

CITY OF COOPERSVILLE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY OF COOPERSVILLE CITY COUNCIL
CITY HALL, 289 DANFORTH ST.; COOPERSVILLE, MICHIGAN

JUNE 25, 2012

Mayor Bush called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Present:

Council member Allen
Council member Crandle
Council member Lloyd
Council member Meintsma

Council member Vander Kolk
Council member Ward
Mayor Bush

Absent:

Agenda

There were no additions or corrections to the agenda.

City Council Meeting Minutes

Motion by Council member Lloyd with second by Council member Vander Kolk to approve the June 11, 2012 regular meeting minutes. Motion carried. (2012-118)

Scheduled Guests

Matt Fenske, Candidate for Ottawa County Board of Commissioners was present and introduced himself to City Council members and attendees.

Ken Rizzio of the OCEDO spoke on behalf of Select Milk Producers, Incorporated regarding the recently submitted application and request for an IFT on a total investment of \$127,563,150.00. Mr. Rizzio stated that this is the largest investment in Ottawa County in the past three (3) years.

Steve Cooper from Continental Dairy representing Select Milk Producers was present and stated that they are excited and fortunate to once again be investing in the City and that the City has always welcomed them with open arms.

Citizen Input & Suggestions

Larry Hard, representing the Downtown Merchants Association spoke regarding their three (3) main concerns for downtown businesses stating that signage, publicity, and events were their top priorities at this time. Mr. Hard stated that they have recently put together a map of the City to improve the location of signage. Mr. Hard also stated that he was disappointed in the Planning Commission after attending last week's Planning Commission meeting. Mr. Hard stated that the Planning Commission had stated that they were no longer going to work on the "sign ordinance" due to the fact that the Master Plan was their priority at this time, and since the Merchants Association has been working on the sign issues with the DDA. Mr. Hard asked City Council if the Planning Commission can ignore a directive from the City Council that was given to the Planning Commission in December 2011.

Citizen Input & Suggestions continued

Mark Mangione, Manager of West Michigan Plumbers, Fitters & Service Trades Union Hall stated that having CS Facilities here in Coopersville is great, and he requested to Steve Cooper to include local people and vendors in the construction process of the new facility.

Scott Schoolcraft, Coopersville/Polkton Fire Department Fire Chief, introduced himself to Council members and expressed his goals and future plans for the fire department.

Dan Cooke inquired as to where the resolution is that Council had agreed to present for the roundabout lighting.

Sue Schmidt, 293 Main Street, owner of 293 Gallery addressed Council regarding a disturbing situation last Thursday at the Main Street Merchants Group meeting. Ms. Schmidt stated that their meeting started at 6:00 P.M. and Jodie Allen arrived at approximately 7:00 P.M. Ms. Schmidt stated that they were addressing the handling of the City logo for their downtown signage. Ms. Allen offered up her City business card with the Coopersville logo on it. City Council person Jodie Allen immediately entered the conversation with hostile, vulgar language that Ms. Schmidt would not repeat here at the City Council meeting. At this same meeting, Ms. Schmidt stated that Ms. Allen also attacked her character and several other Planning Commission members character using profanity and aggressive behavior. Ms. Allen lacked all information regarding recent situations with their sign project. Ms. Schmidt stated that she has encountered this same lack of knowledge with Ms. Allen previously at a Zoning Board of Appeals meeting. Ms. Schmidt stated that "we have a City Council person misrepresenting and disrespecting the City of Coopersville and their authority. She obviously does not see a need for any rules or ordinances. Is this progress?"

Ms. Schmidt stated that Ms. Allen does not conduct City business professionally and Ms. Schmidt questions her involvement in their Main Street Merchant Group when Ms. Allen has never owned a business or real estate downtown. Ms. Schmidt stated that she herself has been in business here for seventeen (17) years, she has served on the DDA for fifteen (15) years, and the City Council for two (2) years. She has a major investment on Main Street and she will not let this recent group of city saboteurs ruin what they have worked so hard to create.

Petitions & Communications

Motion by Council member Lloyd with second by Council member Meintsma to approve an Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption (IFT) request for Fair Oaks Farm Brands (Select Milk Producers Inc.) for \$72,788,515.00 for Real Property and \$54,774,635.00, for Personal Property, totaling \$127,563,150.00, for twelve (12) years. Motion carried with Council member Crandle opposing. (2012-119)

Motion by Council member Vander Kolk with second by Council member Lloyd to approve payment on invoices from Bloom, Sluggett, Morgan for ordinance enforcement \$784.00 and general municipal \$857.50, totaling \$1,641.50. Motion carried. (2012-120)

Petitions & Communications continued

Motion by Council member Lloyd with second by Council member Vander Kolk to approve payment on invoices from OMM Engineering for industrial pretreatment plan update \$1,672.00 and sewer system improvements \$6,442.63, totaling \$8,114.63. Motion carried. (2012-121)

Motion by Council member Meintsma with second by Council member Lloyd to approve payment on invoice from Ottawa County for May policing services totaling \$37,917.73. Motion carried. (2012-122)

Motion by Council member Vander Kolk with second by Council member Lloyd to approve payment on invoice from Ottawa County for May Communities That Care totaling \$3,329.95. Motion carried. (2012-123)

Motion by Council member Lloyd with second by Council member Meintsma to approve payment on checks written for period ending June 25, 2012 totaling \$196,320.47. Motion carried. (2012-124)

Motion by Council member Ward with second by Council member Meintsma to approve the establishment of a fee of \$750.00 for the processing of IFT applications. Motion carried with Council members Crandle and Vander Kolk opposing. (2012-125)

Motion by Council member Ward with second by Council member Allen to discontinue all stipends paid to the Zoning Board of Appeals members. Motion carried. (2012-126)

Motion by Council member Lloyd with second by Council member Ward to appoint Karen Laug to the Cemetery Board to replace Kathy Gomez. Motion carried. (2012-127)

Motion by Council member Lloyd with second by Council member Vander Kolk to accept the proposed revisions to the Personnel Policies and Procedures Handbook, Sections 2.8, 2.11, 2.13, 6.2, and 6.3. (Complete list of revisions have been entered into the minute book). Motion carried. (2012-128)

Mayor Bush asked Council member Allen three (3) consecutive times if she was currently residing in the City of Coopersville. Council member Allen responded each time with the statement of "275 W. Cleveland is her residence." Council member Allen said she spends most of her time in Hamilton, staying with a friend, due to gas prices as her job requires her to travel to Holland, Douglas, and Saugatuck. Council member Allen displayed her driver's license and her voter registration card also stating that her address was still 275 W. Cleveland on each. Council member Allen also added that the Clerk has the ability to check the status of any changes that may be made to her voter registration at any time and that she recently received a new voter registration card that was sent to 275 W. Cleveland.

Motion by Council member Lloyd to hold a public hearing at the July 9, 2012 meeting for Jodie Allen regarding her residency in the City. Motion failed due to lack of support.

Petitions & Communications continued

Council member Crandle stated that he contacted his own attorney regarding this matter and he was not sure if asking Council member Allen about her residency was even a wise question.

Council member Ward stated that he doesn't believe it is Council member Allen's intent to live here and the fact of the matter is that, "she isn't here."

Motion by Council member Lloyd with second by Council member Meintsma to adopt a policy to set guidelines for excusing Council members from meetings when they are not in attendance. Motion failed with Council members Allen, Crandle, Ward, and Vander Kolk opposing.

Motion by Council member Lloyd with second by Council member Meintsma to approve budget amendments for FY 2011–2012. Motion carried. (2012-129)

Motion by Council member Lloyd with second by Council member Ward to censure Council member Allen per Roberts Rules of Order for her recent actions at the Main Street merchants meeting on Thursday, June 21, 2012. Council member Allen stated that she would apologize for her language but she would not apologize for her actions stating further that she and her family had been attacked personally and she was protecting her family, as she protects this community. Motion carried with Council member Allen being disqualified from voting and Council member Crandle was opposed. (2012-130)

Council Information

Motion by Council member Lloyd with second by Council member Vander Kolk to receive and file Council information which consists of: Coopersville/Polkton Area Fire Protection Authority minutes of 5/8/12. Motion carried. (2012-131)

Citizens Input & Suggestions

Resident Andrew Wilson addressed Council stating that the past month has been a "witch hunt" and that he was going to start a recall petition on Mayor Bush.

City Manager's Report None. City Manager is on vacation.

Adjournment

Motion by Council member Vander Kolk with second by Council Member Lloyd to adjourn meeting. Motion carried. (2012-132)

Meeting adjourned at 8:08 P.M.

Kenneth L. Bush, Mayor

Kimberly Borgman, City Clerk