

**MCGREGOR CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 11, 2017 6:30 P.M.**

The MCGREGOR CITY COUNCIL met in Regular Session at 6:30 p.m. on **Wednesday, January 11, 2017** at City Hall with Mayor Brooks presiding. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. Mayor Brooks led the Pledge of Allegiance. Council members present: Hallberg, Echard, Muehlbauer, Carroll and Halvorson.

Carroll moved, seconded by Halvorson to approve the Consent Agenda by one motion a) Agenda as listed b) Regular Meeting minutes December 21, 2016 c) Bills and Claims as presented for period December 22, 2016 through January 11, 2017 Expenditures: City- \$186,111.02, Library – \$738.50, Revenues - \$201,679.43 d) Treasurer's Report for December, 2016 e) Mayor Committee Appointments – list provided will remain the same as before with exception of Economic Development change to Janet Hallberg and Rogeta Halvorson and addition of a finance committee- Charles Carroll and Joe Muehlbauer. Roll call vote: Ayes – All. Motion carried.

Hearing of Delegations: No comments heard.

Police Report: Steven Finney introduced himself to the audience and mayor/council as reserve officer hired earlier in 2016. He is attending Reserve Training Academy and is also training for certification to drive for the EMS. Operations Report: Snow removal and sand/salt operations have been the priority. The crew has been getting the surplus equipment ready for sale when bids are opened next week.

Lori Brockway from UERPC was in attendance to provide the council with additional information about the NEIRHTF which the city has funded consistently for several years. Questions had arisen as to whether or not to fund in 2018 until the carry over funds have been used up. There is enough right now for four \$10,000 projects. These funds are also able to assist homeowners whose homes are in the flood plain where CDBG funding does not allow that. Council agreed that they would like to include the 2018 pledge in the budget as it is prepared.

Muehlbauer moved, seconded by Echard to approve Resolution 01-01-2017 appointing Jerry Thornton and Tom Sauer as representative and alternate respectively for the E-911 Service Board. Roll call vote: Ayes – all. Motion carried. Council discussed city owned lots and renewal of discounted pricing. Halvorson moved, seconded by Hallberg to discount Outlot 1 to \$21,000, with a reserved 20 foot easement for a trail and all other lots discounted an additional \$2,000 off the current discount making the price range \$5,000 - \$13,000 through January 31, 2018. Roll call vote: Ayes – all. Motion carried. If an offer other than the amount in the resolution is to be offered or offer to purchase more than one lot, they will need to be approved at a council meeting. If a special meeting is required, the fee for that meeting will be waived if the sale closes. Echard moved, seconded by Halvorson to approve incentives for city owned lots running through December 31, 2018. Roll call vote: Ayes – all. Motion carried.

Mark Groom, treasurer for the McGregor Marquette Chamber introduced the new chamber director Patti Ruff and presented the 2017 budget. He thanked the council for their funding derived from the hotel motel taxes, noting that it has been difficult to predict the revenue with the Holiday Shores no longer in operation. Mayor Brooks asked that Ms. Ruff schedule a meeting with the council economic development committee, the city administrator and him to get acquainted and to discuss council priorities for tourism and recreation. The park board list of projects was provided to the council. Most are already on the city project list. Maria Brummel, park board chair asked that the council allow the purchase of one of the coated metal tables for the riverfront shelter so that people are able to see what the table is like when considering memorials. Five more will be needed at that shelter. Council reviewed a revised police budget of \$205,699.81. Halvorson moved, seconded by Carroll to approve the 2017/2018 police budget with McGregor's split being \$102,849.90. Roll call vote: Ayes – all. Motion carried.

A summary of current outstanding debt with percentage of debt capacity in use was provided for the council. On July 1, 2013, the city had \$1,343,000 of GO debt, equating to approximately 54% of debt capacity. After June 1, 2017 debt payments the GO debt will be \$667,341, or approximately 24% of capacity. The 4th street bridge estimates for work are \$228,000 and the A street storm sewer work is \$102,000. Engineering was approved separately at \$50,000 and depending on final payments for the FEMA project may not need to be included in a loan for the projects. The A Street engineering is for several smaller components that could be completed independently instead of as one large project. Central State Bank provided an interest rate of 2.45% on a five year note up to 2.85% on a seven year. Northland provided a similar rate after fees were included. Council asked the clerk to work with the bonding attorney and lender for a \$300,000 bringing additional info to a future meeting. The projects will be explained by the engineer at the February meeting and he encouraged going to bid early in order to get more competitive bids.

The clerk and street superintendant had met with FEMA representatives to discuss damages resulting from September rain events. The pedestrian bridge and main lift station projects are being considered. There is a 15% local cost match for the city. Mitigation activities have also been discussed for both projects and quotes are in the works. FEMA will be in contact soon to begin review of costs and determine eligibility for repairs and possibly mitigation to prevent future problems. Council encouraged the city to move forward with the grant assistance request.

The council was asked about planning for the Ash Street road repairs for 2017. The length from Ann Street to Grumpsters corner is approximately 2,440 feet with varying widths and three culverts crossing the road that should be replaced. Some of the areas are in very poor condition, need to have the grade adjusted so water drains into the ditches, and several shorter sections of curb would further improve control of run-off. There is no sewer and water in the upper section above Wellers and there are a total of seven homes on sewer and water from there to the corner of Ann Street. Some preliminary contacts and discussion will be made with engineers to develop a strategy on how to proceed. The project may need to be divided into two portions.

The annual report was provided by the McGregor Historical Society. Diane Malcom was hired this summer and is working on grants for activities and also to digitize the newspaper collection. The 2004 Chevy Silverado truck will be prepared for sale with the snow plow and parked by the

motel in Marquette. The truck will be posted for sealed bids with bids due at city hall by noon on Wednesday, January 18. The city may reject any or all bids.

Sander reported that five applications have been received for the economic development lead position with a sixth expected in by Monday. Copies will go to the hiring committee for review and interviews scheduled perhaps the week of the 23rd. Surplus equipment bids have been coming in and will be opened early on Monday the 16th. Sand will no longer be provided due to several abuses over the past week.

With business concluded, Muehlbauer moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Halvorson. Ayes – All. Meeting adjourned.

Harold W. Brooks
Mayor

Attest:

Lynette L. Sander
City Administrator