

The regular meeting of the Harrisville City Council was held on Monday, December 12, 2022.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Mayor Gehring and the Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Present: Mayor Gehring, Treasurer Luenberger, Clerk Pierce, Aldermen Schwanz, Bauermeister, Kaiser, Mason, Bean, Peterson, Attorney Cook and guests.

Motion by Bean, support by Kaiser to accept the minutes of November 14, 2022. Motion carried: 6-0.

Motion by Mason, support by Peterson to pay the bills in the amount of \$35,831.86. Motion carried: 6 -0.

The Water/Sewer budget Meeting was opened at 7:20 PM. Treasurer Luenberger presented the budget for the fiscal year 2023 which had been reviewed by the finance committee on December 7, 2022. There were no comments from the public. Schwanz moved the budget meeting to close at 7:25 PM. Second by Peterson.

Motion by Schwanz, support by Mason to accept the Water/Sewer budget for 2023. Motion carried: 6-0.

City Council FYI: The City has met the criteria for the inclusion in the 2023 MDOT Surface Program Grant for restoration of the railroad crossing on Church Street at the railroad tracks. Discussion.

City Council FYI: MDOT TEDF-B grant award through Huron Engineering and Becky Rivard, to address resurfacing and repair of city streets. Discussion.

City Council FYI: Becky Bean addressed the tree survey plan in the city.

City Council FYI: State licensing of Marijuana Retailer Blooming Buds, LLC. Discussion.

REPORTS

Mayor Gehring thanked Attorney Dave Cook and Alderman Ward II, Mary Peterson for their dedication and service to the city. Mayor Gehring thanked Harbormaster Steve Alexander for all the time and dedication he has put into bringing the harbor infrastructure up to date and the work involved in the overall maintenance of the harbor building.

Clerk Pierce thanked Attorney Dave Cook for his 50 years of service to the city, which he said, began with his father, Judge James Cook, bringing him along to the city meetings Jim Cook attended as city attorney. To Mary Peterson for her 5 years on city council as Alderman Ward II. To Bill Thompson for his years as District 2 County Commissioner. Your time and dedication have been sincerely appreciated. Request by clerk to increase Summer Concert Budget to \$3500.00 for the 2023 season. Motion by Bauermeister, support by Schwanz to table discussion to January 9, 2023 council meeting. Motion carried: 6-0.

Harbor Commissioner, Treasurer, Richard Huneke has agreed to be re-appointed.

Motion by Schwanz, support by Peterson to approve re-appointment of Richard Huneke to Harbor Commission as Treasurer, term ending December 31, 2026. Motion carried: 6 -0.

Harbormaster Alexander brought to council the Financial Committee Report for 2022. Discussion. Alexander shared his vision for the future of the harbor and informed council of the updates and infrastructure work that was completed in this transitional year. Fuel and dockage prices were up and brought in new revenues for the harbor, while slip rentals were down. He is working with state agencies and the local school district on several available grants and is pursuing outstanding monies owed to the harbor. An ad will be placed for three vacancies on the harbor commission.

Planning Commissioner Schwanz reports the Master Plan has been distributed to surrounding municipalities for a 63-day review and comment period. The Planning commission will meet in January, 2023, for a formal review of any comments from the municipalities and recommend to

city council, approval of the Master Plan. Once the Master Plan is approved, the commission will begin work to update the city Recreation Plan.

Airport Assistant Manager Colleen Higgins reports the grant for tree removal was denied. Currently getting estimates for tree services.

Fire Department Assistant Chief Keerl reports it has been a quiet month for the department.

County Commissioner Thompson discussed that the county commission has voted to change the veterans board from 5 to 7-members. The County -Wide Cleanup will be the third Saturday in May, 2023.

Comment Cards: Guest Monica Spears shared with council the plans from the Fireworks Committee for New Year's Eve events at the Pocket Park for both children and adults, including a scavenger hunt from 3:00 PM-5:00 PM. Ball drops will be at 7:00 PM for children and midnight for adults. Becky Bean states her Pocket Park committee is looking for more volunteers.

Councils Last Comments: Alderman Schwanz shared the on-going mural project for the building near the Pocket Park. There is grant money available for this and there will be a competition for submission of ideas for the murals. Alderman Bauermeister thanked the Planning Commission for all their work in drafting an updated Master Plan. Alderman Bean questioned hunting geese at the harbor. It is legal on water or at the north wall during the hunting season.

Motion to adjourn by Schwanz, support by Peterson.

Adjourned at 8:19 P.M.

Next regularly scheduled City Council meeting is Monday, January 9, 2023, at 7:00 PM.

Published prior to council approval.

Mayor _____ Clerk _____