

The regular meeting of the Clare City Commission was called to order at 6:01 p.m. via remote audio and visual (Zoom) public meeting attendance as authorized under the Open Meetings Act by Mayor Pat Humphrey who lead with the Pledge of Allegiance. Attendance and location of Commissioners in attendance were as follows: Bob Bonham, Clare County, City of Clare, MI; Pat Humphrey, Clare County, City of Clare, MI; Maegan Jenkins, Clare County, City of Harrison, MI; and Nick Loomis, Clare County, City of Harrison, MI. Absent: Carolyn (Gus) Murphy. Also, present: Jeremy Howard, City Manager; Steve Kingsbury, City Treasurer, and Diane Lyon, City Clerk.

Rules for Public Comment during the conduct of remote electronic meetings were read to the audience by the City Clerk

2. CONSENT AGENDA:

Moved by Commissioner Murphy second by Commissioner Bonham to approve the items listed with an asterisk (*) (Agenda, Minutes, Communications, Professional Development, and Bills) that are considered to be routine by the City Commission. Roll call vote: Yeas: Commissioners Bob Bonham, Pat Humphrey, Maegan Jenkins, and Nick Loomis. Nays: None. Absent: Carolyn (Gus) Murphy. Motion Carried.

3. *APPROVAL OF MINUTES;

Approved by Consent Agenda.

4. *APPROVAL OF AGENDA;

Approved by Consent Agenda.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

7. NEW BUSINESS: None.

8. TREASURER'S REPORT: *The Treasurer presented his report.*

9. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Clare Irish Festival: I have been meeting with various groups regarding the festival this year (Chamber of Commerce, Clare County Convention and Visitor Bureau). Recently the chamber board, who does a lot of the coordination and work for the festival, did decide that due to the pandemic and the current and likely future orders and limitations it would again be unlikely to have any kind of normal event. It is the hope of the Chamber, CVB, City, and businesses that we can do some events possibly if we modify them to adapt to the current environment. It takes hundreds of hours of planning and a tremendous number of volunteers to do the festival and that just can't happen at this time. It is still our hope that restaurants and businesses will be able to be open in some form and the Irish spirit can still take place during the weekend even in its modified form.

Clare's 150th Anniversary: As I am sure you know this year is Clare's 150th celebration. Even in the times we are living in we hope to be able to celebrate this milestone. The chamber is working on banners that will be up throughout the city all year long and many local businesses are sponsoring events throughout the year. There has been some early discussion of the possibility of having a bigger event in the fall if numbers and MDHHS orders allow.

Speaking of Events: If you have time, I would encourage you to check out the events going on right now. The February 19th Stuffed Animal Slumber Party event hosted by the Clare Parks and Recreation Department and the Pere Marquette Library will be held virtually this year. Pre-registration will be required so you will need to register with the Pere Marquette District Library or Clare Parks and Recreation Department by February 16, 2021. Also being hosted by the Clare Parks and Recreation Department and the Pere Marquette Library is the Clare Irish Pet Photo Contest. Submit your pets best Irish photo to help support a good cause and to help you win some Clare Cash with supports our local businesses. More information on these events can be found on Facebook or by contacting the Clare Recreation Department or the library. I have attached flyers for the events to this document.

Board and Commission Meetings: Current MDHHS orders still do not allow face to face meetings or gatherings so it is still my recommendation that we continue to hold our meetings virtual until such time as the order allows and it is safe to do so. I think once the

order is lifted there may still be some limitations, but the Commission could certainly look at options as we were doing before the MDHHS orders where the commissioners were meeting face to face (social distanced) and the public participated via zoom.

City Buildings Continue to be Closed to Public: City offices continue to be closed to the public since in order to comply with the current MDHHS orders. The current order was recently extended by the MDHHS at a press conference held by the Governor and is now scheduled to expire February 21, 2021 at 11:59 p.m. City staff have been working remotely when possible and essential staff have been continuing to work as normal. We have been accommodating requests for in person appointments when necessary for the public.

10. *COMMUNICATIONS

FOIA Requests: The most recent FOIA requests & responses are attached for your information.

IFT Transmittal Letters: The City has submitted the IFT information for County Wide Septic, LLC to the State of Michigan for processing, provided the CEO of County Wide Septic a copy of the signed Agreement and notified him that the IFT documents have been sent to the State.

11. EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

12. COMMISSION DISCUSSION TOPICS: The St. Patrick's Day parade is not likely to occur this year due to social distancing requirements set forth by the Michigan Department of Health & Human Services.

13. *APPROVAL OF BILLS: *Approved by Consent Agenda.*

14. *PROFESSIONAL & EDUCATIONAL TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES: *Approved by Consent Agenda.*

15. ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Commissioner Bonham second by Commissioner Loomis to adjourn the meeting. Roll call vote: Yeas: Commissioners Bob Bonham, Pat Humphrey, Maegan Jenkins, and Nick Loomis. Nays: None. Absent: Carolyn (Gus) Murphy. *Motion Carried.* Meeting adjourned at 6:12 p.m.

Pat Humphrey, Mayor

Diane Lyon, City Clerk