

**CITY OF ITHACA
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
October 20, 2020
7:00 PM**

The regular meeting of the City of Ithaca City Council, held at 129 W. Emerson Street, Ithaca, Michigan, was called to order by Mayor Schafer on October 20, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. and followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Mayor Schafer gave the invocation.

Present were Mayor Alice Schafer and Councilpersons James Andrew, Brett Baublitz, Scott Gray, James Gruesbeck and Rick Koppleberger. Staff present were City Manager Jamey Conn, Clerk-Treasurer Barbara Fandell, Fire Chief Dave Nelson, Lt. Roy McCollum and Attorney Jefferson Arnold.

Absent was Councilperson Clark Hubbard.
Audience in attendance were none.

Moved by Koppleberger, second by Gray to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the City Council of October 6, 2020. Motion carried.

Moved by Andrew, second by Gray to excuse Councilperson Hubbard due to illness. Motion Carried.

Mayor Schafer asked for approval of the Agenda and for Items to be removed from the Consent Agenda. City Manager Conn asked to remove Item 10B from the agenda and postpone until 11/3/20, and to add Item 10C GESA Authority Agreement. Moved by Baublitz, second by Andrew to approve the Agenda with changes (to remove Item 10B and postpone until 11/3/20 and add Item 10C GESA Authority Agreement), including the Consent Agenda. Motion carried.

Public Comment

Mayor Schafer asked for public comments. None were offered.

Consent Agenda

Moved by Gray, second by Koppleberger to approve the consent agenda; items as listed:

- **City Manager report which included updates and information on the street paving, Bob Garland's retirement from ZFS, sale of the scraper truck, election security, Rowe watermain project contract, fire grants, Gratiot Ag Society request for lighting, Fire Co-op Student, Farmer's Market, Habitat House building and Master Plan.**
- **Financial – 4th Quarter Fiscal Year End 2020**
- **Claims submitted to the Ways and Means Committee by City Clerk-Treasurer Fandell and recommended for payment: Accounts Payable Checks #46903-46944 and Payroll Checks #15978-15989, DD1692-DD1710, EFT #1176-1181 as listed in the Check Register Book.**
- **Correspondence received: Planning Commission Minutes**

Motion carried by Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: (6) Baublitz, Gray, Gruesbeck, Koppleberger, Andrew and Schafer

Nos: (0) None

Absent: (1) Hubbard

Committee Reports

There were no committee reports.

Department Reports

Lt. Roy McCollum reported on the September and quarterly activity of the Ithaca Unit. He reported on traffic stops and truck traffic through the downtown. He will check on the light for the 4-way stop.

Moved by Gray, second by Koppleberger to approve the Ithaca Unit report. Motion carried.

Fire Chief Dave Nelson reported the Chief Bill Coty starts at St. Louis the next day and a retirement party will be held for Chief Apps before the year end. He reported that the FEMA grant for airpaks and bottles was denied. ***Chief Nelson was toned out on a call and excused***

Moved by Baublitz, second by Andrew to approve the Fire Department and Code Enforcement quarterly reports. Motion carried.

City Manager Comments

City Manager Conn reported the street paving was complete and the DPW was working to taper the edges. The scraper truck bid opening is scheduled for October 29th. Manager Conn received a request from GAS to install lights in the arena. They have fundraised for the cost and inquired if this was an approved project. Council stated it was not, but would take action.

Moved by Gray, second by Koppleberger to approve to allow Gratiot Agricultural Society to install lighting at the arena at its cost; provided proper permits are obtained and it is understood that the improvement becomes a permanent asset of the City. Motion carried.

City Manager Conn further reported the Farmer's Market has wrapped up the season and it was successful this year, primarily due to the change from Saturday to Tuesday. The Habitat house construction made good progress this weekend. Councilperson Koppeler, Gray, Mayor Schafer and he were all there to volunteer. Mayor Schafer commended the Church of God for its volunteers and the meal. Manager Conn informed Council that the Church of God is interested in the old chairs from the Community Center; there were no bids or interest when put out to the public. Council agreed to allow them to save the cost of disposal.

New Business

City Manager Conn presented a change order from Rowe PSC for the 2021 Water System Improvement contract. It was discovered that a portion of the project had already been completed so a reduction to the contract of \$2,520.00 is requested.

Moved by Gruesbeck, second by Baublitz to approve the Change Order for the Rowe PSC contract for 2021 Water System Improvements by a reduction of \$2,520.00 to a new total of \$17,460.00. Motion carried.

City Manager Conn presented the Gratiot Emergency Services Authority Agreement. The agreement is finalized and most have signed. Currently waiting on North Star and New Haven Townships and the City. The Agreement would be in effect on November 1, 2020 with assets transferring April 1, 2020. Councilperson Gruesbeck expressed appreciation to Manager Conn for keeping the discussions and Authority moving forward and reaching this conclusion.

Moved by Gray, second by Gruesbeck to enter into the Interlocal Agreement to Incorporate the Gratiot Emergency Services Authority and Adopt the Articles of Incorporation and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign. Motion carried.

Old Business

Councilperson Baublitz inquired on the Dilts Road property sale. Attorney Arnold stated he was still looking for a deed or proof of sale. Discussion was held on moving forward with getting the deed through the State. Attorney Arnold would like to look more so there is proof to provide to the court.

City Manager Conn reported that 129 E. Center Street has a new Antique Shop business going in and the owners are interested in upper apartments and rehabbing the building.

Public Comment

Mayor Schafer asked for public comments. None were offered.

Mayor Schafer asked for any additional business to come before the Council. None was offered.

Moved by Baublitz, second by Gray to adjourn. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:37pm.

Barbara Fandell, City Clerk-Treasurer