

City of Corunna  
Regular Council Meeting  
Monday, June 3, 2002

Present: Corey, Jessen, Johnson, Mehigh, Runyan, Sanderson.

Absent: None.

Guests: Joe Sawyer, City Manager; Janet Washburn, Parks and Recreation Director; Chief Scott Johnson, Fire Department; Shirley Sanderson; Susan Groll; Gerald Klingler; Officer Kim Williams, Police Department; Keith & Diane Johnson; Helen Granger, The Independent; Gary Granger; Sam Burwell; Judy Horton; Larry LeCureux; Dan Wagner; Cal Hornus; Clark Long; Charles Stuart; and other concerned citizens.

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

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

Roll call vote:

Yes: Johnson, Sanderson, Runyan, Jessen, Mehigh.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

AGENDA APPROVAL: Jessen moved, Johnson seconded to approve the agenda as presented with the addition of Item No. 4) Discussion On In-line Skate Rink Fencing.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Jessen, Runyan, Mehigh, Johnson, Sanderson.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

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

Roll call vote:

Yes: Runyan, Jessen, Sanderson, Mehigh, Johnson.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CALL TO AUDIENCE: Keith Johnson, 211 Hastings Street, stated the McCurdy Park signs are drop dead gorgeous. He further stated he did not know what the city would do with the fence at Heritage Park, but if the city puts back what the city has, it probably will not last a long time. The city might have to put up a chain link fence. He also stated the box elder and maple trees will not make it. Mr. Johnson advised if the city is going to remove the fence, he would volunteer to remove the trees.

Charles Stuart stated he lives above Ken's store and is very aware of the streetlights. The streetlights are running a lot when they are not needed. Mr. Stuart asked if there was some way to adjust the sensitivity. The lights were on until 10:30 this morning, and once they go off, they stay off. Mr. Stuart advised the streetlights are not needed for at least an hour every morning. This seems to be an awful waste of the taxpayer's money. He further advised he called city hall today and was treated very rudely by whoever answered the phone. He also advised as elected officials council should be better stewards of the city taxes. Mayor Corey asked if the streetlights were on a light sensor or on a timer. Mr. Sawyer advised the streetlights are on a light sensor, and the sensor might need to be replaced since adjustments have not made any difference.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT/PRE-COUNCIL DISCUSSION: Mr. Sawyer reviewed his manager's report with council and with those in the audience. Councilperson Mehigh asked if there were any traffic survey results back yet. Mr. Sawyer advised no. The metering portion of the traffic count is done, but monitoring the intersection and watching traffic movement is still in progress.

APPOINTMENT OF WARD ONE COUNCILPERSON: Mayor Corey advised since there were three individuals interested in the first ward council seat, the best thing to do is to have each individual address the council. Sam Burwell stated he had no comments, but he would answer questions. Mayor Corey asked council if they had any questions for Mr. Burwell, and there were none. Gerald Klingler advised he was one of the ward one councilperson applicants. Councilperson Mehigh asked Mr. Klingler if he had a background or any experience in government. Mr. Klingler advised no sir. Councilperson Sanderson asked Mr. Klingler to give council a brief resume about himself. Mr. Klingler advised he graduated from Owosso High School and has lived in Shiawassee County all of his life. He further advised he has been a resident of Corunna for three years, and he cannot complain about how government runs unless he wants to do something about it so he wants to take a more active role. Mayor Corey stated the next candidate is Daniel Wagner. Mr. Wagner advised he has lived in Shiawassee County his entire life and graduated from Owosso High School. He further advised he has lived in Corunna the past four years. He has no government experience and has always been interested in being part of the community, but has never had a job that has allowed him the time to do anything except work. He now has the time to get involved. Councilperson Sanderson asked Mr. Wagner if he has followed the city government in the paper within the last year or two. Mr. Wagner advised no. He reads the paper when he gets the chance to try to keep up. He further advised everybody has opinions, and he is the type of person who will voice his opinion and will not sit back and let stuff happen that he does not feel is right. Councilperson Runyan asked Mr. Wagner if he does any volunteer work or support any youth organization. Mr. Wagner advised he is involved with the Boy Scouts of America and is an Eagle Scout. He further advised he is an assistant scoutmaster for a troop in Owosso. He also advised he used to be involved with 4-H when he was young. Councilperson Johnson stated she wanted the candidates to know that she did not have any experience either before she was elected. Mayor Corey stated he appreciated all three of the candidates for putting their hat in the ring. Runyan moved, Sanderson seconded to appoint Daniel Wagner as the Ward One councilperson to fill the seat vacated by the resignation of Robert Ockerman.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Sanderson, Mehigh, Johnson, Jessen, Runyan.  
No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER REQUEST FROM SHIAWASSEE SHRINE CLUB TO SELL PAPERS THE

WEEKEND OF JUNE 14-15, 2002: Runyan moved, Jessen seconded to approve the Shrine paper sales in downtown Corunna on the weekend of June 14th and 15th, 2002.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Mehigh, Jessen, Runyan, Johnson, Sanderson.  
No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER RELEASE OF GRANDMA'S RECIPES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LOAN:

Mr. Sawyer gave a brief synopsis of what has occurred with the economic development loan. Mehigh moved, Sanderson seconded to release the Economic Development Loan with Grandma's recipes in the amount of \$28,853 in consideration for payment of \$8,000 by the Downtown Development Authority to the City of Corunna Economic Development Loan Fund, donation of \$2,500 in furniture to the Corunna Parks and Recreation Commission, retention of \$9,500 in fixed equipment by the Corunna Downtown Development Authority, donation of \$1,500 for the Salad Bar/Food Bar/Fryers to the Corunna Parks and Recreation Commission, and payment of \$6,500 by the Courtside Café to the Corunna Downtown Development Authority for trade fixtures.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Johnson, Sanderson, Mehigh, Runyan, Jessen.  
No: None.

Motion CARRIED

DISCUSSION ON IN-LINE SKATE RINK FENCING:

Councilperson Jessen advised the in-line skating group has the fence, and they want permission to put it up. Mr. Sawyer advised according to the pictures being circulated, the fencing would only be put on the ends of the rink. Mayor Corey asked if there was a site plan, which shows specifications about how far away from the rink the fence should be. Mr. Sawyer advised the fencing sits on top of the rail. Ms. Groll asked what else was needed besides permission and if a permit was needed. Mr. Sawyer advised he would have to double-check, and if one is needed, there would not be a fee. He asked Ms. Groll to give him a call. Councilperson Mehigh stated he would like to see Ms. Groll work with Mr. Sawyer and Ms. Washburn to come up with some organized parking. Councilperson Mehigh asked if there were any plans to dedicate the skating rink to the city. Ms. Groll advised yes, this is on the executive board's agenda this summer. Councilperson Sanderson asked how much more money the city will have to put into the skating rink. Ms. Groll asked how much money does the city have. There is a lot to do. She advised bleachers and a digital scoreboard are needed. Right now, maintenance and fencing is all the league is going to be able to do this year. Councilperson Sanderson stated there seems to be a problem with draining water off of the rink. Ms. Groll advised there are certain spots where the asphalt is not quite level, and this is something the league would have to work on before the rink is sealed. Councilperson Runyan asked why the contractors were not forced to fix the low areas of the asphalt. Ms. Groll advised she wished she knew who the contractors were because she would not want them to do her driveway.

Councilperson Runyan asked how the water would be moved from the middle of the rink to the side. Ms. Groll advised the plan is to put a filler material in the low areas of the rink so the water will run to the side before the sealer is put on the rink. Councilperson Runyan stated if the city is asked to donate money or do things for the hockey rink, it is kind of hard to take taxpayers money and put it into something the city does not own. Ms. Groll advised the city does own the hockey rink. Councilperson Runyan stated the rink has not been dedicated to the city. Ms. Groll advised it is hard to get everybody together right now because of the end of the season and playoffs. There will be another executive board meeting on June 27 in which this situation will be talked about. Councilperson Mehig stated the hockey rink is the first thing that is seen when a person first drives into the park, but it is kind of an eyesore. He further stated Mr. Sawyer came into a windfall of paint and maybe the hockey group can work with Mr. Sawyer and put a coat of paint on the hockey rink. A coat of paint would make the hockey rink look a lot neater. Ms. Groll advised there is a plan to do some summer maintenance, which includes painting or resealing the wood this summer. She further advised she did not know if the city wanted the wood painted or resealed. Councilperson Mehig stated he thought the wood should be painted and suggested that Ms. Groll work with Mr. Sawyer or Ms. Washburn. Jessen moved, Runyan seconded to allow the in-line skating group to put up a fence with Joe Sawyer's permission and permits. Councilperson Mehig stated he would like to see the fence professionally done so it does not look haphazard. He suggested asked Mr. Sawyer, Ms. Washburn or the building inspector to take a look at the fence before it is completed. Councilperson Sanderson asked when the fencing would be installed. Ms. Groll advised before the fall season starts. Councilperson Sanderson asked when the summer season ends. Ms. Groll advised June 20.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Johnson, Sanderson, Runyan, Jessen, Mehig.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CALL TO AUDIENCE: Judy Horton advised the corner of the Krib's cabin has been replaced. She briefly discussed the antique truck show and the new park bathrooms.

Ms. Groll advised the hockey rink landscaping issue would be brought to council this summer. She asked when the other fence would be removed. Mr. Sawyer asked council if there were any objections to removing the old fencing located at the old basketball area. Mayor Corey asked if any council action was needed to remove the fence. Councilperson Mehig stated he did not care if the fence was taken out but asked if the fence was acting as a safety feature that would help prevent accidents. Mr. Sawyer advised he personally did not see the fence as a safety feature. Councilperson Runyan asked if there was another place the fence could be used. Mr. Sawyer advised he hopes the fence can be recycled and used on the back of the grandstand, which has been identified as a safety hazard. Councilperson Johnson asked if the hockey rink could be used throughout the summer once the league is done. Ms. Groll advised yes. Councilperson Sanderson asked if the hockey rink was supervised in the summer. Ms. Groll advised no. Councilperson Sanderson asked who was liable if someone is injured. Ms. Groll advised the property owner. The hockey league only has liability insurance on the players. Mr. Sawyer advised the city does not allow hard pucks on the rink. When there is no organized or supervised team play, there could be eight

or ten different groups running around with sticks on the rink. He further advised if stick play is going on, there should be some type of control. The city might want to look at other communities to see how this situation is handled. Councilperson Jessen stated the liability would not be any different than when the tennis court was in the park. Councilperson Sanderson asked Mr. Sawyer to look at allowing kids up to 14 or 16 to use the rink in the morning until 4:00 p.m. and adults can use the rink after that. Mr. Sawyer asked Ms. Groll if the hockey league has seen any problems during the off-season. Ms. Groll stated she has seen young adults use the rink with the proper equipment. She suggested putting up a sign asking people to limit their use to one hour during the open season. Mr. Sawyer stated the city might want to require the wearing of helmets at all times while on the rink.

Ms. Washburn reminded council there would be a historical tour this weekend and advised ticket sales have been scant. She further advised she spoke to a couple of the homeowners and they feel the tour should go forward.

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION: Councilperson Sanderson stated there was a wedding at the community center on Saturday and asked if anyone told the people to move the cars off the front lawn. Ms. Washburn advised no. Councilperson Sanderson stated there we go again. Council make and pass the rules. He asked who is going to enforce the rules. Ms. Washburn advised it is pretty difficult to ask people who rent the facility for \$300 to move their cars when others who pay nothing park there also. Everybody needs to be treated fairly, but she did not know how council wanted to go about this.

Councilperson Johnson advised the flower baskets are beautiful.

Councilperson Mehigh stated he had a person ask him about the street improvements, and this person wants the city to take a look at Mill Street.

Mayor Corey stated he wanted to get a work group from the council and city manager to scoop ice cream on the Fourth of July.

Mr. Sawyer stated a building authority meeting has been called for June 4 at 7:15 p.m. at Precision Electric. Councilperson Jessen is the council representative, and he is aware of the meeting and will be in attendance. Mr. Sawyer further stated a labor committee meeting needs to be scheduled since there are four contracts (city clerk, police chief, treasurer, and assessor) that need to be reviewed. Mayor Corey asked when Mr. Sawyer wants to have a meeting. Mr. Sawyer advised he would be prepared next week. Mayor Corey asked if Tuesday, June 11 would work. Mr. Sawyer advised the softball commission meets at 6:00 p.m. A decision was made to meet in the city hall kitchen at 5:00 p.m. on June 11.

ADJOURN: Jessen moved, Johnson seconded to adjourn.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Jessen, Runyan, Mehigh, Johnson, Sanderson.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED Time was 8:03 p.m.

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STEPHEN COREY, MAYOR

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YVONNE F. LONG, CITY CLERK