

City of Corunna  
Regular Council Meeting  
Tuesday, February 16, 2010

Present: Kerridge, Mehigh, Jessen, Reichert, Johnson, Sarrazin.

Absent: Haskins (excused).

Guests: Joe Sawyer, City Manager; Judy Horton; Helen Granger, The Independent; Gary Granger; Ian Granger; and other concerned citizens.

The meeting was called to order in the council chambers of Corunna City Hall by Mayor Kerridge at 7:00 p.m.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS REGULAR MEETING: Johnson moved, Jessen seconded to approve the previous regular meeting minutes dated February 1, 2010 as presented.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Jessen, Reichert, Johnson, Sarrazin, Mehigh.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

AGENDA APPROVAL: Johnson moved, Jessen seconded to approve the agenda with the following changes: change Item No. 1 to Consider Excusal of Doug Haskins From the February 16, 2010 Council Meeting Due to Illness, change Item No. 2 to Consider Appointment of Gary Granger to the Corunna Historical Commission, change Item No. 3 to Consider Resignation of Bill Graham from the Corunna Downtown Development Authority, and add Item No. 4) Consider Second Amended Administrative Consent Order and Item No. 5) Discussion on Ice Grant.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Reichert, Johnson, Sarrazin, Mehigh, Jessen.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

APPROVAL OF VENDOR DISBURSEMENTS: Sarrazin moved, Johnson seconded to approve the vendor disbursements dated February 5, 2010 as presented.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Johnson, Sarrazin, Mehigh, Jessen, Reichert.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER EXCUSAL OF COUNCILPERSON HASKINS FROM THE FEBRUARY 16, 2010

COUNCIL MEETING DUE TO ILLNESS: Johnson moved, Jessen seconded to excuse Councilperson Haskins from the February 16, 2010 council meeting due to illness.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Sarrazin, Mehigh, Jessen, Reichert, Johnson.  
No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF GARY GRANGER TO THE CORUNNA HISTORICAL

COMMISSION: Johnson moved, Sarrazin seconded to appoint Gary Granger to the Corunna Historical Commission for an indefinite term and serving at the pleasure of the council.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Sarrazin, Mehigh, Jessen, Reichert, Johnson.  
No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER RESIGNATION OF BILL GRAHAM FROM THE CORUNNA DOWNTOWN

DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY: Johnson moved, Jessen seconded to accept the resignation of Bill Graham from the Corunna Downtown Development Authority with regret.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Jessen, Johnson, Reichert, Mehigh, Sarrazin.  
No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF MIKE SARRAZIN TO THE CORUNNA DOWNTOWN

DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY: Johnson moved, Jessen seconded to appoint Mike Sarrazin to the Corunna Downtown Development Authority with term to expire December 31, 2013 and serving at the pleasure of the council.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Reichert, Jessen, Sarrazin, Mehigh, Johnson.  
No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER SECOND AMENDED ADMINISTRATIVE CONSENT ORDER: Mr. Sawyer

explained the state has been very cooperative with the city and has assisted the city in getting some grants to do some of the repairs. The city has not had an overflow situation in quite some time. The second amendment extends the timeline for completing the lateral repairs to September 15, 2011. The city also has to submit wastewater flow and precipitation data by December 31, 2012. Johnson moved, Jessen seconded to approve the Second Amended Administrative Consent Order with the State of Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment Water Bureau.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Johnson, Reichert, Mehigh, Jessen, Sarrazin.  
No: None.

Motion CARRIED

DISCUSSION ON ICE GRANT: Mr. Sawyer explained an application is being prepared for the latest round of CDGB monies. The only projects that are eligible are those that provide a community wide benefit. The city does not have any community wide sewer projects so a list of water projects that would meet the community wide benefit criteria was put together. They include: M-71 booster station emergency generator, North Shiawassee Street 12-inch water

main from the bridge to Oak Street, North Shiawassee Street loop to second Owosso water connection and M-21 water booster station. He advised it will cost \$1,000,000 to replace the water main in Crestview Subdivision, but since it does not provide community wide benefit, there is no funding available for it. He suggested paying a 15 percent match when applying for the grant. Councilperson Jessen asked if 15 percent would be enough. Mr. Sawyer advised he thought the grant required a 10 percent match so 15 percent should be sufficient. Councilperson Jessen asked if the Crestview subdivision water line was fed from Norton Street. Mr. Sawyer advised yes. He further advised he would put the first three projects in the ICE grant application and see what happens. Councilperson Jessen asked what the percentage match would be. Mr. Sawyer advised if 10 percent is required, he would submit 15 percent. Councilperson Reichert asked how much water is in the water tower. Mr. Sawyer advised about a two and one-half day supply if it is full or a day and one-half if it is not full. If there is a 12-inch water main break, the water tower will empty in about six hours. It was the consensus of the council to submit an ICE Grant application.

CALL TO AUDIENCE: Judy Horton stated she would like the council to put the parks and recreation commission on the next agenda to change the membership from nine to eleven. Mr. Sawyer advised this is a multi-step process and it can be put on the next agenda for discussion. The last time this was brought up there was talk about closing the community center and there were some people in this town that were fearful that a millage would be asked for. Some people were also concerned about members living outside the city being allowed to spend city money. Ms. Horton stated the commission does not spend the money; the council does. Councilperson Johnson advised people who were at that meeting could not understand that and they know better. Mr. Sawyer stated there is no tax subsidy for the softball commission, Fourth of July commission, historical commission, and youth sports and recreation commission so they rely on volunteers and donations to run their programs. The city provides recreational activities to the whole county.

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION: Councilperson Mehig advised he had nothing to discuss.

Councilperson Jessen advised he had nothing to discuss.

Councilperson Sarrazin advised he went to the sled hill this past weekend and had a blast. He brought kids from Kalamazoo and they want to come back. He asked if something would be done for Bill Graham who has given the DDA 21 years of service. Mr. Sawyer advised yes. Councilperson Sarrazin asked if a presentation would be done at a future council meeting. Mr. Sawyer advised yes.

Councilperson Johnson advised she had nothing to discuss.

Councilperson Reichert advised it appears that the city does not keep committee minutes at city hall and asked if this is something that should be looked into. Mr. Sawyer advised the city gets them if they are turned in like they are told to. Councilperson Reichert asked if a city employee should be more diligent in making sure they get turned in. Ms. Cowdrey advised it is hard to keep track of every commission and babysit them with the small staff the city has. It is the commission's responsibility to get them to the city, but when the minute books are checked, the commissions are contacted about their missing minutes. Mr. Sawyer

stated the staff office knows that he expects them to get the minutes, and if they have difficulty, he will make sure the city gets them. Councilperson Reichert stated he would like to look at the snow removal ordinance sooner than later. On his way to the meeting, there were a lot of sidewalks that were not cleared. He is not sure if the ordinance needs to be amended or enforced, but is concerned that it is a safety issue. Mayor Kerridge advised Mr. Crawford has been checking the sidewalks and has issued notices. If there is no response to the notice, the sidewalk is shoveled and the property owner is billed. Councilperson Jessen asked what the minimum snow amount was. Mr. Sawyer advised there are no accumulations written in the ordinance, but the city has always followed two inches. Once the snow is packed down and turns to ice, it is more difficult to deal with. The city has 12 miles of sidewalk and it is more difficult to determine if someone did or did not clear the snow when it snows again. Mayor Kerridge advised the city has a lot of vacant homes and asked if this was part of the problem. Mr. Sawyer advised that is part of it. Councilperson Reichert advised he walks a fair amount and this is the first year that he has pushed a stroller and it does not take a lot of snow to be an issue. Mr. Sawyer advised not removing snow from the sidewalk is a \$100 fine but not mowing the grass is a \$300 fine, which might be something that does not motivate people. Councilperson Sarrazin asked to have a copy of the snow removal ordinance in the next council packet for council to review. Councilperson Jessen advised this is something that has been brought up by other city residents. Mr. Sawyer stated more aggressive language can be put in the ordinance, but he needs to know how aggressive council wants the language to be. Councilperson Sarrazin asked if the individual land owners are responsible if someone falls and gets hurt. Mr. Sawyer advised yes. Until seven years ago, the city did not have a snow removal ordinance. The city was responsible for clearing all sidewalks. Councilperson Jessen stated if someone fell, the city used to be responsible. Councilperson Reichert advised some communities have to have their sidewalks cleared within four hours. Mr. Sawyer advised the city's ordinance states 24 hours from accumulation.

Mayor Kerridge advised he had nothing to discuss.

ADJOURN: Jessen moved, Mehig seconded to adjourn.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Johnson, Reichert, Mehig, Jessen, Sarrazin.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED Time was 8:04 p.m.

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Charles Kerridge, Mayor

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Nichole L. Cowdrey, City Clerk/Treasurer