

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE PARCHMENT CITY COMMISSION HELD ON MONDAY MARCH 2, 2020.

1. Call to order

Mayor Britigan called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. He led everyone saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call.

Present: Mayor Britigan, Vice Mayor Jordan, Emmons, Evans, Fooy, and Madaras. City Manager Stoddard, Attorney Soltis, Deputy Clerk Smith.

Absent: Commissioner Bagley, City Treasurer/Clerk Stutz.

Moved by Commissioner Emmons, supported by Vice Mayor Jordan to excuse Commissioner Bagley.

Motion Carried.

3. Minutes

Mayor Britigan abstained from approving the minutes. Moved by Commissioner Fooy, supported by Commissioner Evans to approve the amended Minutes of the February 17, 2020 Regular Meeting.

Motion Carried.

4. Additions or changes to the agenda.

Mayor Britigan noted a replacement insert for 8C has been added to the agenda packet. No agenda change. Moved by Commissioner Emmons, supported by Commissioner Evans to accept the agenda. **Motion Carried.**

5. Citizen Comments – Items ON the Agenda

None.

6. Consent Agenda

A. Moved by Vice Mayor Jordan, supported by Commissioner Emmons to receive the consent agenda items. **Motion Carried.**

7. Unfinished Business

None.

8. New Business

A. Audit presentation: Joe Verlin of Gabridge & Company presented the 2018-2019 audit report. He thanked the commission and stated it was a pleasure to work with the City. Mr Verlin gave highlights explaining the City is “trending in the right direction” and has paid off a significant amount of the previous deficit. He noted cash and investments had increased and answered questions from Commissioners.

B. Rate Committee – Bulk Tag Price Increase – approve. Vice Mayor Jordan advised Deputy Clerk Smith found Republic Services is charging the City \$25 for residential curbside removal of a bulk item. The City has been charging residents \$12 for this service. The Rate Committee feels the City should charge the same fee it currently pays. Vice Mayor Jordan noted the City does provide a free bulk trash pick up annually. Moved by Commissioner Madaras, supported by Vice Mayor Jordan to increase the bulk tag price to \$25. **Motion Carried.**

C. Rate Committee – Freedom of Information Act Request (FOIA) Fees – approve. City Manager Stoddard advised the existing policy is not in line with rates charged by other cities. The City needs to recoup wages for employees completing a FOIA request and copy fees. She stated a request lasting 30 minutes or less would be no charge. After 30 minutes, the City would charge the hourly rate of the lowest paid, full-time employee working on the request. Attorney and engineering fees should be charged at six times minimum wage or \$56.70 per hour. The first 25 pages copied would be provided without charge. Every page over 25 would be charged .25 cents per page to copy. Attorney Soltis advised these rates are in line with FOIA laws. Moved by Commissioner Fooy, supported by Commissioner Emmons to update the FOIA request fees. **Motion Carried.**

D. Resolution in Support of US 131 Interchange – approve. Mayor Britigan noted there is an effort underway to add more interchanges and easier access to the US 131 business loop. MDOT has recommended a trumpet interchange which allows for maximum traffic flow at a lower cost while taking into account environmental concerns, the Kalamazoo River Valley Trail, and power lines. The project is currently not on MDOT’s five year plan, and a show of solidarity by the impacted communities could move it up in priority. This resolution is non-binding. Moved by Vice Mayor Jordan, supported by Commissioner Evans to support reconstruction of the US 131 interchange. Roll call vote was as follows:

Ayes: Britigan, Emmons, Evans, Fooy, Jordan, and Madaras.

Nays: None.
Absent: Bagley.
Abstain: None.

Motion Carried 6-0.

9. Citizen Comments

Mike Conner, 1150 Parchmount, commented on the volume of truck traffic through the City. He also noted Parchmount Avenue between Orient and Clarnin has many pot holes and crumbling pavement.

10. Mayor and Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Fooy congratulated the Commission and City staff on a great audit outcome and urged everyone to keep up the good work.

11. City Manager Comments/Reports

City Manager Stoddard invited all who had concerns to call or visit City Hall to discuss with her, her door is always open.

12. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Commission, it was moved by Commissioner Madaras and supported by all to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 p.m.

Kara Smith
Deputy City Clerk