

City of Corunna  
Regular Council Meeting  
Tuesday, February 17, 2004

Present: Johnson, Lantis, Mehigh, Runyan, Sanderson, Wagner.

Absent: Corey (excused).

Guests: Joe Sawyer, City Manager; Tim Crawford, Superintendent of Public Works; Judy Horton; Pat Yott; Cathy Cramner; Sue Huff, Librarian; Shirley Sanderson; Marsha and Mike Powers; Officer Paul Richardson, Police Department; Bernie Yott; Helen Granger, The Independent, and other concerned citizens.

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

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS REGULAR MEETING: Johnson moved, Sanderson seconded to approve the previous regular meeting minutes dated February 2, 2004 as presented.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Wagner, Johnson, Sanderson, Runyan, Lantis, Mehigh.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

AGENDA APPROVAL: Johnson moved, Wagner seconded to approve the agenda as presented.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Lantis, Runyan, Mehigh, Wagner, Johnson, Sanderson.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

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

Roll call vote:

Yes: Runyan, Wagner, Lantis, Sanderson, Mehigh, Johnson.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CALL TO AUDIENCE: Mike Powers introduced himself and advised he was a democratic candidate for the 85<sup>th</sup> District State Representative seat. He further advised health care prescription drugs is probably the most devastating issue for senior citizens and employers. He also advised after a business is granted a tax abatement and then decides to leave the community to grab cheap labor in another country, the community needs to get the money back from that business because the tax abatement was done in good faith and since the business was not leaving the community in good faith, then the business owes the money back to the community. Mr. Powers stated he would work to limit the import of Canadian trash to Michigan.

LIBRARY ANNUAL REPORT PRESENTATION: Sue Huff thanked the city council for making the new library possible and passed out Certificates of Appreciation. She and Cathy Cramner reviewed the Library Annual Report with the city council and audience members.

CONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF TIM CRAWFORD AS CEMETERY SEXTON: Mehigh moved, Sanderson seconded to appoint Tim Crawford as Cemetery Sexton. Councilperson Lantis asked if this was a paid position. Mr. Sawyer advised no. Councilperson Lantis asked what the responsibility of the cemetery sexton was. Mr. Sawyer advised to maintain records of who is buried where and coordinate burials with the funeral homes. Councilperson Lantis asked if Mr. Crawford could do this job during the day or after hours. Mr. Sawyer advised during the day and he would assign a lot of the sexton duties to Shauna Bayless as part of her part-time responsibilities.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Sanderson, Mehigh, Johnson, Lantis, Wagner, Runyan.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER PROPOSAL FOR STAND BY WELL HOUSE REPAIRS: Mr. Sawyer advised \$20,000 was budgeted for improvements to the standby well house. When the state comes in to look at the city's water quality reports and does their annual audit, the city gets beat up due to the condition of the facility. He further advised the intent was to build a new facility but after some evaluation by himself and Mr. Crawford, it was decided it was cheaper to do some renovations to the facility. He further advised the city had a hard time getting bids. Since there was no response to the newspaper advertisements, the specifications were mailed to local contractors and the city still did not get any response until Mr. Bailey gave the city a proposal. Wagner moved, Johnson seconded to award the bid for renovations to the standby well building to Keith Bailey in the amount of \$6,710.56 to be paid for from the Water Fund Capital Acquisitions line item #591-556-977.000.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Mehigh, Lantis, Runyan, Johnson, Sanderson, Wagner.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF BRIDGE MARKER CONTENT: Lantis moved, Wagner seconded to approve the Bridge Marker Content for the Shiawassee Street Bridge as presented.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Johnson, Sanderson, Wagner, Mehigh, Runyan, Lantis.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER ESTABLISHMENT OF IFT GUIDELINES: Mr. Sawyer advised he was not recommending taking any action at this time. There was a conference two weeks ago at Durand City Hall and this is where the information came from. He further advised he

hopes there will be a countywide adoption of standards on when tax abatements are offered and not. Councilperson Johnson asked if he knew how the townships would respond. Mr. Sawyer advised if the Board of Commissioners adopts a plan, nobody would be required to follow it. Each township could decide to follow the plan or not. He further advised tax abatements are very misunderstood. Industry provides tax base but it is the machinery and equipment inside the building that provides most of the tax base. Councilperson Mehig advised the program was very informative.

CALL TO AUDIENCE: Casey Dickenson stated he owns property by the VFW and he thought the alley abandonment was going to be on the agenda tonight. Mr. Sawyer advised the public hearing is scheduled for March 15.

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION: Mayor Pro-Tem Runyan advised the Grand Opening at Little Caesar's was great and they had a nice turn out.

Councilperson Wagner advised at the last airport board meeting, the airport received a grant for the runway extension and reported the runway would be extended another 500 or more feet. He further advised the runway extension would be a good thing for the future industrial properties. Councilperson Mehig asked if anything was decided about the trees in the cemetery. Councilperson Wagner advised it did not sound like there was anything in the way, but the tree cutting decisions come from the state level and if the trees do not get cut, the airport does not get the money. Mr. Sawyer stated he would be meeting with the airport manager to go over the angles so there is a clear understanding.

Councilperson Johnson informed Ms. Huff and Ms. Cramner that they do an outstanding job at the library. The programs are outstanding and she commended them both for the job they do.

ADJOURN: Mehig moved, Lantis seconded to adjourn.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Wagner, Johnson, Sanderson, Runyan, Lantis, Mehig.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED Time was 8:01 p.m.

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LARRY RUNYAN, MAYOR PRO-TEM

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YVONNE F. LONG, CITY CLERK