

**FRANKENMUTH CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
Tuesday, July 12, 2022  
7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Ackerman, LaBrenz, Meyer, Reindel, Ross, Schmitzer & Schoenow.

ABSENT: NONE.

Mayor Ackerman called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. and opened the meeting by leading the pledge of allegiance.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

The Mayor recognized Dennis Krafft, 7<sup>th</sup> District County Commissioner, who presented a 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Resolution of the Sister City relationship between Frankenmuth and Gunzenhausen, Germany.

There being no further public comments, the Mayor proceeded with the agenda.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

City Manager Smith noted that she provided some updated information to Council on proposed water rates, a return activated sludge pump quote for pump replacements at the Water Resource Recovery Facility, and a FEMA letter on the submitted request for flood map revisions.

Moved by Meyer, seconded by LaBrenz, to approve the agenda as presented. Unanimously carried.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Moved by Schmitzer, seconded by Ross, to approve the minutes from the committee of the whole and regular meetings held on June 7, 2022, and the work session and special meetings held on June 23, 2022. Unanimously carried.

**PUBLIC HEARING ON A PROPOSED WATER RATE INCREASE**

City Manager Smith advised that after reviewing water rates and in anticipation of some local improvement projects and a City of Saginaw rate increase, the Water & Waste Treatment Board has recommended that the water rates be increased by approximately 5.2% on average to offset these anticipated projects. She reviewed that two components make up the water rates and advised that the rate increase will take place for water consumed on the September 1, 2022 bill. The last rate increase was in 2020.

The Mayor opened the public hearing and requested comment on the proposed water rate increase.

Discussion took place on water pumpage during the pandemic and fixed costs being adjusted in 2020 to deal with that issue. The latest proposed rates adjust costs based on actual pumpage returning to normal and that the rate structure includes much detail.

Sharon Bark, 402 Mary Lane – Requested clarification on City of Saginaw rates.

Discussion took place on the Saginaw City contract executed in 2012, ramifications of Saginaw rate increases on our local costs, and that our rates are based on 50% being Saginaw City water rates and the other 50% being local costs.

There being no further public comments, the Mayor closed the public hearing.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 2022-56 - APPROVE AN INCREASE IN WATER RATES**

Smith advised that a corrected copy of the resolution was provided to Council.

Moved by Schoenow, seconded by Ross to adopt Resolution No. 2022-56 approving a 5.2% increase in water rates effective for bills due on or after September 1, 2022, as corrected. Unanimously carried.

#### **PUBLIC HEARING ON A PROPOSED INCREASE IN THE SANITARY SEWER RATES**

City Manager Smith advised that the Water and Waste Treatment Committee also periodically reviews sanitary sewer rates and is recommending a proposed increase in rates of approximately 10.5% for the typical residential customer. The last rate adjustment took effect in 2020. These rates have also been studied and are part of the asset management plans and future capital improvements at the facility.

Smith commented that a few years ago a large debt from the Water Resource Recovery Facility was retired and created some rate relief for customers. She reviewed that the City has three rate structures and this latest proposal adjusts rates based on industry or national standards.

The Mayor opened the public hearing on the proposed sewer rate increase.

Jerry Thompson, 454 Craemer Drive – Asked whether the sewer fund cash balance shown reflects planned capital improvements.

Mayor Pro Tem Schoenow – Advised Thompson that it does.

There being no further comments, the Mayor closed the public hearing.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-57 - APPROVE AN INCREASE IN SANITARY SEWER RATES**

Moved by Ross, seconded by Schoenow, to adopt Resolution No. 2022-57 approving a 10.5% increase in sanitary sewer rates, effective for bills due on or after September 1, 2022.

Unanimously carried.

**BOARDS & COMMISSIONS APPOINTMENTS - None**

**MONTHLY REPORTS**

Police Chief Mawer reviewed his monthly department activities report for May 2022. Fire Chief Kerns provided the written May monthly report and verbally reviewed June activities. The June financial report, in a revised format, was presented by Treasurer Jimenez. City Clerk Kerns reviewed the construction code activity for the month of June.

Moved by Reindel, seconded by LaBrenz, to accept the above referenced monthly reports as submitted. Unanimously carried.

**RESOLUTION NOS. 2022-58 TO 2022-60 - APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

Moved by Ross, seconded by Schmitzer, to adopt Resolution No. 2022-58 approving the Frankenmuth Historical Association's August 20, 2022 Pioneer Fest banner; to adopt Resolution No. 2022-59 a request from the Great Lakes Antique Fire Apparatus Association to hold the 2022 Antique Fire Apparatus Cavalcade at 11:00 A.M. on Saturday, July 30, 2022; and to adopt Resolution No. 2022-60 issuing a permit to the Frankenmuth Fire Department to erect an overhead street banner on Main Street for the 2022 Antique Fire Muster, as requested.

Unanimously carried.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-61 - APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF UP TO TWO REPLACEMENT PUMPS AT THE WATER RESOURCE RECOVERY FACILITY**

WRRF Superintendent Schluckebier reviewed a revised quote from Kennedy Industries for the purchase of up to two return activated sludge pump replacements at the Water Resource Recovery Facility (WRRF) and the installation thereof as a result of age and condition of the 50-year-old pumps. These replacements are part of the capital improvement plan. He advised that some in-house labor will also be utilized.

Moved by Meyer, seconded by LaBrenz, to adopt Resolution No. 2022-61 approving the purchase of up to two return activated sludge pumps at the WRRF, as well as installation, for a cost not to exceed \$30,000 each. Unanimously carried.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-62 - APPROVAL OF A UTILITIES RELOCATION AGREEMENT WITH CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY**

City Manager Smith presented a proposed agreement to relocate overhead utilities on Plant Street as the result of a request from Zehnder's, Inc. to move the existing electrical wires across the Cass River. The wires provide service to the Nickless-Hubinger Mill.

Discussion took place that the agreement may be slightly amended from this version, but legal counsel with review to make sure it is not adverse to the City.

Moved by Ross, seconded by Reindel, to adopt Resolution No. 2022-62 approving a Utilities Relocation Agreement with Consumers Energy Company for property on Plant Street. Unanimously carried.

### **RESOLUTION NO. 2022-63 - ADOPT A RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING FLOOD WALL CRACKING REPAIRS**

City Manager Smith reviewed a memorandum from MEC, LLC Engineer Jason Matteo, the City's consulting engineer for the project, concerning a repair that must be done to the flood wall near the Cass River pedestrian bridge as a result of some settlement and cracking. The agreement includes discounts for the work by the contractor and engineer.

Discussion took place on the foundations for the two nearby bridges most likely causing some movement thus cracking this portion of the wall. During construction, some field changes were made due to conditions found; however, additional expansion joints have been deemed necessary resulting in this portion of the wall needing to be replaced, outside of the project's warranty agreement. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has reviewed and approved the work and method of repair.

Moved by Reindel, seconded by Schoenow, to adopt Resolution No. 2022-63 acknowledging flood wall cracking repairs for an amount not to exceed \$100,000. Unanimously carried.

### **AUTHORIZE INVOICE PAYMENTS**

Moved by Schmitzer, seconded by Ross, to authorize the payment of invoices for June 2022 in the amount of \$869,777.15. Unanimously carried.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

1. City Manager – Monthly Report.
2. Saginaw County Road Commission – Draft Proposal Language for a possible county-wide November 2022 Two Mill Road Millage Request.
3. Wickson District Library – L-4029.
4. MI Department of Treasury – AMAR Review is complete.
5. Water Department – Annual Pumpage Report.
6. MMWA – Proposed Tiered Carts & Priority Waste Costs.
7. Federal Emergency Management Agency – Letter of Map Revision Approval.

The Mayor requested that the receipt of correspondence be noted.

## **MINUTES**

1. City-Township Commission – March 15, 2022.
2. Election Commission – July 7, 2022.
3. Parks & Recreation Commission – May 25, 2022.
4. Planning Commission – May 24 & June 28, 2022.
5. Zoning Board of Appeals – June 13, 2022.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

Councilmember Reindel was thanked for her involvement in the recent Sister City 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations at both of the venues.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further comments or business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:01 P.M.

Phillip W. Kerns  
City Clerk