

City of Corunna
Regular Council Meeting
Monday, March 1, 2004

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

Absent: Corey (excused), Wagner (arrived at 7:10 p.m.).

Guests: Joe Sawyer, City Manager; Judy Horton; Pat Yott; Shirley Sanderson; Sgt. Kevin Clark, Police Department; Mark Hanna; Dan & Dan Lucas; 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, Lantis seconded to approve the previous regular meeting minutes dated February 17, 2004 as presented.

Roll call vote:

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

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

AGENDA APPROVAL: Lantis moved, Johnson seconded to approve the agenda as presented with the addition of Item No. 1A) Consider Removal of Mary Witte from the Corunna Softball Commission, Item No. 2) Discuss April 5, 2004 Council Meeting, Item No. 2A) Consider General Terms of Rental Agreement and Item No. 3) Legislative Conference on March 24, 2004.

Roll call vote:

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

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

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

Roll call vote:

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

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT: Mr. Sawyer advised Mary Witte has not attended a meeting since June of last year so she needs to be discharged from the Corunna Softball Commission. He further advised there are some text changes throughout the lease agreement and the economic terms are satisfactory but the lease agreement should go back to Mr. Burlingame to see if the terms are acceptable before council votes on the agreement. He discussed the basement flooding that occurred at a house on S. Shiawassee Street and explained that water was literally pumping out of the basement

walls. There was at least a foot or foot and one-half of water in the basement. He further explained there was so much water pressure that the basement floor actually buckled and raised a foot to a point where the basement floor cracked the furnace radiator heat coils as well as the ductwork. The department of public works checked all of the manholes and found that the storm and sanitary sewer lines were all clean. He also explained water was turned off to a six block area to see if there was a water main break but this did not do anything to stop the water from pumping into the basement. He finally noticed water trickling out of the homeowner's washer connection, which was odd because the connection was up four feet so he looked down at the sump pump discharge, which his washer line was connected to. Mr. Sawyer advised he asked the homeowner where the sump pump water was going to and was informed the sump pump was tied into the sanitary sewer, which goes under the basement floor. He suggested taking the clean out cap off of the sewer line because it looked like there was a blockage in the discharge pipe and once the cap was removed, the sewage upstairs finally had a place to go. Mr. Sawyer further advised this was the homeowner's problem since the sump pump was connected to the city's sanitary sewer and the homeowner's sanitary line was clogged. The sump pump was trying to push the footing and foundation water somewhere and had enough power and force to heave the basement floor. He also advised this is a good example of how much water a sump pump can put into the city's sanitary sewer system and the liability the homeowner is taking by doing this. Mr. Sawyer stated there are no sanitary or storm sewer lines on S. Shiawassee Street in a three-block area, but there is an eight-inch storm sewer line running up Woodworth Street that only has three or four houses connected into it and there are 12 connections available. He further stated some of the homes on S. Shiawassee Street have long cross lot connections because the sewer systems were not adequately developed. There is a six-inch sewer line on Williams Street that goes halfway down the block to the alley behind the church that the city might be able to pull a six-inch sewer line down to allow the cross lot connections to have a place to connect to. He also stated the city also has to figure out where to let the people put their storm water. There is a storm sewer that goes down Williams Street and McNeil Street to Shiawassee Street but no line was ever run down the alley or on Shiawassee Street to give these people a place to put their storm water. Councilperson Mehigh asked if it would be cheaper to run a line down the alley to tie the people in. Mr. Sawyer advised yes because the alley is an undeveloped alley if the alley was not closed. Councilperson Mehigh asked if the city or the homeowner would pay the cost to run the sewer line down the alley. Mr. Sawyer advised the homeowner is responsible for their sewer lead and the city is responsible for any sewer main work so technically the homeowner would be responsible for their own sewer lead even if the sewer lead is 300 foot long.

Wagner arrived at 7:10 p.m.

CONSIDER REMOVAL OF MARY WITTE FROM THE CORUNNA SOFTBALL

COMMISSION: Lantis moved, Mehigh seconded to discharge Mary Witte from the Corunna Softball Commission effective immediately.

Roll call vote:

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

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF NICHOLE COWDREY TO THE CORUNNA SOFTBALL

COMMISSION: Johnson moved, Wagner seconded to appoint Nichole Cowdrey to the Corunna Softball Commission indefinitely upon taking the oath of office and to serve at the pleasure of the council.

Roll call vote:

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

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER GENERAL TERMS OF RENTAL AGREEMENT: Mr. Sawyer stated if council is satisfied with the financial terms of the rental agreement, council could approve the lease subject to Mr. Burlingame's review and approval. Mr. Sawyer went through the changes to be incorporated into the lease with North American Air Products, Inc. Councilperson Johnson asked if this business would run different shifts. Mr. Sawyer advised he did not believe the business has different shifts at this point. Mehigh moved, Wagner seconded to approve the agreement subject to legal council review and approval and to be signed by the mayor pro-tem, clerk, attorney and city manager. Councilperson Lantis stated it is wonderful that the city received the building as a gift and asked if it would be wiser to put effort into selling the building so the city can take the money and run as opposed to letting the building sit empty once the tenants leave. Mr. Sawyer advised at some point, council would have to decide to hire a realtor because he is not a realtor. Councilperson Mehigh stated the city has an opportunity to incubate some small businesses and maybe down the road, the city can develop the Parmenter Road property and move the businesses to that property. He further stated the city is doing a great job in getting people in the building and he did not think the city wants to be in the real estate business but for the next couple of years the city should be. Mayor Pro-Tem Runyan stated for what the city has in the building right now, the city would be making a profit for the next year. Mr. Sawyer stated absolutely and the city will be good for the next three or four years with what the city has in the building right now. He further stated the new tenant is a prospect that might be interested in buying the building. Councilperson Mehigh asked if the city could sell a building like this in chunks. Mark Hanna advised yes but the building would have to be legally divided and the infrastructure would have to be divided so each business would not be dependent on the utilities running through some part of another person's property. He further advised the building could be set up as little condominiums. He also advised the more income generated on this building would make it easier for the city to sell the building. Councilperson Mehigh stated he felt smaller businesses feel more comfortable doing business with a city because the businesses know the city is trying to create jobs and they know the business will get a pretty fair shake. Mr. Hanna advised most people look at the facility and the rental rate.

Roll call vote:

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

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER CANCELLING APRIL 5, 2004 MEETING: Mayor Pro-Tem Runyan advised there would be three councilpersons on vacation for spring break. Wagner moved, Lantis seconded to cancel the April 5, 2004 city council meeting.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Wagner, Johnson, Sanderson, Runyan, Lantis, Mehigh (reluctantly).

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE ON MARCH 24, 2004: Mayor Pro-Tem Runyan advised since the city missed the deadline the cost would be \$185 per person instead of \$150 per person. He further advised he would like to go and asked Mr. Sawyer if he wanted to go. Mr. Sawyer advised this would be a good conference to go to because it is very inexpensive. Councilperson Mehigh asked what day the conference was on. Mayor Pro-Tem Runyan advised Wednesday. Mr. Sawyer advised he thought there might be a good chance that the city could get the lower rate. Johnson moved, Lantis seconded to authorize Larry Runyan and Don Mehigh to attend the Legislative Conference on March 24, 2004.

Roll call vote:

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

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION: Councilperson Sanderson asked when the VFW dinner deadline was. Mr. Sawyer advised by Wednesday.

Councilperson Mehigh congratulated Janet Washburn on her card playing on Sunday.

ADJOURN: Mehigh moved, Lantis seconded to adjourn.

Roll call vote:

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

No: None.

Motion CARRIED Time was 8:08 p.m.

LARRY RUNYAN, MAYOR PRO-TEM

YVONNE F. LONG, CITY CLERK