

City Commission
October 19, 2015

Mayor Mark Warba called the regular meeting of the City Commission to order at 6:30 p.m.

Present: Commissioners Lynn Anderson, Tom Hogenson, Lorraine James, and Dan Rothstein; Mayor Mark J. Warba, City Attorney Eric D. Williams; City Manager Steve Sobers and City Treasurer Aaron Kuhn.

Absent: None.

There were 23 people in the audience.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA - Resolution approving extension for Roben Hood airport fixed base operator –(10b) was pulled from this agenda and added to the November 2, 2015 agenda.

Ferris State University Student Government was added to the agenda after Special Orders of the Day.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Hogenson moved, seconded by Commissioner Anderson that the minutes of October 5, 2015 regular meeting be accepted as corrected.

Yeas: Anderson, Hogenson, James, Rothstein, Warba

SPECIAL ORDERS OF THE DAY

a. Oaths of Office

City Clerk Tamyra Gillis administered the Oath of Office to Aaron Kuhn, City Treasurer and Elizabeth West, Sergeant.

b. Department of Public Safety Awards

Public Safety Director Andrea Nerbonne presented two awards in connection with an incident of January 16, 2015, where Sergeant West and Sergeant Eddinger experienced a life threatening encounter with a man who shot a bow and arrow at the officers.

Sergeant Eddinger presented Sergeant West with the Valor award for bravery and Sergeant Eddinger received the Silver Star award for sustaining injury in the line of duty from Director Nerbonne.

Detective Miller also received the Meritorious Service award for developing and implementing one of the most comprehensive law enforcement training exercises of its kind in the Mid-Michigan region. Detective Miller organized a mock child abduction scenario, which involved many different agencies.

FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Anton Saurini and Hannah Burt updated the Commission on what is taking place at Ferris State University.

- The second floor of the Flite library is being remodeled to accommodate more people. They are also painting one wall in the study rooms and installing TV's for presentations.
- The Big Event is scheduled for April 16, 2016.

STUDY SESSION

a. Baldwin Street Bridge Update

Roger Schneidt gave an update regarding the Baldwin Street Bridge. Some of the highlights were:

- The construction of the bridge is on schedule.
- 135 feet of the bridge has already been removed with 90 feet remaining.
- The completion of the two piers should be done by November 9, 2015.
- The new bridge will have two piers in the river leaving 105 feet of open water for tubers, kayakers, canoers and recreational use.
- The City has had no response from MDOT regarding changes in the traffic light at the Pere Marquette and State Street intersection.
- There has been almost daily communication with the local businesses on Baldwin Street with no negative communication being heard.
- Commissioner James suggested having a few pictures of the bridge construction the next time an update is given.
- Simonds has been using the Baldwin Street access site for deliveries, but will not be able to as construction progresses. The City is working with Simonds on other options to accommodate this issue.

b. Hyatt Palma

Steve Sobers, City Manager, spoke regarding the Hyatt Palma Report. Ten years ago, Hyatt Palma did a downtown report as part of an initiative from the State of Michigan.

Since the Hyatt Palma report was completed, the Downtown Development Authority has received a million dollars for a Vibrant Small Cities Initiative (VSCI) grant. The City matched the million dollars to do a significant amount of work that was recommended in the Hyatt Palma report. To have Hyatt Palma do another report as a next step for the downtown, would cost approximately \$25,000 - \$28,000.

The DDA met to discuss proceeding with the Hyatt Palma report, but unfortunately, they did not have a quorum. Another meeting has been scheduled for November. It is anticipated that the DDA will recommend moving forward with the Hyatt Palma report and splitting the cost between the DBA, DDA and the City.

The City accomplished approximately 80-85% of what Hyatt Palma recommended in their report 10 years ago.

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

PUBLIC HEARING – None

RESOLUTION NO. 15-104

Commissioner James moved, seconded by Commissioner Hogenson, the adoption of the following:

**RESOLUTION APPROVING TRAFFIC CONTROL ORDER NO. 512
FOR NO PARKING ON THE
100 BLOCK OF WEST SPRUCE STREET**

WHEREAS, in accordance with the provisions of Act 32, Public Acts of 1956, Section 2.53, the Department of Public Safety has authorized the following traffic control order:

There will be No Parking at any time in the 100 block of West Spruce Street west of State Street.

The parking along those spaces interferes with the operations of Crossroads Charter Academy and creates an unsafe environment for school activities.

There will be No Parking signs placed at the location and will remain in place permanently after Commission approval.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Commission hereby approves the above Traffic Control Order.

Yeas: Anderson, Hogenson, James, Rothstein, Warba
Nays: None
The Mayor declared the resolution adopted.
Dated: October 19, 2015

RESOLUTION NO. 15-105

Commissioner Hogenson moved, seconded by Commissioner Rothstein, the adoption of the following:

**RESOLUTION AWARDING BID FOR
WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT BLOWER BUILDING
MEMBRANE ROOF SYSTEM REPLACEMENT PROJECT**

WHEREAS, the City per Resolution No. 15-52, dated June 1, 2015 contracted Fleis and VandenBrink for their Engineering Services, and

WHEREAS, bids were solicited for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Blower Building Membrane Roof System Replacement Project, and

WHEREAS, one bid was received and reviewed by Fleis & VandenBrink and based on their review and history of working with the contractor, recommend Great Lakes Systems, Inc. be accepted in the amount of \$41,700.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the bid of Great Lakes Systems, Inc. in the amount of \$41,700.00 for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Blower Building Membrane Roof System Replacement Project be accepted.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the cost be expensed to Account No. 598-560-977.958 (Roof System for Blower Building).

Yeas: Anderson, Hogenson, James, Rothstein, Warba
Nays: None
The Mayor declared the resolution adopted.
Dated: October 19, 2015

RESOLUTION NO. 15-106

Commissioner Anderson moved, seconded by Commissioner James, the adoption of the following:

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONSUMERS ENERGY
RATE CHANGE FOR ELECTRICITY FOR THE
WATER TREATMENT PLANT**

BE IT RESOLVED, that it is hereby deemed advisable to enter into a contract with Consumers Energy Company of Jackson, Michigan, for furnishing electric service at the Water Treatment Plant in the City of Big Rapids for a period of one year(s) and thereafter

from year to year, in accordance with the terms of the contract heretofore submitted to and considered by this City Commission.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Mayor and the Clerk be and are authorized and directed to execute such contract on behalf of the City of Big Rapids.

STATE OF MICHIGAN
COUNTY OF MECOSTA

I Tamyra K. Gillis Clerk of the City of Big Rapids do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the City Commission of said municipality, at the meeting held therein on the 19th day of October, 2015.

Yeas: Anderson, Hogenson, James, Rothstein, Warba

Nays: None

The Mayor declared the resolution adopted.

Dated: October 19, 2015

RESOLUTION NO. 15-107

Commissioner James moved, seconded by Commissioner Anderson, the adoption of the following:

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AARON KUHN TO
SIGN AS CITY TREASURER**

BE IT RESOLVED, that Aaron Kuhn, City Treasurer, and Jean C. Schneidt, Assistant City Treasurer, each are authorized and empowered on behalf of the City of Big Rapids, a municipal corporation, to transfer, endorse, sell, assign, and deliver any and all certificates of stock, bonds, debentures, notes, subscriptions, warrants, stock purchase warrants, evidences of indebtedness, other securities, or any financial account now or hereafter registered in the name of or owned by the City of Big Rapids, and to make, execute and deliver any and all written instruments necessary to effectuate the authority hereby conferred, effective October 20, 2015.

Yeas: Anderson, Hogenson, James, Rothstein, Warba

Nays: None

The Mayor declared the resolution adopted.

Dated: October 19, 2015

RESOLUTION NO. 15-108

Commissioner Rothstein moved, seconded by Commissioner Anderson, the adoption of the following:

**RESOLUTION ON MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS
TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Commission hereby confirms the following Mayoral appointment/recommendation:

PARK AND RECREATION BOARD

Stacy Pedigo appointed to an unexpired term ending May 2016

Yeas: Anderson, Hogenson, James, Rothstein, Warba

Nays: None

The Mayor declared the resolution adopted.

Dated: October 19, 2015

UNSCHEDULED BUSINESS

Mr. Williams will be reviewing sections of the Big Rapids Code of Ordinance for any conflicts regarding the frozen line policy. An interim report with the changes and/or corrections that will need to be made in order to bring the code in line with the policy will be presented at the November 2, 2015 meeting.

The Downtown Fall Festival is this weekend with a chili cook-off on Friday and a parade and activities on Saturday.

Recreation Authority – Representatives of the City and Big Rapids Public Schools are going to Lansing to appear at a Senate Local Government Committee hearing. There are a couple of Recreation Authority meetings scheduled for this Wednesday to update and discuss the approach to be taken at the Lansing trip.

There being no further business to come before the City Commission, the Mayor declared the meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

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Mayor Mark J. Warba

Tamyra K. Gillis, City Clerk