

The regular meeting of the Harrisville City Council was held on September 11, 2023 at the City Office.

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 P.M. by Mayor Pro Tem Schwanz and the Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Roll Call: Kaiser, Bean, Vanderheuel. Absent: Bauermeister, Mason.

Present: Mayor Pro Tem Schwanz, Treasurer Luenberger, Clerk Pierce and guests. Mayor Pro Tem Schwanz asked for a moment of silence to acknowledge the 22<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the 9-11 attack.

Motion by Bean, support by Vanderheuel to approve agenda as amended to remove Public Finance meeting. Motion carried: 4-0.

Motion by Bean, support by Kaiser to approve amended minutes of August 14, 2023. Motion carried: 4-0.

Motion by Vanderheuel, support by Kaiser to pay the bills in the amount of \$86,208.90. Motion carried: 4-0.

In Correspondence Mayor Pro Tem shared Mayor Gehring's acknowledgement of a Thank You from the Harrisville Fireworks Fund, a "Thank You" to the Harrisville Arts Council for their donation to the Harrisville Fire Department of \$200 for helping erect the tent for the Wine and Food Festival, and a letter from summer boaters, to the harbor, thanking the staff for the wonderful job they do helping boating visitors to the harbor and the excellent upkeep of the buildings and area.

Alcona Community Schools Superintendent Dan O'Connor shared with council the milage proposal for funding improvements and new structures to the school's campus. The special election will be held on Tuesday, November 7, 2023.

Mayor Pro Tem Schwanz shared that a solar light has been installed at the base of the flag pole at Cuyler field.

FOIA update: Mayor Pro Tem Schwanz reported that Mayor Gehring is working on updating the current language of the city's FOIA guidelines.

Stairs at Harbor update: Mayor Pro Tem Schwanz reported that Mayor Gehring is in contact with Huron Engineering and is asking council approval for Mayor Gehring to pursue discussion with Huron Engineering.

Motion by Vanderheuel, support by Kaiser for Mayor Gehring to continue negotiations with Huron Engineering for work to be done at the Harbor stairway. Motion carried: 4-0.

Mary Peterson sent a letter of interest to be considered as a member of the Tree Board.

Motion by Vanderheuel, support by Kaiser to approve Mary Peterson as a member of the Tree Board. Motion carried: 4-0.

RRC update: Mayor Pro Tem Schwanz shared with council the ongoing opportunity for the city to contract with a NEMCOG representative to work with the city on its RRC development project. The cost for 15 months of consultation work would be \$10,000.00. A NEMCOG representative would be available to inform council at the October 9, 2023 city council meeting of the services provided by NEMCOG and guidelines and actions of the MEDC.

HYDRANT FLUSHING: Weeks of Oct. 2nd-20th, 2023.

## REPORTS

Mayor Pro Tem Schwanz shared the State Department of Treasury report of the assessment of roll and practices of which the city did very well in all venues.

Treasurer Luenberger indicated that Thursday, September 14, 2023 is the last day to pay Summer 2023 taxes. The city office will be open from 9:30 AM-4:30 PM on Thursday, September 14, 2023 for in person payment of taxes. Treasurer Luenberger asked to set a special Budget meeting date. Discussion.

Motion by Vanderheuel, support by Bean to set Wednesday, October 12, 2023 at 5:30 PM for a Special Budget meeting. To be posted two weeks prior to meeting date. Motion carried: 4-0.

Planning Commissioner Liaison Schwanz reports there will be a Public Hearing by the Planning Commission to discuss changes to zoning ordinances to the city concerning Provisioning Center services and Permitted and Special Land Uses on Wednesday, October 11, 2023 at 6:30 PM at the city offices at 200 N. Fifth St. Harrisville, MI. For more information, contact Planning Commission Chairperson Lane Schwanz at: [plchairschwanz@harrisvillemi.org](mailto:plchairschwanz@harrisvillemi.org) or the city offices at: [harrisville@harrisvillemi.org](mailto:harrisville@harrisvillemi.org).

Tree Board member Becky Bean announced a meeting at 2:30 PM Tuesday, September 12, 2023 to discuss grant opportunities, future maintenance and upkeep.

County Commissioner Johnston shared that the county commissioners are in negotiations with the sheriff's department. The county is interviewing for open positions in the equalization department. The county commissioners are investigating Broadband access for the county.

Comment Cards: Tim Slezsak talked of stocking the Mill Pond in April of 2024, with trout for a family fun day event. Tim also shared that State Representative Cam Cavitt will be available on Friday, September 22, 2023 to discuss the future of fishing in Harrisville. Harry Harvey suggested that the city needs representation on a Fishing Advisory Board. Becky Bean and Sue Keller discussed the importance of mitigating light pollution in the city and the possibility of the city becoming a "Dark Sky" city. Monica Spears complained about the annual parade parking closures and that the website needs to be kept updated.

Councils Last Comments: Alderman Vanderhueuel discussed if the businesses on Main St. could decorate their businesses for the upcoming seasonal holidays. Council members agreed that it would be a great idea. Vanderheuel also shared the interest of some members of council to investigate the possibility of live streaming the council meetings via a Zoom account and streaming them through You Tube.

Motion by Schwanz, support by Kaiser to approve Main Street decorations pending approval by mayor. Motion carried: 4-0.

Motion to adjourn by Vanderheuel, support by Bean.

Meeting adjourned at 8:22 P.M.

Next City Council meeting: Monday, October 19, 2023 at City Hall at 7:00 PM.

Published prior to council approval.

Mayor \_\_\_\_\_

Clerk \_\_\_\_\_