

City of Corunna  
Regular Council Meeting  
Monday, December 6, 1999

Present: Billis, Bayless, Bendall, Dumond, Hornus, Ockerman, Runyan.

Absent: None.

Guests: Lisa Hitchcock, City Manager; Stephanie Wuttke, The Independent; Judy Horton; Frank Svrcek; Mr. & Mrs. Gene Sanderson; Officer Kevin Clark, Police Department; Chief Mark Hetfield, Police Department; Tim Crawford, Superintendent of Public Works; Jackie Leone, The Argus Press; Bill & Bernice Lulham; Bill & Jill Lulham; William Gregg Lulham; Jack Davis, Mayor of Owosso; Dawn & Danielle Lenker; Clark Long; Dave Wenzlick; and other concerned citizens.

The meeting was called to order in the City Council Chambers by Mayor Billis at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Billis read and presented a proclamation to William Gregg Lulham recognizing his accomplishment in creating a new walkpath in McCurdy Park as part of his Eagle Scout requirements.

Owosso Mayor Jack Davis congratulated Mayor Billis on his election and presented him with a City of Owosso lapel pin.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS REGULAR MEETING: Ockerman moved, Runyan seconded to approve the minutes of the previous regular meeting as presented.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Ockerman, Dumond, Hornus, Runyan, Bayless, Bendall.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

AGENDA APPROVAL: Ockerman moved, Bayless seconded to approve the agenda as presented with the addition of Item No. 5) Resolution To Consider Streetscape Engineering Design Services, Item No. 6) Resolution To Consider Streetscape Engineering Design Services - Amendment No. 1, Item No. 7) Resolution To Consider Geotechnical Evaluation for King/Kingsley/McArthur Street Project, Item No. 8) Discussion on Setting Bid Letting Procedures, and Item No. 9) Discussion on Unapproved Streets.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Bayless, Runyan, Bendall, Ockerman, Dumond, Hornus.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

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

Roll call vote:

Yes: Runyan, Ockerman, Bayless, Hornus, Bendall, Dumond.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CALL TO AUDIENCE – CITIZEN IN-PUT TO THE CITY COUNCIL: Gene Sanderson advised the ditch across the street from his home was filled with leaves. Lisa Hitchcock explained only bagged leaves would be picked up this year. She advised if the leaves blew into the ditch they would not be raked by the city. She further advised the leaf pick up procedure was published in the newspaper and in the newsletter, which was mailed to the city residents. Mr. Sanderson stated the property owner raked the leaves into the ditch. Ms. Hitchcock advised the situation would be addressed with the property owner. Councilperson Ockerman stated the policy change bothered him and council has not discussed it. He further stated it would be impossible for some of the elderly residents to bag leaves. He also stated he was given several reasons for changing the policy such as the safety of the employees and the lack of equipment, which are valid reasons. Councilperson Ockerman advised city employees work in the street everyday because that is what they do, and it appeared that equipment is needed to pick up leaves besides requiring the residents to bag them. He suggested discussing the situation after the first of the year to come up with a better solution. Frank Svrcek advised he works for the city and bagged leaves was the best way to go. It is an economical way to provide the service to the residents. He further advised the property owner on South Shiawassee Street rakes his leaves into the ditch every year and if there is a lot of water in the ditch, it plugs up the tile. He also advised he believed that the property owner was advised by Mr. Crawford not to rake them into the ditch. Mayor Billis asked if the property owner had received written notification. Mr. Crawford advised he would have to check to see if a letter was written.

DISCHARGE OF REHABILITATION MORTGAGE: Dumond moved, Hornus seconded to approve the discharge of the rehabilitation mortgage dated October 6, 1993 and executed by Carla Fournier at 221 W. McNeil Street.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Hornus, Bendall, Dumond, Bayless, Ockerman, Runyan.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

RESOLUTION TO CONSIDER COMPUTERS AND PRINTER BID: Bayless moved, Hornus seconded to accept the bid from Corunna PC Repair & Upgrade in the amount of \$3,754 for two desktop computer systems as recommended by the city manager.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Ockerman, Dumond, Hornus, Runyan, Bayless, Bendall.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

Ockerman moved, Hornus seconded to accept the bid from Corunna PC Repair & Upgrade for a dot matrix printer in the amount of \$700 provided it is an Okidata or Panasonic or comparable to an Okidata ML591, and if it is not comparable, to accept the bid from Boise Technologies in the amount of \$540.86. Councilperson Bendall stated she was concerned that one bidder would have an unfair advantage over the other bidder. Ms. Hitchcock advised Mr. Kellogg would only be asked what the brand name of the printer is that he bid.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Bayless, Runyan, Bendall, Ockerman, Dumond, Hornus.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

RESOLUTION TO CONSIDER LOT SPLIT REQUEST FOR 490 E. MCARTHUR STREET:

Runyan moved, Ockerman seconded to approve the lot split request for 490 E. McArthur Street as recommended by the planning commission.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Hornus, Bendall, Dumond, Bayless, Ockerman, Runyan.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

RESOLUTION TO CONSIDER RE-APPOINTMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS:

Ockerman moved, Hornus seconded to re-appoint the following: Theresa Bush and Frances Dalton to the Board of Appeals, terms to expire 12-31-2002; Margaret Brown to the Building Authority, term to expire 12-31-2004; David Hilliker to the Cemetery Board, term to expire 12-31-2004; Steve Figg, Steve Olmsted and Tom Petersen to the Downtown Development Authority, terms to expire 12-31-2003; Billie Striggow to the Forest Management Commission, term to expire 12-31-2002; Karen Hornus and Dan Kribs to the Fourth of July Commission, terms to expire 12-31-2002; Linda Mason, Jean Mason and Richard Waters to the Historical Commission, terms to expire 12-31-2002; Martha Lewis to the Library Board, term to expire 12-31-2004; Barbara Folland, Cheryl Kribs, John Malaska, Karen Welch and Joe Williams to the Parks and Recreation Commission, terms to expire 12-31-2002; Donald Butcher and Doug Piggott to the Planning Commission, terms to expire 12-31-2002; and Mike Heroux, Judie Strauch, and Mary Witte to the Softball Commission, terms to expire 12-31-2002.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Bendall, Bayless, Runyan, Dumond, Hornus, Ockerman.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

Dumond moved, Hornus seconded to appoint Vicki Bonasse to the Fourth of July Commission to replace Gary Schooley, term to expire 12-31-2001.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Dumond, Hornus, Ockerman, Bendall, Runyan, Bayless.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

Ockerman moved, Bayless seconded to appoint Cal Hornus to the Fire Board as the council representative to replace Albert Bayless.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Runyan, Ockerman, Bayless, Hornus, Bendall, Dumond.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

Ockerman moved, Dumond seconded to replace the three council members on the labor board with three members-at-large and to have the city manager check with the Michigan Municipal League for guidelines to follow.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Ockerman, Dumond.

No: Hornus, Runyan, Bayless, Bendall.

Motion DEFEATED

RESOLUTION TO CONSIDER CORUNNA STREETSCAPE ENGINEERING DESIGN

SERVICES: Bayless moved, Hornus seconded to approve the contract with Capital Consultants for engineering design services for the streetscape project in the amount of \$59,500.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Runyan, Ockerman, Bayless, Hornus, Bendall, Dumond.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

RESOLUTION TO CONSIDER CORUNNA STREETSCAPE ENGINEERING DESIGN

SERVICES - AMENDMENT NO. 1: Bendall moved, Dumond seconded to approve the contract with Capital Consultants for engineering design services - amendment no. 1 to the streetscape project in the amount of \$5,500.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Hornus, Bendall, Dumond, Bayless, Ockerman, Runyan.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

RESOLUTION TO CONSIDER GEOTECHNICAL EVALUATION FOR KING / KINGSLEY

/ MCARTHUR STREET PROJECT: Bendall moved, Hornus seconded to accept the bid for soil borings on the King / Kingsley / McArthur Street project in the amount of \$4,800 as recommended by Capital Consultants to the firm of Soil and Materials Engineers, Inc.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Bendall, Bayless, Runyan, Dumond, Hornus, Ockerman.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

DISCUSSION ON SETTING BID LETTING PROCEDURES: Runyan moved, Hornus seconded to establish a policy to accept sealed bids on amounts over \$2,500.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Runyan, Ockerman.

No: Bayless, Bendall, Dumond, Hornus.

Motion DEFEATED

DISCUSSION ON UNAPPROVED STREETS: Ockerman moved, Hornus seconded to suspend the Robert Rules of Order and go into informal discussion on unapproved streets.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Ockerman, Bayless, Hornus, Bendall, Dumond.

No: None.

Abstain: Runyan.

Motion CARRIED

Councilperson Ockerman asked Ms. Hitchcock to explain what has occurred with the ditch behind Mr. Runyan's property. Ms. Hitchcock advised brush is growing in the area behind his property and after investigating the situation, she found out the area is an unimproved street. She further advised the brush is in the street right-of-way, and it was her understanding the area was cleaned out several years ago. Ms Hitchcock stated she contacted the city attorney to find out what the city's liability would be if the brush is removed, what could be done, what the city would be responsible for and what the city's actual duties are. She further stated council received a copy of the city attorney's answer in their packets. Councilperson Bendall asked if the street has been vacated. Ms. Hitchcock advised no. Councilperson Ockerman advised the property is located behind Super Cone on E. McNeil Street. He further advised it appeared that Mr. Runyan had a water problem several years ago and the city was kind enough to place a ditch in the area. Now, the ditch is overgrown with weeds. Councilperson Ockerman stated Mr. Runyan is asking for the brush to be cut down, and the city should take care of their property. Mayor Billis asked if the city has cut the brush in the past. Councilperson Ockerman advised yes. Councilperson Bendall stated it appears that the area is a city street. Mayor Billis suggested sending a letter of apology to Mr. Runyan apologizing for the length of time it took to get an answer. Councilperson Bendall suggested asking the planning commission to take a look at vacating the unapproved streets so a problem like this does not happen again. She stated she does not want to see a time frame placed on when the work would be done. Bayless moved, Ockerman seconded to leave the informal discussion and return to formal proceedings.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Bendall, Bayless, Dumond, Hornus, Ockerman.

No: None.

Abstain: Runyan

Motion CARRIED

Ockerman moved, Bayless seconded to direct the city manager to send a letter of apology to Mr. Runyan apologizing for the length of time it has taken to get him an answer, to advise him that the problem will be addressed in the spring, to advise him of any options he has to obtain the property, and to ask the planning commission to review the other unapproved streets. Councilperson Bendall stated she was concerned with setting a precedent.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Hornus, Bendall, Dumond, Bayless, Ockerman.

No: None.

Abstain: Runyan.

Motion CARRIED

CALL TO AUDIENCE – CITIZEN IN-PUT TO THE CITY COUNCIL: Gene Sanderson asked why the ditch across the street from his property could not be cleaned out since it was done before. Councilperson Bayless stated the city needs to stop the person from raking the leaves into the ditch. He further stated he supported the previous motion because he wants the city to be a good neighbor. Mayor Billis stated council understands Mr. Sanderson's concern, and the situation will be explored in order to find a solution. Councilperson Ockerman stated the leaf raking issue would be addressed with the property owner.

Judy Horton asked Councilperson Ockerman if Mr. Runyan told him when the ditch was dug. Councilperson Ockerman advised no. Ms. Horton stated she would find out when the ditch was dug.

Mr. Sanderson stated his neighbor across the street, Paul Anderson, was promised by Tom Svrcek that the city would put in some type of growth in the area where the new road was put in. The bank is too steep to mow. Mayor Billis stated the city's policy is to get something in writing. He further stated Mr. Svrcek is no longer employed with the city, and no one knows what was said. Mr. Sanderson stated the city needs to establish a new committee to look at ways to beautify the city.

ADJOURN: Bayless moved, Ockerman seconded to adjourn.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Bayless, Bendall, Dumond, Hornus, Ockerman, Runyan.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED Time was 10.15 p.m.

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DR. JAMES BILLIS, MAYOR

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LINDA M. LECUREUX, DEPUTY CLERK