he remembers the City Attorney saying it would be expensive to enforce.

Member Hatfield mentioned she had contacted Bill Gannon to get into the old Shoppbegon building. He told her that he is not allowed to let people into the building only contractors. She said told him he was lying and he didn't want to talk to her anymore and hung up. She said that is crap. She also mentioned she was contacted by a 9&10 news person on the Hospitality House and didn't know what to tell her. She told her to contact City Hall. She also mentioned her budget questions were answered in the email.

City Manager Baum mentioned that this past Saturday two city officers were assisting the State police in a pursuit and in order for 1 of our officers to avoid a head on collision, they swerved into the trees and caused damage to the patrol vehicle. The officers were not hurt and the vehicle will be taken in to be repaired/looked over.

City Clerk/Treasurer Johnson asked council how they would like to handle the blight Ordinance, or it will not be on future agendas.

Members asked for their concerns to be sent to the committee.

City Manager Baum said he would send them their concerns.

XVI. Correspondence

- A. State of Michigan 2019 AMAR Review
- B. Crawford County Sheriff's 2018 Report

XVII. Adjournment

19-66

**Moved by Schreiner seconded Moshier by that the meeting is adjourned.
Ayes: 5, Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 0, Vacant 0, Motion Carried**

Mayor Forbes adjourned the meeting at 8:51 pm.

Lisa K Johnson,
City Clerk/Treasurer

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