

CITY OF FENTON COUNCIL WORK SESSION PROCEEDINGS
Monday, July 1, 2019
City Hall Conference Room
301 South LeRoy Street
7:30 PM

Mayor Osborn called the meeting to order at 7:31 PM.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Bottecelli, Draves, Grossmeyer, Lockwood, McDermott (arrived at 7:34), Osborn, Smith.
Absent: None.
Others Present: Lynn Markland, City Manager; Helen Mills, City Attorney; Michael Hart; Assistant City Manager/DDA Director; Dan Czarnecki, DPW Director; Steve Guy, Water Plant Supervisor; Mike Reilly, Building/Zoning Administrator.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Oliver Hackney and Pam Fairbanks requested to speak regarding the Cornerstone Parking Committee Recommendations.

CORNERSTONE PARKING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS – Osborn and Hart reviewed the City Council Parking Committee Recommendations and maps for the Cornerstone Public Parking Lot as follows:

- All of the existing temporary handicap parking signs will be removed and made permanent.
- All of the temporary parking signs per the lapsed Cornerstone HOA agreement (expired December 31, 2016) will be removed.
- The three (3) parking spaces with special parking time limits east of the Rough Draft will be removed; (Cornerstone HOA agreement expired December 31, 2016).
- The City will enter into an annual permit and/or lease agreement with Sawyer Jewelers for two (2) parking spaces on the east end of the lot at Walnut Street due to their safety and insurance requirements. The cost is estimated at \$250 a year per parking space and is revocable.
- The three (3) parking spaces with special parking time limits in front of Fenton Flowers & Gifts will be removed, (agreement expired February 28, 2017).

Osborn advised the intent of these recommendations is to create the most beneficial and user friendly parking environment for all of the various businesses and residential customers within the downtown area.

HOA President Hackney, spoke regarding the number of residents interested in purchasing a permit for parking. Hackney stated his concern of no permitted parking as residents may park up at the building and advised the HOA has the ability to fine members and will gladly police themselves.

Markland stated, the residents have been using the entire parking lot for the last 2 1/2 years. What council is proposing is what has happened for that time.

Lockwood stated to try this for a year as it is the best solution for everyone. The committee will take a look at it again in a year.

Pam Fairbanks, resident, stated there was an expectation by residents the agreement would continue even though the language stated that the agreement may or may not continue.

A motion was made by Grossmeyer and seconded by Draves to adopt the recommendations of the Parking Committee.

YEAS: Draves, Grossmeyer, Lockwood, Osborn, Smith, Bottecelli.

NAYS: McDermott.

ABSENT: None. **Motion carried by a roll call vote.**

BUILDING/ZONING DEPARTMENT PURCHASES

Reilly advised in his review of the department's functionality, he is proposing changes to the offices. He would like to move himself to the smaller inner office and have the rest of the building/zoning personnel move into the larger room. Reilly would like to redo both office spaces with new workstations with adjustable desks including work space dividers. Reilly proposed taking the department "paperless". This process will require a digital construction plan review table with plotter/scanner. The digital plans would be accessible to field inspectors, along with fire and police. The total cost of the purchases would be \$42,341.40.

After discussion, this item will go on the next council meeting for action.

GROUND STORAGE TANK WORK

Guy advised the large ground storage tank is being prepped for painting and presented several issues needing to be addressed in order to finish the project. The DPW did some work to the area enabling access to about 75-80% of the tank. On the south side of the tank is a hill that restricts access and on the north side between the two tanks, the ground is uneven making it difficult to get around the tank safely. It was decided, due to the terrain, a contractor was needed to perform the work necessary and would include proper drainage of the property.

A motion was made by Smith and seconded by Draves to approve the quote from Shoemakers Services, Inc. Fenton, to install a retaining wall and level the ground in the areas necessary around the ground storage tanks, as outlined in their proposal dated June 17, 2019 for a cost of \$7,100.00 and authorize the City Manager to sign the agreement.

Motion was carried by unanimous voice vote.

CITY WEBSITE UPDATE

Hart advised he and Markland are working on formulating the position as they are creating a position that does not exist at this time. This person could handle the website, newsletter, social media, and communications. Hart stated they could possibly have a recommendation within the next four weeks.

Bottecelli inquired as to this being a full or part time position. Hart advised the sharing cost is still under discussion.

DEVELOPMENT READY COMMUNITY RESOLUTION

Hart advised the State of Michigan through the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) has developed an economic development best practice program called Redevelopment Ready Communities (RRC). It is a statewide certification program that was initially voluntary. It is being tied to State of Michigan grant money awards and for the first tier of the requirements, the city has completed all previous requirements. Spring of 2019, we received the RRC Baseline Report. There are a number of required recommendations the city will need to undertake in order to move forward in receiving its RRC Certification.

Hart recommends the City Council approve the RRC Resolution to proceed in coordination with the MEDC which authorizes the City of Fenton to continue its participation.

After discussion, this item will go on the next council meeting for action.

INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES TAX COMMITTEE

A motion was made by Osborn and seconded by McDermott to appoint Osborn, McDermott and Grossmeyer to the Industrial Facilities Tax Committee.

Motion was carried by unanimous voice vote.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Grossmeyer stated the 4th of July is coming along.

Draves stated the city looks beautiful.

Smith advised she is hearing complaints regarding newspapers that are left piling up. Reilly stated his office would look into the situation.

Bottecelli volunteered to collect donations for the Freedom Festival stating people were very generous with their donations.

Lockwood advised there were 25 students at Art Camp. Freedom Festival Committee has been focusing on the event, going well. At this time ArtWalk has 81 vendors and still growing. The committee will have to ask for River Street to be closed to accommodate the extra vendors. Advised of an issue with an email regarding a veteran with PTSD.

Osborn congratulated Dan Czarnecki on his new job and wished him well.

FOOD TRUCK ORDINANCE COMMITTEE

A motion was made by Osborn and seconded by Grossmeyer to appoint Lockwood, Grossmeyer and Osborn to the Food Truck Ordinance Committee.

Motion was carried by unanimous voice vote.

CALL TO THE AUDIENCE

Dana Ahrenberg spoke in favor of the Food Truck Ordinance.

CLOSED SESSION – A motion was made by Osborn and seconded by Lockwood to enter into closed session under Section 8 (C) to discuss strategy of a negotiation connected to a collective bargain agreement.

RECONVENED TO OPEN SESSION: 10:16 PM

Meeting adjourned at 10:16 PM.

Mayor Osborn

City Clerk, Sue Walsh

Date Approved: July 22, 2019