

City of Corunna
Regular Council Meeting
Monday, July 19, 2010

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

Absent: None.

Guests: Joe Sawyer, City Manager; Greg Berry; Judy Horton; Gary Arnold, C2AE; Gary Granger; Jack Johnson; David Ochodnick; John Pajtas, County Commissioner; Donna Kerridge; Shauna Bayless; Chief Scott Johnson, Fire Department; Brian Johnson; Helen Granger, The Independent; Justin Horvath; Bob & Sharon Morehouse; Corrinda McClain; Merilee Lawson, Assessor/Planner; 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 June 21, 2010 as presented.

Roll call vote:

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

No: None.

Abstain: Reichert.

Motion CARRIED

AGENDA APPROVAL: Johnson moved, Jessen seconded to approve the agenda with the following changes: add C2AE Engineering Report after City Manager's Report, change Item No. 1 to Consider Discharge of Jack Johnson from the SCOA and Board of Review, change Item No. 2 to 2A, and add Item No. 2B) Consider appointment of Sarah Barton to the Corunna 4th of July Commission.

Roll call vote:

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

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

APPROVAL OF VENDOR DISBURSEMENTS: Johnson moved, Sarrazin seconded to approve the vendor disbursements dated June 25, 2010 and July 9, 2010 as presented.

Roll call vote:

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

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CALL TO AUDIENCE: Jack Johnson, 215 E. State Street, stated he was a little surprised and not sure what the reasoning was for pulling him off the board of review. He was in contact and had an agreement with Merilee Lawson that he would come in if he was needed. The SCOA situation was a miscommunication and he would leave it at that. It had to do with an

adversative relationship with a county commissioner that has been going on quite some time. He further stated he would hope that the city would want to know what is going on with the millage regardless of who is going to bring the information. The city can cut him off at the end of three minutes if that is what they want to do, but his absences have been excused absences. The SCOA board is not asking him to step down and it is quite the opposite of that. He advised the millage is being increased in order to work out some kind of deal with the senior center building in Morrice, which was tried last year and he opposed it. They were given \$40,000 to help the senior center out and he voted for it with one condition that he be provided with a feasibility study that showed the money being given was not going down a black hole. The building does not meet the standards for the number of people being served there and should not be qualified as a center. A feasibility study has still not been done and there are a lot of unanswered questions.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT: Mr. Sawyer advised a river clean up has been scheduled for July 31.

Gary Arnold went over the Project Status Report dated July 19, 2010. He also reviewed the proposed striping plan for North Shiawassee Street north of Walnut Street to M-21. Due to the utilities, power poles as well as new sewer going on the east side, one lane of pavement and the curb and gutter has to be removed on the east side. It is being proposed to convert North Shiawassee Street from Walnut Street to M-21 to a three-lane street instead of a four-lane street. He advised the traffic counts support a three-lane street. Since a water line is under the curb on the west side, a new curb will be placed six feet from the existing curb. He further advised the street will stay exactly the same from the juvenile detention center to M-21. Councilperson Jessen asked what happens with the turn lane at M-21. Mr. Arnold stated it is staying the same. Mr. Sawyer stated the big question is whether it will affect Sleseman Drive. Mr. Arnold advised it should not affect it. Mayor Kerridge thanked Mr. Arnold for the Lugnut tickets.

CONSIDER DISCHARGE OF JACK JOHNSON FROM THE SCOA BOARD AND BOARD OF

REVIEW: Johnson moved, Haskins seconded to discharge Jack Johnson from the SCOA Board and Board of Review.

Roll call vote:

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

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF MERILEE LAWSON TO THE 4TH OF JULY COMMISSION:

Johnson moved, Reichert seconded to appoint Merilee Lawson to the 4th of July Commission serving at the pleasure of the council for an indefinite term.

Roll call vote:

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

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF SARAH BARTON TO THE 4TH OF JULY COMMISSION:

Johnson moved, Reichert seconded to appoint Sarah Barton to the 4th of July Commission for serving at the pleasure of the council for an indefinite term.

Roll call vote:

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

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER RESIGNATION OF JACKIE LEONE FROM THE CORUNNA 4TH OF JULY

COMMISSION: Johnson moved, Sarrazin seconded to accept the resignation of Jackie Leone from the Corunna 4th of July Commission.

Roll call vote:

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

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER DISCHARGE OF SHARI SANDS FROM THE CORUNNA 4TH OF JULY

COMMISSION: Johnson moved, Reichert seconded to discharge Shari Sands from the Corunna 4th of July Commission.

Roll call vote:

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

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

SET PUBLIC HEARING FOR AUGUST 2, 2010 AT 7:15 P.M. TO CONSIDER GARAGE SALE

ORDINANCE: Sarrazin moved, Jessen seconded to set a public hearing for August 2, 2010 at 7:15 p.m. to consider a garage sale ordinance. Mr. Sawyer advised this is the same ordinance that was passed unanimously last fall, but it was not properly published correctly so it has to be considered again.

Roll call vote:

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

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER TRAFFIC CONTROL ORDER #224, STOP SIGN ON EAST SIDE OF FRED HEIN

DRIVE AT PINE STREET: Johnson moved, Jessen seconded to approve Traffic Control Order #224, stop sign on east side of Fred Hein Drive at Pine Street and west side of Fred Hein Drive at Cherry Street.

Roll call vote:

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

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

7:15 P.M. PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER IFT FOR MACHINE TOOL & GEAR: Johnson moved, Jessen seconded to leave regular session and enter a public hearing to consider IFT for Machine Tool & Gear.

Roll call vote:

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

No: None.

Motion CARRIED Time was 7:30 p.m.

David Ochodnick, Plant Manager for Machine Tool and Gear, explained business at Machine Tool and Gear is very strong. They had 200 employees in January and they now have 252 employees. He further explained his company is requesting an IFT because it has received contracts with Chrysler and General Motors to make various automobile parts. Councilperson Sarrazin stated he was stunned that Machine Tool and Gear is growing. Justin Horvath, Shiawassee Economic Development Partnership, stated they are seeing a lot of activity from companies who are recalling laid off employees or hiring new employees. The Corunna City Council has been very supportive of Machine Tool and Gear, which is the largest employer in Shiawassee County. He further stated capital investment is growing and the economy is starting to change. A lot of companies that reduced their employees have managed to stay in business while their competitors have gone out of business. He also stated the Shiawassee Economic Development Partnership is encouraging the city council to approve the IFT for Machine Tool and Gear tonight. Johnson moved, Jessen seconded to leave the public hearing and return to regular session.

Roll call vote:

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

No: None.

Motion CARRIED Time was 7:34 p.m.

Johnson moved, Jessen seconded to approve the following Resolution No. 071910-01 approving application of Machine Tool & Gear, Inc. for Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate for an industrial facility:

RESOLUTION #071910-01
APPROVING APPLICATION OF MACHINE TOOL & GEAR, INC.
FOR INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES EXEMPTION CERTIFICATE
FOR AN INDUSTRIAL FACILITY

WHEREAS, pursuant to P.A. 198 of 1974, M.C.L. 207.551 et seq., after a duly noticed public hearing held on February 3, 1997, this City Council by resolution established the Corunna Industrial Development District No. One, as requested by Machine Tool & Gear; and

WHEREAS, Machine Tool & Gear has filed an application for an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate with respect to a new facility to be acquired and installed within the Industrial Development No. One; and

WHEREAS, before acting on said application, the City of Corunna held a hearing on July 19, 2010, at Corunna City Hall, 402 N. Shiawassee Street, in the City of Corunna, at 7:15 p.m., at which hearing the applicant, the Assessor and a representative of the affected taxing units were given written notice and were afforded an opportunity to be heard on said application; and

WHEREAS, installation of new machinery and equipment with a value of approximately \$1,387,460 million, and used equipment with a value of approximately \$ 568,000 had not begun earlier than six (6) months before June 18, 2010, the date of the acceptance of the application for the Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate; and

WHEREAS, completion of the facility is calculated to and will at the time of issuance of the certificate have the reasonable likelihood to retain, create or prevent the loss of employment in the City of Corunna; and

WHEREAS, the aggregate SEV of real and personal property exempt from advalorem taxes within the City of Corunna, after granting this certificate, will not exceed 5% of an amount equal to the sum of the SEV of the unit, plus the SEV of personal and real property thus exempted.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY the Corunna City Council of the City of Corunna that:

1. The Corunna City Council finds and determines that the granting of the Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate considered together with the aggregate amount of certificates previously granted and currently in force under Act No. 198 of the Public Acts of 1974 and Act NO. 255 of the Public Acts of 1978 shall not have the effect of substantially impeding the operation of the City of Corunna, or impairing the financial soundness of a taxing unit which levies ad valorem property taxes in the City of Corunna.
2. The application of Machine Tool & Gear for an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate with respect to a new facility to be acquired and installed on the following described parcel of real property situated within the Corunna Industrial Development District No. One, to wit:

Parcel ID#026-70-039-000

A part of the Southeast $\frac{1}{4}$ of the Northwest $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 21, in Township 7 North, Range 3 East, City of Corunna, Shiawassee County, Michigan, described as beginning on the North and South $\frac{1}{4}$ line on a point which is 769.05 feet North of the intersection of said $\frac{1}{4}$ line with the East and West $\frac{1}{4}$ line of said Section; thence South 88 degrees 37 minutes 00 seconds West 638.96 feet; thence North parallel with the North and South $\frac{1}{4}$ line 545.55 ft to the North line of said Southeast $\frac{1}{4}$ of the Northwest $\frac{1}{4}$ of said Section; thence North 88 degrees 37 minutes 00 seconds East along the $\frac{1}{8}$ line 638.96 feet to the North and South $\frac{1}{4}$ line of said Section, and thence South along the $\frac{1}{4}$ line 545.55 feet to the point of beginning.

be and the same is hereby approved.

3. The Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate when issued shall be and remain in force and effect for a period of 12 years.

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

Roll call vote:

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

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

PRESENTATION – S.P.I.R.I.T. GHOST HUNTER FINDINGS IN CORUNNA HISTORICAL

VILLAGE: The S.P.I.R.I.T. (Society of Paranormal Investigators, Research, & Investigation Team) advised they formed their group in April 2009. They have completed 15 investigations since forming last April and their biggest undertaking has been the historical village. On May 8, the first investigation was completed in the historical village and a lot of evidence was collected which is an understatement. They presented their findings to the city council and members of the audience. They further advised there will be a ghost tour in the village during the month of October.

CONSIDER DISCHARGE OF ROB KEHOE FROM THE CORUNNA PLANNING

COMMISSION: Johnson moved, Jessen seconded to discharge Rob Kehoe from the Corunna Planning Commission.

Roll call vote:

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

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF BOB DELANEY TO THE CORUNNA PLANNING

COMMISSION: Sarrazin moved, Johnson seconded to appoint Bob Delaney to the Corunna Planning Commission serving at the pleasure of the council for an indefinite term.

Roll call vote:

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

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER COMMUNITY CENTER FEES: Mr. Sawyer stated council asked during the budget workshop for a list of rental rates for other facilities. The facility does not allow alcohol like some of the other facilities do and there is also construction going on. He further stated the city staff is open to any suggestions the council might have pertaining to rental rates. No action needs to be taken if council would like more time to evaluate the rates. Councilperson Reichert advised he would like to talk about them at the next council meeting. Mr. Sawyer advised a motion to table the item automatically moves it to the next meeting. Reichert moved, Jessen seconded to table the discussion on the community center fees until the next meeting.

Roll call vote:

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

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

DISCUSSION/APPOINTMENT OF DANGEROUS STRUCTURE HEARING OFFICER: Mr.

Sawyer stated in the time he has been here, a hearing officer was appointed to deal with a

blight safety issue. Upon research, most cities have a named hearing officer so there is a go to person when one is needed. He further stated this is a regulated process as authorized by Public 167 of 1917. This allows the city to enter private property or put a new roof on if there is a public safety concern. If the city decides that it needs to go this route because voluntary compliance does not work, it is a three month process. He will be requesting that the person appointed be paid \$50 per hearing which seems to be the standard rate from other communities he has evaluated. If anyone is interested in being the hearing officer or the alternate, they should contact city hall. His goal is to find a resident who has contractor experience to fill the position. Councilperson Sarrazin stated he thought it was something to move forward with. Mayor Kerridge advised there are two or three houses in the city that need looked at.

CONSIDER REVISIONS TO BUILDING/ZONING/TRADE PERMIT APPLICATIONS & FEES:

Mr. Sawyer stated the proposed applications have been drafted and prepped by Willoughby Press. The current building application is four pages long and the permit fee schedule is something he cannot navigate through as city manager. Bob Delaney has recommended going with an easier process that he concurs with. This will allow the front staff to work with the building inspector more thoroughly. Mr. Sawyer further stated he is recommending that council review them and give him any input they might have. He is also recommending that the city order 100 sets to begin with since the city has only processed 100 building permits in the past year. Mayor Kerridge advised he would like to see the homeowner pick up the building permit once it has been processed to avoid receiving notification that one is needed after the work has started. Councilperson Jessen stated Mayor Kerridge mentioned that the homeowner should pick up the permit. Mayor Kerridge advised he filled out an application for siding and brought it to city hall. He expected to pick it up the next day but it got laid on the building inspector's desk, who issued and mailed the permit. In the meantime, the department of public works questioned whether or not he had pulled a permit, which he did not have because it was in the mail. Mr. Sawyer stated it is recommended that a contractor always pull the permit because it is in the homeowner's interest for the contractor to pull it. This is what holds the contractor liable for doing the job right. If the homeowner pulls the permit, the homeowner is responsible for doing the work right and not the contractor.

CONSIDER DISCHARGE OF BILL GRAHAM FROM THE PARKS AND RECREATION

COMMISSION: Johnson moved, Jessen seconded to discharge Bill Graham from the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Roll call vote:

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

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CALL TO AUDIENCE: Gary Granger, 419 W. Corunna Avenue, stated he thought the city was wonderful and things are going relatively smoothly, but there is arrogance and vindictiveness from the city's administration that needs to be addressed. He is not going to say anything further in a public meeting, but if someone wants to talk to him later, he would be more than

welcome to talk about it. There have been several instances in the past few months that he would like to see addressed.

John Pajtas, District 3 County Commissioner, stated the county's monthly meeting was held last month and he was present to give the council an update on what happened. The auditors released their work last month and the county's rating has gone from an A to an AA- rating, which is good because it gives the county a lower bond interest rate. He further stated the county sheriff asked permission to hire a new dispatcher to replace one that had retired and it was approved. The county also authorized the sheriff's department to purchase bullet proof vests because the warranty had expired on the old ones. Once the warranty expires, they cannot be used anymore. He also stated two vehicle replacements were authorized. The money comes out of the drug forfeiture fund. He also stated the commissioners authorized the veteran's affairs to hire a new secretary to replace the one who had quit.

Cindy Wood from Morrice stated she was at the meeting to talk about the senior citizen millage. She is the coordinator for the Durand Senior Center. People need to understand about the millage that is being voted on. The building in Morrice is in really bad shape and it needs a brand new roof that is going to cost thousands of dollars. Some of the doors cannot be used because they are rotting. She does not think people understand what they are actually going to be voting on. It does not state that the Shiawassee Council on Aging is going to be in charge of the building if the millage is approved. It bothers her that people are voting on a building that needs so much work done to it. There are people who have no food and the food from the meal on wheels program is the only food some of them have in their refrigerator. She sends food to that senior center and sometimes there are only five people there. People need to look into this because a lot of money is going to be put into a building that no one uses. She has 40 to 60 people come into the Durand center every day and she knows Owosso has the same. People need to listen to what Jack Johnson has to say because he does know what is going on. She is going to do her hardest to get Jack Johnson back on the SCOA board because he is the one person who would speak his mind and stand up for the rights of the senior citizens.

Judy Horton, 315 N. Dutcher Street, thanked the S.P.I.R.I.T. group for their presentation and understands the group will be back in the village on July 31. She advised Vacation Bible School would begin Tuesday in the village.

Merilee Lawson stated the Fourth of July was awesome and the 5K run was phenomenal.

Tom Ford from Owosso stated he wanted to talk about the senior citizens millage. Some of the money will go to the downtown development and Brownfield authorities which he did not know until he read the ballot language. It does not say how much will go to the authorities; it only says a portion, and he questioned how much a portion is. He has been trying to find out who put that in the millage language but no one seems to know how it got there. The council on aging advised him that Margaret McAvoy put it in but Lauri Braid advised him it was SCOA. He has talked to several people and the people who voted to put it on the ballot who never read the second paragraph. This information should be pointed out to people so they know exactly what they are voting for. He further stated regulation was talked about tonight,

but he felt the country was going in a direction of less regulation and people should be able to regulate themselves and should not have to worry about paying all these fees.

Fletch Schneider from Durand stated the second half of the senior citizen proposal states it will raise \$446,875 for senior citizens in the first calendar year and as required by law the millage may also be disbursed to the downtown development authority in the cities of Durand, Owosso, Corunna, Lennon, New Lothrop, Laingsburg, Morrice, Vernon, Perry, the Brownfield areas in Owosso and Shiawassee County. This is a blank check that can be used wherever they want to use it. He questioned whether the senior citizens are going to get what they need. There is nothing in the proposal that tells where the money will go.

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION: Councilperson Reichert advised the Fourth of July was great. He could not remember a Fourth of July that had so many people. The car show had cars overflowing in its area.

Councilperson Haskins advised there were 280 civil air patrol people from five different states in Alpena last week including three cadets and two seniors from Owosso. The cadets are being trained in the ICS command systems. Everyone should be proud of the cadets because they are doing a good job.

Councilperson Johnson advised she had nothing to discuss.

Councilperson Sarrazin advised the siding on the community center looks great and he thanked whoever was responsible for putting it on. The 5K race had 121 runners, which was 50 more than anticipated. He further advised it is incredible on how many people it takes to put the Fourth of July activities in place and it is amazing to see everyone in the city pull together. It was a great day.

Councilperson Jessen advised he had nothing to discuss.

Councilperson Mehigh advised he heard many positive things about the Fourth of July and his hat goes off to everyone who put it together. They do a tremendous job.

Mayor Kerridge advised the Fourth of July had a sea of people waiting for the fireworks to start. He further advised he does not like hearing complaints about something that is free. The city softball game was held Friday night and the only city who showed up was Owosso. They played two games against Corunna and Corunna lost them both, but it was a lot of fun.

ADJOURN: Jessen moved, Mehigh seconded to adjourn.

Roll call vote:

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

No: None.

Motion CARRIED Time was 8:42 p.m.

Charles Kerridge, Mayor

Nichole L. Cowdrey, Clerk/Treasurer