

**FRANKENMUTH CITY COUNCIL  
WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES  
Thursday, March 17, 2022  
7:00 A.M.**

PRESENT: Ackerman, LaBrenz, Meyer, Reindel, Schmitzer, and Schoenow.

ABSENT: Ross.

ALSO PRESENT: City Manager Smith, City Clerk Kerns, City Planner Kraushar, Director Hopp, DPW Superintendent Braeutigam, Ass't. DPW Superintendent Scherzer, Parks & Recreation Director Kaschinske, Water Resource Recovery Facility (WRRF) Superintendent Schluckebier, Police Chief Mawer, and Water Superintendent O'Brien.

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

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

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

#### **REVIEW OF REPORTS/MINUTES OF BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES**

The Mayor sought comments concerning board, commission and committee meetings and highlights included Sister City Anniversary updates on the Memorial Park Rose Garden fundraiser for the upcoming Gunzenhausen 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary visit and Greg Rummel's memorial project, the recent citizen meeting hosted by City staff at the Scout Building on March 9, the City-Township Commission's recent E-2 purchase approval for the fire department and fire station building planning that is on-going, and a recent meeting with Congressman Dan Kildee.

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

There being no objection, the Mayor approved the agenda as presented.

#### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Update on the Property Tax Collection. City Manager Smith reviewed collections of delinquent personal property taxes to date and actions that staff will utilize to clear such uncollectible debt that is outstanding from years past.

HE Kern Pavilion Update. Staff reviewed a memo of their actions thus far to obtain potential funding from the DDA for necessary repairs to the Kern Pavilion.

Discussion took place on the March DDA presentation by P & R Commissioner Ed Foltz, room tax revenues and hoteliers' consideration of a voluntary fee to be utilized for such pavilion repairs, that action may be taken at the April DDA meeting to consider funding options, the need to update the total ask, and identifying revenues and expenditures for the facility.

P & R Director Kaschinske reviewed an additional memorandum he provided on lighting repairs to the Kern Pavilion and obtaining approval to buy fixtures now and perform the maintenance in the fall. The total cost with installation is approximately \$81,500.

Further discussion took place on ordering the materials now, that further discussion can take place at the regular April Council meeting, the overall on-going costs for necessary repairs and maintenance exceeds \$1 Million, that City can't afford the facility without outside financial assistance, plan for what we can afford, and the need to have a balance so taxes are affordable.

Update on Public Utility Updates. Discussion took place on recent rate studies within the city's water and water resource recovery facility operations as well as expected City of Saginaw water rate increases as the last rate increase Saginaw passed on to local units was in 2020.

A review took place on future maintenance and improvements for both water and sanitary sewer systems, additional regulations placed on both systems by state and federal law, and an anticipated 12% water rate increase from the City of Saginaw next fall.

Our rate analyst is working on refining estimated rate adjustments and will get that information to the Water & Waste Board for review and a recommendation.

Update on the Solid Waste Disposal Services. City Manager Smith reviewed her recent committee meetings and bid analysis at the Mid Michigan Waste Authority and the upcoming 2023 solid waste service contract for residential customers. The current ten-year contract with Waste Management expires at the end of this year and a new ten-year contract is being considered by the Authority as received from several interested bidders. It is expected that the Authority will have a recommendation sometime in May.

## **GOOD OF THE ORDER**

This item was delayed due to timing.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 A.M.

Phillip W. Kerns  
City Clerk