

City of Corunna
Regular Council Meeting
Monday, November 20, 2000

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

Absent: Billis.

Guests: Lisa Hitchcock, City Manager; Chief Mark Hetfield, Police Department; Larry LeCureux; Cheryl Kribs; Bob Morehouse; Gene Sanderson; Judy Horton; Frank Svrcek; Stephanie Wuttke, The Independent; Ronald Dean; Sgt. Kevin Clark, Police Department; Robert Gilman; and other concerned citizens.

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

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS REGULAR MEETING: Dumond moved, Hornus seconded to approve the minutes of the previous regular meeting.

Roll call vote:

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

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

AGENDA APPROVAL: Hornus moved, Dumond seconded to approve the agenda as presented with the deletion of Item No. 4) Consider Parks & Recreation Director Appointment and Item No. 6) Consider Motorola/Nextel System.

Roll call vote:

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

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

APPROVAL OF VENDOR DISBURSEMENTS: Hornus moved, Runyan 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: Richard Chapman advised he lives on Kingsley Street and asked if water and sewer would still be put in on Kingsley Street. Mayor Pro-Tem Bendall advised the project was in progress and it would include installing sewer lines on Kingsley Street. She further advised the construction should start on Kingsley Street at the end of the month. Ms. Hitchcock advised the construction completion date, weather permitting, is still December 15.

CONSIDER STORM WATER CONCERNS ADDRESSED BY RONALD DEAN: Ronald

Dean stated his number one concern was the fill dirt area next to his house on McNeil Street. His property line is at the city limits and the fill dirt is located in Caledonia Township. He further stated there is a tremendous amount of water that runs through that area and it has been going on for at least 30 years. He also stated he realizes there was four point one (4.1) inches of rain that fell in the general area during the last storm, but there was water running across his driveway from 2:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. and it came from the fill dirt area. Mr. Dean advised his property is located on top of the drain district and he should be the last one to get any water. He further advised he wants the gap located next to his house filled and asked who was responsible for putting the dirt in that area and what could be done about it. He also advised a culvert could be placed in that area to resolve the problem. Mr. Dean explained that Lisa Hitchcock told him that written permission was needed from the railroad. He further explained he has made several phone calls to the railroad and has been in touch with the county drain commissioner's office. The drain commissioner's office feels the water should run across the road to the McBride Drain instead of in the middle of Gary Blahnik's yard. He also explained he knows this situation is not going to be resolved easily, but he has dealt with the situation for twenty years. Mr. Dean stated he knows he will get permission from the railroad if everything is worked out, but he needs council's blessings. He further stated Ms. Hitchcock has seen the whole situation. He also stated the city needs to work towards adding the old Ann Arbor railroad right-of-way to the tax role. The railroad should either pay taxes on the property to maintain the ability to service Corunna again or forfeit the land back to the adjoining property owners. Mr. Dean advised he has the most to gain if the railroad abandons their right-of-way because his lot size would increase. He further advised if the city does not receive written permission from the railroad then the community should start the process of trying to reabsorb the property by putting a tax base on it. Councilperson Ockerman asked Mr. Dean if he was addressing council to make his views known and stated it appeared that Mr. Dean was working with Ms. Hitchcock and Mr. Crawford. Ms. Hitchcock advised she has been talking with the drain office about the situation. Mr. Dean stated he wanted to make sure the situation was a matter of public record. Councilperson Ockerman stated he was sure Ms. Hitchcock would follow-up on the situation and report back to council. Mr. Dean stated he would continue to come to council until the situation is resolved. Councilperson Ockerman stated it did not appear that Mr. Dean was experiencing any problems. Councilperson Dumond asked Mr. Dean to keep Ms. Hitchcock informed if he did have any problems. Mr. Dean asked who was responsible for filling in that area. Councilperson Ockerman stated council did not know and that was something Ms. Hitchcock was working on. Councilperson Runyan asked Mr. Dean if he was talking about the east/west boundary or the north/south boundary. Mr. Dean advised the north, east and south boundary. Councilperson Runyan stated according to the city map, the city limit runs past the curve on Lytle Road and about one-half mile south on Parmenter Road. Mr. Dean advised his property line is the end of the city limits. The area where the fill dirt is located is in Caledonia Township. He further advised the property located at 728 E. McNeil Street is the end of the city limits on the north side of McNeil Street. Mayor Pro-Tem Bendall stated she believed that Mr. Dean was talking about two pieces of property; the parcel he lives on and an additional parcel he owns. She further stated

she would like Ms. Hitchcock and Mr. Crawford to investigate the situation. Mayor Pro-Tem Bendall asked if there were two different drain districts. Mr. Dean advised yes. Mayor Pro-Tem Bendall asked if the situation was something that had to be petitioned to the drain office or if it could be classified as maintenance. Mr. Dean advised he thought the situation could be classified as maintenance because the drain commissioner's office is in full consensus that it would be a cost effective way to resolve the situation effectively. Mayor Pro-Tem Bendall stated, at this point she would like to turn everything over to the city staff, which will give council an opportunity to look at the area Mr. Dean is talking about.

CONSIDER APPOINTMENT TO THE FOURTH OF JULY COMMISSION, TERM TO EXPIRE DECEMBER 31, 2000: Hornus moved, Dumond seconded to appoint Marlinda Thorpe to the Fourth of July Commission, term to expire December 31, 2000.

Roll call vote:

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

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER APPOINTMENT TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND BOARD, TERM TO EXPIRE DECEMBER 31, 2001: Hornus moved, Dumond seconded to appoint Robert Morehouse to the Economic Development Fund Board, term to expire December 31, 2001.

Roll call vote:

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

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER LEASE PURCHASE OF POLICE CARS: Councilperson Ockerman asked how many miles per year are put on a police car. Chief Hetfield advised 40,000 to 45,000 miles per year. Councilperson Ockerman asked if the proposal was to lease a vehicle instead of purchasing one. Chief Hetfield advised yes, the lease is for two years, and the cost is one-half the price so the city can get two cars for the price of one. At the end of the two-year lease, the city can buy back each car for \$1.00. Councilperson Ockerman asked how the city could buy back a car for \$1.00. Chief Hetfield advised the leases are government leases and the buy back is only \$1.00. Councilperson Ockerman stated it looked like there was a price difference between the Chevrolet and the Ford, but he had a problem with the Chevrolet because it was coming from a dealer in Grand Rapids instead of a local dealer. He asked if the city would have to take the car to Grand Rapids for service. Chief Hetfield advised no, the car could be serviced locally. Councilperson Ockerman asked if the Chevrolet would have a delivery charge. Chief Hetfield advised someone from the city would pick up the cars if there was a delivery charge. Councilperson Ockerman suggested making sure the motion includes the delivered price. He asked why there was a price difference. Chief Hetfield advised the cars are almost the same except the Ford has rear wheel drive and the Chevrolet is front wheel drive. He further advised the Chevrolet engine is a little smaller than the Ford engine but it has the same performance as the Ford. Councilperson Runyan asked if the engine was a V6 or a

new L series. Chief Hetfield advised the engine was a small eight and tests have shown that the Chevrolet has outperformed the Ford. Councilperson Ockerman asked if two cars would be purchased now. Chief Hetfield advised yes. Councilperson Runyan asked Chief Hetfield if he would be satisfied with a front wheel drive car in the winter. Chief Hetfield advised he has checked around with other police departments and no one has had a problem with them. Councilperson Ockerman advised a front wheel drive is better in snow. He asked what would be done with the old cars. Chief Hetfield advised they would be put out for bid. Councilperson Ockerman asked how much the cars were worth. Chief Hetfield advised the Ford was probably worth \$5,500 and the Chevrolet was worth \$4,000 or \$5,000. Dumond moved, Hornus seconded to approve the lease purchase of two Chevrolet Impala police cars at the delivered price of \$18,960 from Berger Chevrolet.

Roll call vote:

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

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER CORUNNA AVENUE RECONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING PROPOSAL:

Councilperson Runyan stated he believed the proposal had already been considered by council, and council was just approving the engineering fees. Ms. Hitchcock advised that was correct. Councilperson Ockerman stated he believed the money was coming from the Major Street Fund and asked to have the motion include which fund the money was coming from. Runyan moved, Hornus seconded to accept the engineering fees from Capital Consultants in the amount of \$4,000 for the Corunna Avenue Reconstruction with monies to be taken out of the Major Street Fund. Councilperson Ockerman asked where the money was coming from for the construction part of the project. Ms. Hitchcock advised from the streetscape fund.

Roll call vote:

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

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CALL TO AUDIENCE: Judy Horton stated Mr. Dean's water is the same water that ended up on McArthur Street, and it is the same water that everyone had to contend with.

Councilperson Ockerman advised it was not the same water; the water was only coming from the same place.

Robert Gilman asked if the city limit starts at the city limit sign. Ms. Hitchcock advised not always. It depends on which side of the street the city limit sign is on.

Councilperson Bayless asked Councilperson Runyan to have the planning commission look into redoing the city maps to see if there are errors that need to be corrected.

Councilperson Bayless stated he likes to have a map in front of him to look at because he does not know where the boundary lines are.

ADJOURN: Hornus moved to adjourn.

Roll call vote:

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

No: None.

Motion CARRIED Time was 8:21 p.m.

DEBORAH BENDALL, MAYOR PRO-TEM

YVONNE F. LONG, CITY CLERK