

CITY OF ITHACA
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 1, 2009
7:00pm

The regular meeting of the City of Ithaca City Council, held at 129 W. Emerson Street, Ithaca, Michigan, was called to order by Mayor George Bailey at 7:00pm and followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Councilperson Schafer opened with prayer.

Present were Mayor George Bailey, Councilpersons L.D. Hollenbeck, Alice Schafer, Charles Teegardin, Cathy Timmons and Larry Trexler and Attorney Jefferson Arnold. Staff present was City Manager Chelsey Foster, Clerk-Treasurer Barbara Fandell, Interim DDA Director Becky Roslund and Police Chief Steve Lytle.

Absent was Councilperson John Thomas.

Audience in attendance was Wilbur Rykert.

A motion was made by Councilperson Hollenbeck, second by Councilperson Teegardin to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Motion carried.

Public Comment

Mayor Bailey asked to receive public comment.

Councilperson Schafer informed members of former Councilperson Gwen Teachman's passing.

Committee Reports

Councilperson Schafer reported that the Water and Sewer Committee met and received updates on the water meter case, generator maintenance and infrastructure issues in the East Industrial Park. She further reported that the Library Board met and the USF site review is complete, a CIPA (Children Internet Protection Act) policy was adopted, the book drop will be changed and the sidewalk work will begin next week.

Councilperson Trexler reported that the Ways and Means Committee met to review a water irrigation request for the Downtown Park and the assessor's contract. The Committee recommends that the City grant the request to provide water for the Downtown Park irrigation system at no charge and to continue contracting assessing services with BS&A Software versus the hiring of an assessor with the City's of Greenville and Clare.

A motion was made by Councilperson Trexler, second by Councilperson Teegardin to supply water to the Downtown Park irrigation system free of charge. Motion carried.

Councilperson Timmons reported that the Personnel Committee met to review the City Manager's contract and review a part-time staff request from the Chief of Police. The committee finalized the Manager's contract and requested a written proposal from the Chief on the position request.

Department Reports

Police Chief Lytle reported that the department responded to 148 complaints for the month of August. The 2004 patrol car is not on the road due to maintenance issues. Chief Lytle reported the department will begin evaluating crime rate statistics of the City and watch for seasonal trends for historical and future purposes. He further reported that no problems were experienced during the Fun Fest activities and the department head debriefing produced some constructive suggestions for next year's festival.

Chief Lytle reported that the crossing guards have received their annual training and he will be purchasing some safety and communication equipment for them.

A motion was made by Councilperson Schafer, second by Councilperson Hollenbeck to receive the Police Chief's report. Motion carried.

Interim DDA Director Roslund reported on the Fun Fest activities and acknowledged the support received from all of the City staff and community members. Director Roslund informed members of upcoming events. The Downtown Park furniture has been installed and more planters have been ordered and will be sold as memorials with funds being donated by the Steve Smith family for the downtown speaker system.