CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

MAY 8, 2012

Present: Mayor, Lee McNew; Councilmembers Jon Cabot, Dan Jenaras, Chuck Poploskie; Treasurer, Julie Frakes; Attorney, Dan Christ; Building Official Brian Oppmann; Deputy Treasurer, Pam Cabot; Police Chief, Jim Prosser; Clerk, Rosalie Lake; Deputy Assessor, Linda Burton

Absent: Councilmember, David Haines; Road Administrator, Karl Storrie

Visitors: Jim Howlett, Starr Foster

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7 pm and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. The Minutes of the meeting of April 2012 were approved as submitted.

Clerk’s Report: Sharon Lashier indicated that items relating to their property were incorrect in two sets of previous Council Minutes. There appeared to be miscommunication on a larceny attributed to the Lashier property that occurred on Gray Woods Lane. Chief Prosser affirmed this. Also, work to be done on the Lashier property was described incorrectly. None of the septic system was found to be located under the structure or driveway. Brian Oppmann agreed.

Linda Burton, Deputy Assessor for the City, appeared and submitted (unapproved) Minutes of the Board of Review. She had testified at the Tax Tribunal hearing on May 4th regarding the Frickel property. Attorney Christ suggested that, in significant cases, the Council may wish to review information and be involved, and may wish, also, to know how many appeals have been made. Councilmember Cabot felt that appeals should be brought to the Council so that issues are in the open. Councilmember Poploskie felt that Ms. Burton’s judgment should prevail unless she feels Council input is important or required. Ms. Burton wished to review all properties and confirm assessments for each one. She would be able to make information available electronically. Ray Siwiec, Chair of the Board of Review, would like to follow the County’s format, which Ms. Burton is able to do as she has it on her computer. Ms. Burton will send letters to residents about when she will be in an area to make appointments to visit properties. She would like to accomplish this in a year’s time, but that may not be realistic.

Kim Shea has asked to use the Barn for a wedding reception in October. She had questions about the electrical capacity at the Barn. She will be advised to have the person doing her electrical work evaluate the needs and the capacity available.

Gretchen Hurlbert has been working on a solution with IGD to rejected emails from the listserv from residents and the City. A new server will be employed which should solve this problem. The Council felt that one list should be maintained and anyone using the listserv and experiencing rejected emails should report them to Mrs. Hurlbert.

The ‘Angelus’ staff submitted a policy statement for use of the ‘Angelus’ for resident messages. The Council felt the policy seemed appropriate and recommended publishing it.

Mayor McNew indicated that residents cannot print the whole text of the Ordinance book from the website, but can print portions. American Legal can provide paper copies for use by
Councilmembers or residents. The Clerk can parse together new up-to-date books from former update materials and will make a few extra copies.

Police Chief, Jim Prosser, gave the Department report. The new police vehicle will arrive soon. Most of the equipment in the old car will not exchange with the new model. The old car is ready to be advertised for sale. Residents need to keep bushes trimmed on their property for police access. Attorney Christ presented an open door policy regarding complaints from officers. Councilmember Cabot moved to approve the policy. Councilmember Jenaras seconded. Motion carried unanimously. A copy of the policy will be given to all officers and the Clerk and Treasurer.

City Property: Bob Bailey has submitted a bid of $3500 on the repair and painting of the outside of the Police Station this year. Councilmember Cabot moved to accept the bid. Councilmember Jenaras seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Bailey also made a proposal to paint the Barn and improve the two outbuildings next year for $18,000. Dr. Cabot moved to accept the proposal. Councilmember Poploskie seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Planning Commission: A Public Hearing will be held at the scheduled PC meeting on May 22nd at which the Review of the Master Plan will be discussed and a determination of action will be made. Brian Oppmann indicated that the cost of making the changes that will bring the Plan completely up to date will be approximately $5000. Brian Oppmann reported that the last items on the Incarnati building site are being resolved.

Treasurer, Julie Frakes, presented the financial reports reviewing unusual warrants. The Balance sheet is $30,000 higher than last year. Profit and Loss is at 83.3% or 73.3% given the use of prior year funds. Councilmember Cabot moved to approve the financial reports noting those warrants above $500. Councilmember Poploskie seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

#17751 to Code Enforcement for $1785 #17773 to Hafeli, Staran for $3016.65
#17774 to Code Enforcement for $1340 #17775 to Code Enforcement for $595
#17777 to Waterford Fire for $54,975 #17779 to Voyager Fleet for $1015.48
#17780 to Billington Services for $900 #17782 to State of MI for $2147
#17783 to Orkin Pest for $753.60 #17784 to OC Clemis for $554.50
#17788 to OC Sheriff for $1762.67

PNC has changed the City’s accounts to eliminate fees but interest will be forfeited. The City will be receiving $18,819 return on its insurance premium, also with a lower premium. Oakland County is working on 2012 tax issues. The PortaPotty has been delivered to the tennis court area.

Treasurer Frakes reviewed each item on the Recommended Amended Budget. It is about $30,000 under the original budget. Councilmember Cabot moved to approve the Amended Budget. Councilmember Poploskie seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Mrs. Frakes reported that the City’s taxable value has gone up $6700, which is not a big jump, but positive. She reviewed the Contingency Fund Budget for 2012-13. The State will provide $8600 to the Major Road Fund and $2870 to the Local Road Fund.

Mrs. Frakes reviewed the General Budget line by line. The Budget is dependent on no change in the property tax rate, which will provide $648,627.
Councilmember Cabot moved to extend the meeting until 9:30pm. Councilmember Poploskie seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Frakes expressed concern about approving the Budget without having finalized a contract with the Waterford Fire Department. A Public Hearing will be held at the June meeting to approve the tax rate to support the 2012-13 budget. The Budget, itself, can then be approved at that meeting.

The rain date for the 4th of July fireworks will be July 5th.

There being no further business, Councilmember Cabot moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:15pm Councilmember Poploskie seconded. Motion carried unanimously. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on June 12, 2012 at 7 pm.

Approved: Respektfully submitted,

Lee McNew, Mayor Rosalie Lake, Clerk