

The regular meeting of the Clare City Commission was called to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Commission Chambers by Mayor Pat Humphrey who led the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were: Commissioners Bob Bonham, Pat Humphrey, Jean McConnell, Carolyn (Gus) Murphy and Karla Swanson. Absent: None. Also present were Ken Hibl, City Manager; Steven Kingsbury, Treasurer & Finance Director; Dale Clark, Water & Wastewater Superintendent; and Diane Lyon, City Clerk.

2. CONSENT AGENDA:

Moved by Commissioner Swanson second by Commissioner Murphy to approve the items listed with an asterisk (*) (Amended Agenda, Minutes, Board and Committee Appointments, Communications and Bills) that are considered to be routine by the City Commission. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Absent: None. *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:

A. NORTH INDUSTRIAL PARK/INFRASTRUCTURE BUILD PROJECT - CONTRACTOR PAYMENT, MAGUIRE IRON

Maguire Iron, the contractor that is working on the Division B portion (the water tower) of the City's North Industrial Park and Utility Infrastructure project has submitted their twelfth application for payment for work completed through October 31, 2015. The City's engineer for this project Gourdie-Fraser has reviewed the application for payment and has verified that all indicated work has in fact been satisfactorily completed and that all invoices/purchases included within the contractor's application for payment have in fact been purchased by the contractor for the City of Clare's 2014/15 North Industrial Park/Infrastructure project.

Motion by Commissioner Swanson second by Commissioner Bonham to approve the contractor payment of \$91,200.00 by adoption of Resolution 2015-124. Yeas: Commissioners Bob Bonham, Pat Humphrey, Jean McConnell, Gus Murphy and Karla Swanson. Nays: None. Absent: None. *Motion Carried.*

B. *BOARD & COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT- BOARD OF REVIEW (ANDREW SANTINI)

Approved by Consent Agenda. Resolution 2015-125.

8. TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer provided his report to the Commission.

9. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Lake Shamrock Improvement Board Meeting. The Board is scheduled to meet again on Monday, November 23rd to consider directing a formal study to dredge the lake and to hold a hearing to renew the lake assessment for a one-year period.

City Office Closures. City offices will be closed to the public (employees working) on November 11th for our annual clean-up day and again on Monday, November 16th for a designated and approved employee holiday. Consequently, the normally scheduled City Commission meeting on the third Monday of the month will be held on Tuesday, November 17th this year instead of November 16th.

Colonville Road Update. The contractor was scheduled to commence and finish work on the Holbrook residential driveway today and tomorrow (Oct 29th & 30th). But due to weather conditions, the work has been delayed to Monday, Nov 2nd and Tuesday, Nov 3rd.

Road Millage Leaflet. We have distributed the attached informational road millage leaflet in various business locations around town; we will also distribute the leaflet electronically to all of our many boards and committees tomorrow and ask that they pass on the information to all their friends and families who are Clare residents to ensure that our voters are informed regarding the ballot item. The matter will be decided by the Clare electorate on Tuesday, Nov 3rd.

Meeting with Engineering Firm. The City Staff is scheduled to meet with the Wal-Mart engineer to discuss permitting requirements and general time schedules.

Water Treatment Plant Discussion. Based on our internal, informal evaluation of work that is required at our current water treatment plant, we believe improvements required to keep the plant operational will be approximately \$180K. Concurrently, the production of Well #6 has decreased to approximately 250 gpm (and that's after another recent cleaning). Before we expend the funds specified in our approved Capital Improvement Schedule for this year and make a commitment to expend funds to complete other needed repairs at our current treatment plant, we believe it is prudent to consider a new plant and well field in the northern sector of the City and intend to request a cost estimate from GFA to complete a feasibility study for us with that proposed scope. Unless the study is cost prohibitive, we intend to ask the City Commission for approval to move forward with the study. We also plan to provide you information Monday evening regarding some of the projected cost items that we are facing in the near-term with our current treatment plant.

Update – Northern IP Project. Dunigan Bros. is scheduled to commence working on the items of the punch list on Monday. The water tower interior painting is scheduled to be completed tomorrow (Oct 30th). Weather permitting, the second coat of exterior paint is scheduled to be applied next week – as is the Clare logo and shamrocks.

ROW Tree Cutting. Consumers Energy is scheduled to commence tree cutting (removal of dead ash trees) in our ROW next week

Fluoride Treatment. We've been informed a City resident intends to propose that the City cease fluoride treatment of our drinking water. Consequently, I've asked Dale to commence gathering information to provide to you when we are formally presented with the request.

Property Appraisals. Last week I informed the City Commission that I approved a proposal for appraisals we needed immediately for properties required on short term for a pending Tax Tribunal; the proposal is attached. Based on the completed appraisals, we have made a settlement offer to lower our assessment on the downtown commercial property to the appraised value and retaining our assessed value on the two industrial properties; we have not received notice whether our offer will be accepted. We similarly require appraisals for two additional properties scheduled for determination by the Tax Tribunal. I have also approved the proposal for those appraisals.

New PT Deputy Clerk. Out of an applicant pool of approximately 50 individuals narrowed to five for interview, Diane selected Stacy Pechacek as the City's new Part-Time Deputy Clerk to replace the vacancy created when Mary Warner applied for and was selected as the City's new FT Utility Billing Clerk upon the retirement of Cathy Davis. Stacy is a Clare resident; she lives on Rainbow Drive. She is scheduled to start work on Monday, Nov 2nd.

New Mennonite School. If you have not traveled down Ann Arbor Trail in the City lately, it's worth the trip to see the progress that has been made on the new Mennonite School. It is wonderful to see the blighted structures that have occupied this site for the past 20 years disappear and be replaced by this attractive complex.

Absence. I will be out of the office during the period Nov 7 – 16; Steve will serve as the Acting CM during my absence.

ADDENDUMS:

DPW Garage Roof. Al Jessup and I have scheduled a meeting with JBS Contracting, who installed the roof of our DPW garage, to discuss the problems we are experiencing with bolts rusting on the roof.

Veterans Memorial Park Flag Pole. Organizers of the Clare County Veterans Memorial Park are seeking Flag Pole sponsors. While the majority of Commissioners were in favor of purchasing a flag pole on behalf of the City of Clare, they agreed to do so by personally soliciting funds from community members rather than expending money from the city's budget for that purpose because there is no law that specifically allows that type of expenditure from city funds. Ken Hibl will contact Renee Haley, Clare County Veterans Affairs Director, to inquire as to whether they will allow us time (until December 31, 2015) to raise funds for the purchase.

Feasibility Study. The city owns two wells located on a contaminated aquifer. The PRP's (Primary Responsible Parties) are currently paying for air stripping of VOC's (volatile organic compounds) from the water of those wells however if the PRP's go away, the cost will become the responsibility of the city. Well #6 is believed to be on its last leg because the flow is down to 250 gpm. Well #4 & Well #3 filters cracked recently and have since been repaired. All three aspects of the air stripping process are in need of repair. City staff will request a proposal from GFA (engineer of record) for the conduct a feasibility study to determine the availability and quality of water at the north end of the city and the cost to put in a well, along with a timeline to do so, versus the cost of completing necessary repairs at the Water Treatment Plant.

WWT Supervisor Kudos. We received unsolicited compliments about our Water & Waste Water Superintendent, Dale Clark, from Farwell Village Supervisor Gina Hamilton.

McKenna & Associates. We have not yet worked out an agreement with McKenna & Associates to provide a sign ordinance update in conjunction with the Master Plan update.

10. *COMMUNICATIONS

No communications provided.

11. EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

12. COMMISSION DISCUSSION TOPICS: None.

13. *APPROVAL OF BILLS

Approved By Consent Agenda.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Commissioner Bonham second by Commissioner Murphy to adjourn the meeting. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Absent: None. *Motion Carried.* Meeting adjourned at 6:37 p.m.

Pat Humphrey, Mayor

Diane Lyon, City Clerk