

City of Corunna
Regular Council Meeting
Monday, July 6, 1998

Present: Bendall, Dumond, Ockerman, Reid, Williams.

Absent: Greiger (excused absence).

Guests: Lisa Hitchcock, City Manager; Chief Mark Hetfield, Police Department; Judy Horton; Jackie Leone, The Argus Press; Ron Smith, Treasurer/Assessor; Tom Wiegel; Larry Friess; Larry Runyan; Paul Warner; and other concerned citizens.

The meeting was called to order in the City Council Chambers by Mayor Weaver at 7:03 p.m.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS REGULAR MEETING: Dumond moved, Ockerman seconded to approve the June 15, 1998 Regular Council Minutes as presented.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Reid, Bendall, Ockerman, Dumond, Williams.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

AGENDA APPROVAL: Reid moved, Bendall seconded to approve the agenda as presented with the addition of Item No. 3) Closed Session – Union Negotiations.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Williams, Bendall, Dumond, Ockerman, Reid.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

APPROVAL OF VENDOR DISBURSEMENTS: Dumond moved, Bendall seconded to approve the vendor disbursements as presented.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Ockerman, Dumond, Williams, Reid, Bendall.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CALL TO AUDIENCE: Larry Friess, 302 E. McArthur Street, stated three picnic tables were built for the playscape area and he has noticed that people were moving the picnic tables all over the park instead of leaving them at the playscape area. He suggested staking down the tables so they could not be moved. He also stated the tables were not marked and anyone could take them home. Mr. Friess asked if the ordinance involving garbage pickup had been changed because he has noticed that people were putting their garbage out by the curb. Ms. Hitchcock advised no, the situation has been addressed with the police department. Mr. Friess stated a garbage company told a resident on State Street that if the garbage was not placed at the curb it would not be picked up. Ms. Hitchcock asked Mr. Friess if he knew the name of the garbage company. Mr. Friess advised the company's name was Sunshine. Ms. Hitchcock advised she thought the problem was taken care of a month ago and would handle the situation. Councilperson Dumond stated he was concerned about the huge truck Sunshine has used in the city. Mr. Friess advised they had a smaller truck in town today.

Tom Wiegel, 1022 N. Shiawassee Street, stated he has been trying to get some relief with Machine Tool & Gear being allowed to dump axles at 5:00 a.m. He further stated they need a noise barrier. He also stated he has been to Gary Palmer, the police department, the sheriff's department, the previous and the new owners. Mayor Weaver asked what kind of response was he getting from the owners. Mr. Wiegel stated he was told a year and a half ago that the dumpster would be moved, but it was moved closer to the road. He further stated he has not gotten any help from anyone. Ms. Hitchcock asked what side of the building the dumpster was located. Mr. Wiegel stated he would call it the front. He further stated his next step would be contacting the state. Mayor Weaver stated the city could not resolve the issue tonight, but would look into the situation and get back with Mr. Wiegel. Ms. Hitchcock advised Mr. Wiegel he was not in a residential area and she believed his property was zoned commercial. Mr. Wiegel advised his property was not zoned commercial; it was multiple dwelling. Ms. Hitchcock suggested it might be an issue that the planning commission needed to look at. Mr. Wiegel stated he needed relief now. Mayor Weaver thanked Mr. Wiegel for bringing the situation to council's attention.

CONSIDER LOT SPLIT FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 704 S. NORTON STREET: Dumond moved, Williams seconded to accept the planning commission's recommendation to grant the lot split for the property located between 640 and 704 S. Norton Street with the condition that the proposed lot split either be combined as one property description or if this is not possible, a statement should be recorded with the deed to indicate that the split parcel by itself is not a buildable lot.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Dumond, Williams, Ockerman, Bendall, Reid.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

BUDGET AMENDMENTS: Councilperson Ockerman asked if the amendments were from last year's budget. Ms. Hitchcock advised yes from 1997-1998. Councilperson Ockerman asked if council had to approve the amendments tonight because he did not have a chance to look them over. Councilperson Bendall asked if council was just approving what had already been done. Ms. Hitchcock advised yes. Councilperson Dumond stated the dollars have been spent and council was correcting the budget with the amendments, right? Ms. Hitchcock advised yes. She further advised there were higher revenues in the General Fund and Major & Local Street Funds due to Act 51 monies. Councilperson Ockerman stated the City Improvements Fund was up over \$200,000. Ms. Hitchcock advised the monies came from the 5 mills, which would be used for the construction project. Originally, the city had planned to bond the whole project, but instead, the city only bonded for \$200,000 and used reserve money for the balance. Ms. Hitchcock advised numbers 2, 4, & 5 dealt with the construction project. Councilperson Ockerman stated when the second report was sent out, any items that did not jive before now do because everything was amended. Ms. Hitchcock advised that was correct. Councilperson Ockerman asked how council would know what was put in the computer was correct. Ms. Hitchcock advised council was amending the budget based on decisions that came to her throughout the year. Councilperson Bendall asked Councilperson Ockerman if he was saying someone could just go in the computer and make the books balance. Councilperson Ockerman stated yes. Councilperson Bendall advised that was why the city has the auditors. Ms. Hitchcock advised the auditors look in the council minutes for what was approved, and they review every council meeting and pull invoices. Mayor Weaver stated that was the city's checks and balances to protect the council and staff. Councilperson Ockerman stated that was his concern. Councilperson

Dumond stated discussion took place at the last meeting about amending the budget when council approves something instead of waiting until the end of the year. Ms. Hitchcock stated when a motion is made, it should include the words "out of budget." Williams moved, Bendall seconded to approve the 1997-1998 Budget Amendments as presented.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Reid, Ockerman, Williams, Bendall, Dumond.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CLOSED SESSION – UNION NEGOTIATIONS: Bendall moved, Dumond seconded to leave regular session and go into closed session for union negotiations.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Bendall, Reid, Dumond, Williams, Ockerman.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED Time was 7:35 p.m.

Bendall moved, Reid seconded to leave the closed session and return to regular session.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Reid, Bendall, Ockerman, Dumond, Williams.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED Time was 8:14 p.m.

No action took place during closed session.

PRE-COUNCIL: Mayor Weaver suggested the Owosso and Corunna City Councils take on the Fourth of July Picnic. He stated it was a neat experience working with the Owosso people who were down there, and getting better acquainted with them.

Councilperson Ockerman stated he had a few questions regarding the vendor disbursements. He questioned the purchase of the Lansing Lugnuts baseball tickets. Ms. Hitchcock explained the summer baseball/softball program paid for the tickets, and the city wrote one check for them. Councilperson Ockerman questioned the invoice from Edward's Sign & Screen Printing for baseball/softball shirts. Ms. Hitchcock explained the summer baseball/softball program paid for the shirts, and the city wrote one check for them. Councilperson Ockerman asked if Mr. Schooley was paid monthly in addition to the money he receives from the Softball Commission budget. Ms. Hitchcock explained Mr. Schooley was paid monthly for being the Parks and Recreation Director. Councilperson Ockerman questioned the copy cartridge purchase from Xerox Corporation for \$360 dollars. Ms. Hitchcock explained the library purchased the cartridge. Councilperson Ockerman asked Ms. Hitchcock to check if the invoice was accurate. Ms. Hitchcock advised she would contact the librarian, Sue Huff. Councilperson Ockerman asked if the fire department had budgeted the new radio base and encoder. Councilperson Reid advised the fire board authorized the purchase.

COUNCIL COMMENTS: Mayor Weaver asked if there were any further updates on Arnold Dunchock's property on E. Mack Street. Ms. Hitchcock advised she has not heard a thing from him, but his garage was moved illegally after he was given the information on how to move a building. Councilperson Dumond advised council needed to stay on top of the situation so when the 60-day time limit comes up, the proper paperwork can be filed. Mayor Weaver advised he spoke with Gary Palmer about the situation and if council intended to

proceed, Mr. Palmer had agreed to work with council. Councilperson Reid asked why nothing was said in pre-council about the house if the house was such a big deal. After the meeting, council was flooded with negative information, and he knew nothing about the house. Ms. Hitchcock advised the landowner on S. Shiawassee Street contacted her and she was informed that the house would not be moved to that property. The landowner has a land contract with Ralph Shorez that states she has to approve anything that is built, constructed or moved on the property. Councilperson Williams stated after the 60 days are up, council would go back to Gary Palmer and Dick Burlingame to proceed with what was started before. Mayor Weaver stated it would not take another six years. Councilperson Williams stated it was just a game to Mr. Dunchock. Councilperson Bendall stated she heard it was the potential value of the lot and not the house.

Councilperson Ockerman stated page 21 of the City Charter states that approval from council was required for products, materials or services for the city in excess of \$500 and the city manager told him it was \$1,000. Ms. Hitchcock advised if she did tell him \$1,000, she misspoke herself. Councilperson Ockerman stated the police car issue came to council as a last minute issue and asked if it was a sealed bid. Ms. Hitchcock stated no it was not. Councilperson Ockerman asked why not. Ms. Hitchcock stated the city does not take sealed bids on that kind of an item. The city contacts all of the vendors who are capable of supplying the service that is needed. Councilperson Ockerman asked when the city does accept sealed bids. Ms. Hitchcock stated sealed bids are accepted on a new purchase, but this was just a repair. Councilperson Bendall advised there were only two vendors who did that kind of repair work. Ms. Hitchcock advised vendors are contacted and a sealed bid is requested, but the city does not advertise because of the cost. She further stated she contacted the city attorney and she was told as long as the same procedure was followed every time there was not a problem. Councilperson Ockerman asked if the city purchases a car one-year and another the next year. Ms. Hitchcock stated yes, but since the city had the Chevrolet it made more sense to refurbish it. Chief Hetfield advised the Fords were not holding up.

Councilperson Reid advised Ella Gregoricka's husband was not in good health. He further advised the fire board was starting to look at new pumpers. Mayor Weaver stated he had a concern about Jeff Hetfield being a full-time employee for the Owosso Fire Department and the fire chief for Corunna, and asked if the fire board had any concerns. Councilperson Reid advised Mr. Hetfield was not a union employee in Owosso. Mayor Weaver asked if the situation created a problem for the city. Councilperson Reid advised no, if Mr. Hetfield was a union employee, he could not work for the city and stay in Owosso unless he left the union. Chief Mark Hetfield advised the City of Owosso has already addressed this situation. Councilperson Ockerman advised something did come up at the fire board meeting about the city paying the city employees to work on the Fourth of July, but not the firemen and he had a problem with that. Ms. Hitchcock advised the firemen are part-time employees of the fire board, and they could be paid if the fire board wants to pay them. Mayor Weaver asked if council could make a recommendation to the fire board. Ms. Hitchcock stated yes, you could send a recommendation through the city's representative. Councilperson Bendall stated she thought it was decided last year to bill the city and the city would pay it. Ms. Hitchcock stated they did bill the city the last time.

Councilperson Williams advised the ambulance board had one vacancy to fill. He further advised the Fourth of July fireworks went well and the staff at city hall should be commended for the work they did. He also thanked the police department and the department of public works employees for the work they did.

Councilperson Dumond asked about the city logo. Ms. Hitchcock advised she received a quote from Agnew Graphics, and the cost of the logo would be \$400 for the copyright and \$45 per hour to modify the design. She was told it should not take more than four hours. She also advised she has asked for three sketches; and it was her intention to have council select two of the sketches to include in the design. Ms. Hitchcock stated the logo would then come to council for approval, and at that point, council would approve the \$400. Councilperson Dumond stated the city has already blown a lot of money, and has nothing to show for it. He further stated it was time to get it done. Ms. Hitchcock stated she did receive a letter from AfterHours Design, which stated it would not take too much additional time to complete it, but she did not personally feel they were going in the right direction. She further stated she told Agnew Graphics she would let him know Tuesday. Mayor Weaver asked council if they wanted to pursue it further. Council advised Ms. Hitchcock to proceed.

Ms. Hitchcock advised she mentioned setting up a meeting with the auditors in the last manager's report to discuss some budget issues. She further advised she had two dates to choose from, Wednesday, July 22 or Tuesday, August 4, and asked council to check their calendars. Mayor Weaver asked council which date they preferred. Council selected Tuesday, August 4, at 7:00 p.m. to meet with the auditors.

Ms. Hitchcock advised the F.E.M.A. meeting was very educational and the city would be receiving back 87 percent of the money spent cleaning up the storm damage from the state and federal government. She also advised wood chips were available to anyone who wants them.

ADJOURN: Dumond moved, Williams seconded to adjourn.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Williams, Bendall, Dumond, Ockerman, Reid.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED Time was 8:47 p.m.

AVERY WEAVER, MAYOR

YVONNE F. LONG, CITY CLERK