

City of Corunna
Regular Council Meeting
Monday, May 7, 2001

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

Absent: None.

Guests: Joe Sawyer, City Manager; Judy Horton; Dick Sanderson; Gene Sanderson; Don Runyon; Larry LeCureux; Clark Long; Sgt. Kevin Clark, Police Department; Sam Burwell; Chief Scott Johnson, Fire Department; Janet Washburn, Parks and Recreation Director; Trevor Wagonmaker, Capital Consultants; Bill Kimble, Capital Consultants; Jackie Leone, The Argus Press; Virginia Runyan, Poppy Chairman; Brandi Horton, Poppy Queen; Tara Jenkins, The Independent; and other concerned citizens.

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

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

Roll call vote:

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

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING: Hornus moved, Dumond seconded to approve the minutes of the special meeting.

Roll call vote:

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

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

AGENDA APPROVAL: Hornus moved, Dumond seconded to approve the agenda as presented.

Roll call vote:

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

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

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

Roll call vote:

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

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CALL TO AUDIENCE: Judy Horton, 315 Dutcher Street, asked if there were signs up that tell the big trucks that they cannot come down the city streets. Mayor Billis advised there are signs, but they are giving out mixed messages. He further advised the city was working with the construction company on the signage issue. Sam Burwell advised he took the detour and explained the route.

Don Runyon, 563 Cary Street, stated the people were told there would be two lanes of traffic open all of the time during the construction, but there has only been one lane open which is sending mixed messages. Mayor Billis advised he and Mr. Sawyer talked to the engineers today and were told the traffic lanes had to be that way in order to lay down asphalt.

Dick Sanderson, 224 W. McNeil Street, stated he noticed that three semis came down W. McNeil Street and they did not know where to go because there were no signs. Mayor Billis advised that was something that Mr. Sawyer needed to work on.

Virginia Runyan, Poppy Chairperson from the Veterans of Foreign Wars, thanked council for supporting the poppy sales in the past. She introduced the Poppy Queen, Brandi Horton, who then sold the first poppy to Mayor Billis. The Veterans of Foreign Wars Quartermaster advised the Corunna post has 361 paying members and asked people to contact the post if they know of anyone who would be a qualifying member.

MANAGER'S REPORT: Mr. Sawyer reviewed his manager's report with council and with those in the audience. He provided council with a list of meetings/events he attended and meetings/events that are scheduled.

SET PUBLIC HEARING FOR MAY 21, 2001 AT 7:15 P.M. TO CONSIDER CHARTER

AMENDMENTS: Dumond moved, Hornus seconded to set a public hearing for May 21, 2001 at 7:15 p.m. to consider charter amendments.

Roll call vote:

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

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER ACTION ON MCARTHUR STREET WATER MAIN/STREET

RECONSTRUCTION: Joe Sawyer advised the McArthur Street water main/street reconstruction was for two blocks that council had previously approved as a change order to the McArthur/Kingsley project. He further advised the project is a water main replacement and road reconstruction project that includes curb and cutter and was not part of the streetscape project. Mr. Sawyer stated \$71,000 was previously approved for the project, but the estimate did not include engineering costs. He further stated in the future all estimates would include engineering costs. He also stated the original project estimate only included one block instead of two blocks. Mr. Sawyer advised this situation was a tough call for him as far as a recommendation because it is a lot of money to come up with. He further advised the McArthur Street project installed a 12-inch water main and an eight-inch water main was installed on Kingsley Street, but the two blocks on McArthur Street between Shiawassee Street and the new construction only has a four-inch water main. Mayor Billis stated he was concerned with an eight-inch water main going to a four-inch water main. Mr.

Sawyer stated the water line would go from 12-inch to four-inch to 12-inch. Mayor Billis stated the city would probably want to be safe in case the city has a fire to put out. Councilperson Dumond asked where the money would come from. Mr. Sawyer advised he was still hoping the project would be underbid. The original cost was budgeted, but the city is looking at an additional \$80,000 on that portion of the project. He further advised his recommendation would be to go with option B because most of the projects would be paid this fiscal year, and the project would be a valuable project in regards to improving the infrastructure. Councilperson Ockerman stated the change would not give the city a 12-inch water line to Comstock Street. Mr. Sawyer advised the city would have a 12-inch water line to Kingsley Street. He further advised if the city were to ask for bids today the project would cost more than what council had before them because Perrin Construction is honoring their unit pricing. Councilperson Ockerman stated council has to agree not to exceed \$166,091.55 if the project is done. Mr. Sawyer stated the engineer's estimate is based on the actual bid pricing the city already has. The finished product might be a little bit different. Councilperson Ockerman asked if the monies would be taken from the Major Street Fund. Mr. Sawyer advised yes. Mayor Billis stated council is crunching numbers pretty hard in the budget right now. Councilperson Runyan stated if the city waits then this project would cost more. Mayor Billis stated council should not use inflation as a reason for doing the project. Councilperson Hornus asked if the project would be done this summer. Mr. Sawyer advised yes. Ockerman moved, Dumond seconded to revise the estimate of the Kingsley/McArthur Street construction project to upgrade the four-inch water main from one block to two blocks in the amount of \$166,091.55 with monies to be taken from the Kingsley/McArthur Street Construction Fund.

Roll call vote:

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

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CAPITAL CONSULTANTS REPORT-TREVOR WAGONMAKER: Trevor Wagonmaker,
Capital

Consultants, advised he met with Mr. Sawyer to prioritize the upcoming projects. He further advised the sanitary sewers take in overflow during rainfall. Mayor Billis stated the city has an overflow tank and asked why the city is discharging water. Mr. Sawyer advised the overflow tank would only hold one week of Corunna's sewage. The sanitary sewer overflow is a separate issue than capacity, but the capacity infiltration issue ties in very closely with the overflow issue. He further advised 50 percent of the city's sanitary sewer is wastewater infiltration, which is the estimate he received from Gary Burk at the wastewater treatment plant. He also advised the state views each issue separately because one issue deals with the capacity to process, and the other issue has to do with dumping raw sewage in the river. Since these two issues are linked together, and the city has so much rainwater infiltrating into the system, the overflow tank is not big enough to take a heavy, heavy rainfall. Mr. Sawyer stated the pipes, which transfer the water to the Ferry Street pump station, cannot handle the capacity, which causes manhole overflows. He further stated the city's utility master mapping should be at the top of council's list. The city's water system and reliability study, street inventory, dam inspection and recommendations, and 2001 street improvements should be looked at strongly during the budgeting process. Mr. Kimble stated the Department of Environmental Quality recommends that a city do a water system

and reliability study every five years, but in order to do the study, a city needs to update its utility master map. Mr. Sawyer stated the cost to update the city's water and wastewater mapping is \$7,500 and this amount would fit comfortably into the city's budget. He further stated the \$15,000 cost to update the storm sewer mapping was a little bit harder to do because it was not an expense that could come out of the water or wastewater fund. He also stated he broke down the cost of street construction versus water and sanitary construction, and the amount for local streets was \$92,000, for water was just under \$87,000 and for waste water was just under \$25,000. Mr. Sawyer advised these amounts fit comfortably into the budget as proposed, but the amounts did not include North Shiawassee Street and some of the other issues that are being juggled. He further advised the Shiawassee Street reconstruction has been bumped up to next year. Mr. Sawyer asked Mr. Wagonmaker to update council on the McCurdy Park restroom pavilion. Mr. Wagonmaker advised the state would be sending the city an agreement letter in August. Councilperson Bayless asked how long it would take to build the restroom pavilion. Mr. Wagonmaker advised the pavilion could be built in the fall. He further advised the water and sewer issue was something that might be a problem. Councilperson Bayless advised if the pavilion was started at the end of August then it could possibly be built. Mr. Wagonmaker stated the state has a detailed process it follows, so even if the city has its documents ready for bidding, the city has to send the documents to the state for review. It could be late September before the city could start construction. Councilperson Ockerman stated at the last budget meeting there was discussion about placing a fire hydrant in the park. He asked Mr. Wagonmaker what the additional cost would be. Mr. Wagonmaker advised approximately \$40,000 to \$50,000 for utilities, but it would depend on what kind of facility the city wants to build in the park. Mr. Sawyer advised it would be great to install a fire hydrant at the historical village, and ideally, the city would want to install an eight-inch water line to a fire hydrant. He further advised a two-inch line could be tapped into the water main, but once you tap into a four, six, or eight-inch water main, the city would have to cut and splice instead of doing a direct water tap. The water would have to be shut down in the city for a period of time in order to do the water taps. Councilperson Bayless suggested applying for a grant to install water service to the historical village and then make a tap off of that line for the restroom. Mr. Sawyer stated updating the utility maps would be on the top of his recommendation list as well as the dam inspection work. He also stated the information presented tonight was for informational purposes only and council did not need to take any action.

CONSIDER ACTION ON BRIDGE DESIGN ENGINEERING CONTRACT AMENDMENT:

Mr. Sawyer advised council had previously approved the bridge design contract with Capital Consultants in the amount of \$58,000, but Capital Consultants is now asking to increase the bridge design contract to \$76,200, which is an increase of \$18,200. He further advised the bridge design was originally a two-lane bridge and now it is a four-lane bridge. He also advised there has been a request that the city get an estimate for replacing the water main from an eight-inch water line to a 12-inch water line, which was never part of the original \$58,000 engineering contract. Mayor Billis asked who made the original bridge proposal. Mr. Wagonmaker advised the state made the original proposal. Mr. Sawyer stated he felt the contract amendment was a reasonable request at this time. He further stated he is checking

where the money will come from and where the dollars have been paid for in the past, which appeared to be a combination of major and local streets. Ockerman moved, Dumond seconded to amend the bridge design-engineering contract with Capital Consultants from \$58,000 to \$76,200.

Roll call vote:

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

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER STREET SWEEPER REPAIRS: Hornus moved, Ockerman seconded to approve the street sweeper repairs in the amount of \$2,101.58 with monies to be taken from the Motor Pool Fund.

Roll call vote:

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

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CALL TO AUDIENCE: Don Runyon, 563 Cary Street, stated he watched his television the other night and there was discussion about the construction being done by the state. He further stated he heard the state is getting a seven-year guarantee on all the work that is being done and asked if the city was getting any guarantee on the work that is being done. Mr. Sawyer advised the construction project is a state project so he would assume the guarantee would apply here. Mr. Runyon asked what the city was going to do with a four-lane bridge. Councilperson Ockerman stated the state is spending their money.

Gene Sanderson, 606 S. Shiawassee Street, stated the people of Corunna need an explanation from past councils on what they did during the last 15 or 20 years. All of these water and sewer problems have piled up, and it is costing the city millions of dollars to fix the problems. Mayor Billis advised he did not know what was done or what the previous council's priorities were. He further advised what he thinks is a priority might differ from what the previous councils thought. The city's water and sewer situation is a priority to him, and it has not been a priority of past councils. He also advised the city needs to fix these situations in order to grow, and the city needs to grow in order to increase its tax base so these problems can be taken care of. Mr. Sanderson stated somebody has been lying to somebody about what is going on in this city. Mr. Sawyer stated some of the city's infrastructure is 100 years old and there was no storm versus sanitary sewer back then. It was all one system that dumped in the river. He further stated the cost of separating the systems is expensive. Councilperson Ockerman stated the city's revenue in the last six years has increased from \$1,000,000 to \$1,700,000. He further stated the past council's have not had the funds to do things.

Don Runyon, 563 Cary Street, stated Herb Jenkins was the police department when he moved into the city and now, the city has 13 policemen and five cars. Mr. Sawyer stated if Chief Hetfield was present he would probably tell me to cut back to 12 officers.

Judy Horton, 315 Dutcher Street, advised the city asked Capital Consultants a long time ago what had to be done, and they made recommendations, but now, the state is telling the city what the city can or cannot do. Councilperson Ockerman stated the city has five mills that were imposed a few years ago, but before the millage was imposed, the city did not have the extra money to fix the problems.

Janet Washburn advised she sat on the council for 13 years. When the city tried to get water from Owosso, the residents had a fit, and it took the city years to get to the point where the state told the city that it either had to connect to the water line in Flint or connect with Owosso. Council knew the costs were going to be astronomical whichever way the city went. She further advised the same thing happened when the tank was put in. The council was told the tank would eliminate the city's problem short-term, but council knew it was not a long-term fix. She also advised there were people who did not want to do anything until the state told the city it could not dump anything in the river. These people grudgingly bought the city a small piece of the pie and the other municipalities bought a larger piece. Now, the city has to beg, borrow and steal from the other municipalities because the city did not want to stick its neck out and pay the price for what the city needed.

ADJOURN: Dumond moved to adjourn.

Roll call vote:

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

No: None.

Motion CARRIED Time was 9:00 p.m.

DR. JAMES BILLIS, MAYOR

YVONNE F. LONG, CITY CLERK