

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF EAST TAWAS CITY COUNCIL
OCTOBER 5, 2009

Meeting called to order by Mayor Bruce Bolen at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the East Tawas City Hall.

Present: B. Bolen, L.Bolen, Cano, Freel, Klenow, Look and McMurray.

The Pledge of Allegiance was offered.

McMurray moved, Freel seconded, CARRIED, to approve the agenda as presented.

Public comments on agenda items: Jane Chandler urged the Council to approve the banner for Lighthouse Days at the Tawas Beach Road intersection as requested by the Tawas Point State Park. City Manager Leslie noted that we allow banners at the post near Wilkinson Street and recommended that the request be approved and further recommended that the Council consider an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance to allow the Zoning Administrator to approve requests such as this. The Council decided to take action on the request immediately. Look moved, Klenow seconded, CARRIED, to approve the placement of a banner at the Tawas Beach Road - US 23 intersection for the Tawas Point State Park Lighthouse Days.

There were no public comments on non-agenda items.

Freel moved, McMurray seconded, CARRIED, to approve the minutes of the September 21, 2009 regular meeting and September 30, 2009 special meeting as presented.

The following correspondence was noted: a letter from Baldwin Township Supervisor Jim Svoboda in regard to the City's recycling program, a letter from Judy Herbolsheimer from the Assembly of God Church in regard to the "Under the Big Top" Halloween event and a letter from Jim Russo in regard to the Eagles Club sanitary sewer problems.

There were no Council Committee Reports.

Staff Report: City Manager Leslie reported that the new owner of Beechwood Condominiums has removed the new building foundations instead of fencing them in as previously indicated so a modification to the PUD agreement will not be needed. He also reported that he met with Michael Pozniak and Chuck Allen in regard to plans to remove some contaminated soil at the harbor. The majority of the contaminated soil is on State of Michigan property although a small amount is in the City right-of-way. City Manager Leslie referenced the report from Jim Russo in regard to sewer problems at the Tawas Bay Eagles Club. The report will be reviewed and will be on the agenda for discussion at the next meeting.

Fire Chief Deckett reported that he had met with the Bay City Fire Chief concerning Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS). More information about this topic will be available at a later date. Chief Deckett also reminded the Council about the Silent Night parade beginning at the East Tawas Post Office at 7:00 p.m. on October 10th and ending at the Tawas City Fire Station.

Klenow moved, Freel seconded, CARRIED, to receive the minutes of the September 14th meeting of the Tawas Police Authority and the minutes of the September 29, 2009 Library Committee meeting.

City Manager Leslie reported that the Committee met with Tim Sullivan from Norman Corporation and reviewed the draft Memorandum of Understanding. Norman Corporation has hired Russo Engineering to prepare plans for the building. The Committee has scheduled another meeting for October 15th. Freel moved, Klenow seconded, CARRIED, to continue the Norman Corporation show-cause hearing until the October 19th meeting.

City Manager Leslie reported that Mrs. Elvey has completed the work she promised to do at 603 Newman Street. Zoning Administrator Torrey has taken pictures of the site. It was the consensus of the Council that as long as the site stays the way it is right now there should be no further issues. Freel moved, Klenow seconded, CARRIED, to adjourn the issue of violations at 603 Newman Street.

Klenow moved, L. Bolen seconded, CARRIED, to adopt the PILOT Ordinance amending Ordinance No. 320 to extend the PILOT program for Maple Tree Apartments for an additional 15 years with the Ordinance to be known as Ordinance No. 324 with an effective day of November 3, 2009. Yes: B. Bolen, L. Bolen, Cano, Freel, Klenow, Look, and McMurray. As of this date the owners of Maple Tree Apartments have not provided Assessor Sells with the required information to put the PILOT program into effect for 2010. City Manager Leslie will contact the owners to remind them of the requirements under State Law.

Freel moved, Klenow seconded, CARRIED, to follow the recommendation of City Manager Leslie and DPW Superintendent Lixey and purchase a new sewer cleaner from Jack Doheny Inc. at a cost of \$43,410. Yes: B. Bolen, L. Bolen, Cano, Freel, Klenow, Look, and McMurray.

City Manager Leslie reported that he believes the Iosco County Road Commission is interested in purchasing the old sewer cleaner. Jack Doheny Inc. indicated that they would give \$1,500 for the old sewer cleaner as a trade-in for the new machine. Freel moved, McMurray seconded, CARRIED, to give City Manager Leslie authorization to negotiate the sale of the old sewer cleaner at a price of at least \$1,500. Yes: L. Bolen, Cano, Freel, Klenow and McMurray. Abstain: B. Bolen and Look.

It was the consensus of the Council to approve a change to the BC/BS policy to the Community Blue 15/20% policy with the change to take place on January 1, 2010 and to establish a Health Reimbursement Account with the details to be worked out by January 1, 2010.

Bills and transfers having been properly presented, Look moved, McMurray seconded, CARRIED, that these transactions, with the exception of a bill from Craig McMurray for mileage reimbursement, be approved. Yes: Cano, Klenow, Look, and McMurray. Abstain: B. Bolen, L. Bolen and Freel.

Look moved, Freel seconded, CARRIED, to pay the invoice for mileage reimbursement to and from the Michigan Municipal League Convention for Craig McMurray as presented. Yes: B. Bolen, L. Bolen, Cano, Freel, Klenow, and Look. Abstain: McMurray.

Look moved, Klenow seconded, CARRIED, to approve a liquor license for the Knights of Columbus

for December 1, 2009.

City Manager Leslie reported that Jim Svododa from Baldwin Township sent a letter requesting that Baldwin Township residents be allowed to participate in the City's recycling program. It was the recommendation of City Manager Leslie to wait until our system is established before letting anyone else participate. Some Council members indicated that they did not want to discourage other units of government from participating in recycling efforts. Following discussion it was the consensus of the members to have City Manager Leslie send Mr. Svoboda a letter indicating that the City is interested in working together but would like to work the kinks out of our recycling program before accepting recyclables from other units of government and to invite suggestions from Baldwin Township as to how to resolve some of the questions that have been raised concerning a multi-government program at our location.

McMurray moved, Klenow seconded, CARRIED, to approve the closing of the 300 block of East Lincoln Street for the Assembly of God "Under the Big Top" on Saturday, October 31st from 5:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m.

City Manager Leslie reminded the Council about Mayor Exchange on Thursday, October 8th. Everyone who attended indicated that the day at Essexville was very worthwhile and informative. Councilman Cano noted that a wayfinding sign in front of Mooney's Ben Franklin partially blocks the stop sign from being seen. Councilman Look noted that no other signs can be on the same pole as a Stop signs except street identification signs and signs directly pertaining to the stop sign such as a notice that it is a four-way stop. Councilman Klenow noted that the Michigan Municipal League convention was very informative and worth attending. The major theme of the convention was that times are tough for local governments and will be getting worse before they get better. Councilman Freel noted that there is still contention on the Tawas Police Authority concerning staffing and urged Council members to give input to the representatives. He noted that there has been a suggestion to hold a public meeting to get input on the wishes of the public concerning staffing of the Police Department.

Meeting adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

Blinda A. Baker
Clerk/Treasurer