

**MCGREGOR CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 17, 2018 6:30 P.M.**

The MCGREGOR CITY COUNCIL met in Regular Session at 6:30 p.m. on **Wednesday, January 17, 2018** at City Hall with Mayor Brooks presiding. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. Mayor Brooks led the Pledge of Allegiance. Council members present: Muehlbauer, Carroll, Echard, Hallberg, and Halvorson.

Halvorson moved, seconded by Hallberg to approve the Consent Agenda by one motion a) Agenda as listed b) Regular Meeting minutes December 20, 2017 c) Bills and Claims as presented for period December 21, 2017 through January 17, 2018 City- \$86,502.90 Library – \$1,475.40, December Revenues - \$92,094.05 December Expenses - \$117,400.25 d) Treasurer's Report for December, 2017 Roll call vote: Ayes – All. Motion carried.

Hearing of Delegations: No comments made.

Police report: Officer Finney was present representing the MarMac Police. He reviewed a summary of police department activity since the first of the year. Finney informed the council that his academy training will begin in April and last four months. He will pick up shifts on the weekends.

Operations report: Pat Jones informed the council he has been getting equipment bids for the F-550, skid loader blade and the Chevy pickup. Chad Hackett began work on December 28 as wastewater operator/street maintenance.

Lynn Hallberg addressed the council regarding a water leak that MMU had determined was coming from an abandoned water service line to the vacant lot on his property located at 812 Walton. Several locations were excavated and the line was eventually capped at the water main. He had received a bill for capping the line. He asked that the city pay for the work as he felt it may have been caused by the street and storm sewer work completed in 2005 -2006 or potentially by the fiber optics installation during the summer of 2017. Mayor Brooks informed Mr. Hallberg that he didn't feel that a project that occurred twelve years ago could be blamed for causing the leak and reminded him that MMU is delegated the authority over water and electric and that this is not a city issue. Mr. Hallberg stated that this was something that should be changed and asked if the council was aware that MMU is only billing for about half of the water that is pumped. The mayor asked if the council wanted to make a motion to take any action. There was no motion made so the mayor continued with the next agenda item.

Attorney Schuster informed the council of options to address the request by Dan Stelpflug, owner of Lot 19 in Ohmer Ridge for reversion of title for the lot. Discussion took place regarding the request, expenses incurred for boring under the road for a sewer connection and other factors surrounding the lot purchase. Council asked the attorney to bring a resolution to the next council meeting so they can consider the request and decide what action to take.

Council person Halvorson gave an explanation of Resolution 01-01-2018 Entering into a Pre-Development Consultant Agreement. The agreement would be for consulting services to explore options for a potential condo/hotel development with owners of the former Holiday Shores property. The consultant has been working with the economic development committee and been in discussions with the owners for several months regarding their interest in a cooperative development. Without cost estimates and concept designs it is unlikely that this idea will move any further. There was concern expressed by Mayor Brooks about spending city funds on a project not owned by the city. Carroll also shared these concerns but following a conference call earlier in the day with the consultant he understands that this is a necessary step to perhaps encourage a hotel/condo development on that property. Halvorson explained that cities use many types of incentives to bring businesses which will improve the economic climate in a community. Some examples are three TIF rebate agreements used in the past. Halvorson moved, seconded by Carroll to approve Roll call vote: Ayes – all. Motion carried.

Sander brought the council up-to-date on discussions with Matt Tschirgie at Pikes Peak to have a cooperative managed hunt in the city limits and Pikes Peak property. The IDNR deer biologist will be attending an upcoming meeting to work out details of a hunt for the fall of 2018. Early discussions are that it will be done only to start without incentives for buck tags and will most likely be held the last week of October and first two weeks in November.

Kristie Austin, chamber director, presented a report of chamber activities and plans for the upcoming season along with the budget for 2018-2019. Bonnie Pruett, treasurer for the Art Center, provided a summary of activities during the past season, grant activity and the mural project which will be completed this summer. She thanked the mayor for their continued support and how the funding received from the city has helped to make the art center a successful organization. Michelle Pettit presented the 2018-2019 budget and a report of activities during the past year. Council was provided a copy of the space needs assessment that was completed with grant funding. The assessment will also be used in conjunction with the Native Fund grant for planning of library expansion and community center on the Fred Petrie/Melanie San Fillippo lot. A stakeholder meeting and a public input meeting will be held with Library Board and City Council also asked to attend.

With business concluded, Echard moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Halvorson. Ayes – All. Meeting adjourned.

Harold W. Brooks
Mayor

Attest:

City Administrator