

**MCGREGOR CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 16, 2019 6:30 P.M.**

The MCGREGOR CITY COUNCIL met in Regular Session at 6:30 p.m. on **Wednesday, October 16, 2019** at City Hall with Mayor Lyle Troester presiding. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. Mayor Troester led the Pledge of Allegiance. Council members present: Muehlbauer, Halvorson, Echard, Carroll, and Hallberg.

Hallberg moved, seconded by Echard to approve the Consent Agenda by one motion a) Agenda as listed b) Regular Meeting minutes September 18, 2019 c) Bills and Claims as presented for period September 19, 2019 through, October 16, 2019 - City- \$82,038.04, Library - \$766.77, September 2019 Revenues - \$177,923.96, September 2019 Expenses - \$91,285.82 d) Treasurer's Report for September, 2019 e) Liquor License Renewals – Josie's River Queen, Latino's, Kwik Star. Roll call vote: Ayes – all. Motion carried.

Hearing of Delegations: Ashley Kishman, Director for the McGregor Marquette Chamber of Commerce provided a brief summary of fall events. The GRRRR was a success with 150 runners in spite of the weather conditions. Kishman thanked all of the volunteers for their assistance with the work necessary to host the race. Turner Park Committee did the pancake breakfast and estimated about 200 people were served.

Police Report: Chief Millin reported that he is in the process of updating business contacts so that if a door is found open during door checks he has the correct information available for the owners or operators. He informed the council that the state LEA is decommissioning the current communication system and a new system will need to be purchased which will cost about \$36,000. The system is necessary in order to be able to communicate with state and county. The change will take effect in October 2020. If any grants are found that would assist with this they will be sought. Drug Take Back Day will be held at the McGregor Public Library on Saturday, October 26, 2019 from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. If anyone is unable to make it to the library they may call the police department and an officer will pick up the drugs for disposal. Officers graduate from the Academy next week.

The hearing schedule for the Kwik Star tobacco violation was cancelled as the fine was paid. Muehlbauer moved, seconded by Echard to make a donation of \$200 to the MFL MarMac After Prom Party. Council considered the renewal form for the employee health insurance policy. The renewal plan with United Health Systems showed an increase of 6.4% over last year. Alternate plans had been researched but the only cheaper options were for HMOs and did not cover Wisconsin based medical providers which is where most of the employees currently receive care. Eric Willis informed the council that United Health also charges a per life fee for small groups that their agency has to pass along to the employer. That fee will be \$25 per covered individual. After discussion ended, Hallberg moved, seconded by Carroll to approve the renewal with United Health Systems Gold CIA10 PPO plan. Roll call vote: Ayes – Hallberg, Carroll, Halvorson, Muehlbauer. Abstain- Echard. Motion carried.

Mark Davy addressed the council to provide a status update of the main street sewer project. Investigative boring had been completed in advance of possible placement of a dewatering well to remove the excess ground water. From the reports there was concern that this would not work due to the soil composition. Contacts had also been made regarding lining or grouting of the existing main. At this point there doesn't seem to be any quick fix so the recommendation was made to the council to proceed with design. Mr. Davy requested the original contract be amended to begin the design phase so that field investigations can get started while the weather is still agreeable. This work is covered by the planning and design loan through SRF. Halvorson moved, seconded by Echard to approve Contract Amendment #1 – Main Street Sewer Project with Davy Engineering in the amount of \$100,000. Roll call vote: Ayes – all. Motion carried.

The council considered a recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission and a draft ordinance for approval. The commission is recommending the R-1 zoning district be amended to allow consolidation of more than two lots. The council had previously discounted lots to encourage their sale and had revised the ordinance to allow consolidation of two adjacent lots. The draft ordinance also contains some changes to remove duplicated language. Halvorson moved, seconded by Hallberg to set a public hearing on November 20, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. at city hall to take comments regarding the proposed amendment to the R-1 district. Roll call vote: Ayes – all. Motion carried.

Council considered an ordinance draft to amend Chapter 69 regarding winter parking on Prospect Street. Harry Walk and Andrea Opperman, property owners on Ann Street were in attendance to express their concerns with the proposed change. Another property owner had spoken with Mayor Troester regarding her support of the proposed change. Attorney Schuster suggested adding this portion of Prospect Street into the 48 hour no parking following a 2" snow which would allow time for the snow plow to get the street cleared with no vehicles in the way. Ordinance was tabled to next meeting.

Carroll moved, seconded by Hallberg to approve Resolution 01-10-2019 Approving the 2018-2019 Annual Urban Renewal Report. Roll call vote: Ayes – all. Motion carried. Hallberg moved, seconded by Muehlbauer to approve Resolution 02-10-2019 Approving the 2018-2019 Annual Financial Report. Roll call vote: Ayes – all. Motion carried. Mayor Troester opened discussion on the pledge for Turner Park Splash Pad for the Great Places Grant application. He recognized Marquette for their recent pledge of \$20,000 towards the project for the upcoming Great Places grant submission. He thanked the committee for their hard work fundraising for the splash pad with funds currently held in savings for the project of approximately \$37,000. Park Board chair, Maria Brummel noted they had held over 30 fundraisers since beginning work on the park – for the track/trail, athletic field improvements, and new playground equipment. Echard moved, seconded by Carroll to pledge \$70,000 to the splash pad and rest room/food service area facility reimbursable from TIF funds. Roll call vote: Ayes – all. Motion carried.

Halvorson moved, seconded by Hallberg to approve library shelving purchase in the amount of \$6,895 using Marsha Bickel memorials received of \$6,640. A budget amendment will need to be completed for this revenue and expense. Roll call vote: Ayes – all. Motion carried. Council asked is something will be engraved to attached to the shelves. Council set trick or treat hours for 5-8p.m. on Thursday, October 31, 2019. A reminder was provided that winter parking

regulations go back into effect on November 1, 2019 and run through March 31, 2020. Hoods will be removed from the signs. Council will provide a tree and decorations as a sponsor for the Festival of Trees event again and asked that the tree be decorated by council person Hallberg and city administrator Sander.

Muehlbauer asked the status of the 6th Street Bridge project. Sander explained that it is currently under historical review with the report to be completed soon. The engineer expects that there will be a finding of historic significance due to the storm sewer channel and that the council will have to determine if the additional cost of any changes needed will be feasible. Muehlbauer also asked about the status of the Sullivan Opera House. The developer has been asked to meet with the mayor, city administrator and economic development lead to discuss potential funding assistance that may be available. Additional information is needed from CC Development regarding a recent conversation about that funding. An extension of time will be sought from IEDA and the Community Catalyst Grant. The developer has spent significant time and money addressing flood plain requirement and historic rehabilitation standards for a project done correctly. This has added significant cost to the project. He has been working with Bethany Jordon, Martin Gardener Architect to develop the blue prints. Even filling the basement would be difficult in light of the continued high river levels and water table.

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

Lyle J. Troester, Mayor

Attest:

Lynette L. Sander, City Administrator