

**City of Luna Pier
Council Meeting Minutes of Thursday, January 8, 2009**

Council was called to order at 7:30 p.m.

1. Pledge of Allegiance.

Council met in regular session.

2. Roll Call:

Present: Councilmember's Gramza, Young, Russell, Kruzel, Murray, Mayor Liske, Administrator Stewart, Clerk Cureton

Absent: Councilmember(s) Heid(excused)

3. Approval of Consent Agenda:

A. **Minutes of the December 11,2008 Council Meeting (dispense with reading)**

B. **Agenda.**

C. **Bills Warrant No. 1070, \$55,497.10**

A motion by Councilwoman Young, supported by Councilman Murray, to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Public Hearings / Bid Openings: none.

5. Mayors Report:

A written report was given to Council. Mayor Liske reported:

- o Had a very productive Luna Pier Business Association meeting, wherein she was voted President of the association.
- o Met with Poggemeyer as an introduction of expectations for both the City and our new Planners.
- o Completed the evaluation tool for the Treasurer. This information will be in the next Council packet.
- o Discussed the possibility of a stimulus package available to assist municipalities. Three projects that we are actively pursuing; Waste Water Treatment Plant, Shoreline and Luna Pier Rd. streetscape were submitted to SEMCOG and the Michigan Municipal League along with Senator Levin, Senator Stabenow and Congressman Dingell.
- o Will be attending Michigan Municipal Leagues Elected Officials Academy in February.

6. Administrator's Report: A report was given to Council.

- o Attended the December shoreline committee meeting (minutes included in Council packs).
- o DPW has installed a new pump in Allen Cove.
- o Have hired Rick Liechty to be on call for special projects such as shoreline cleanup, park projects and working with JAWS. He will paid the same wage as part-time DPW.

Council Meeting Minutes of Thursday, January 8, 2009

Page 2

- o Tree removal project is in process.
- o Reviewed the DEQ vs. Rural Development loan and grant programs with Jason and assisted in the request to take action on the proposed upgrade project. A letter from Jason Dobson was given to Council with his recommendation to go with plan A-2.
- o Met with Kay Axel to review the supplemental sewer bill sent out in September.
- o Attended a recreation plan meeting to review surveys and to create objectives for the new plan.
- o Met with Poggemeyer, our new City Planners.
- o Received official notification fro the DEQ's Coastal Management Program that the City will receive a \$30,000 grant for a new Master Plan.
- o Met with Ken Kruzel to tour fire hall and discuss issues.
- o Received \$13,800 dollars from the DNR for the LaPointe Drain engineering study.
- o Contacted Verizon and Charter to initiate their actions to fix downed lines and other maintenance issues.

7. Department Reports - Committee Reports:

- A. **Police report:** a copy was given to Council.
- B. **Fire Department report:** A copy was given to Council.
- C. **City Services/Employee Relations Committee - Chairman Murray:** Discussed results of the Recreation Plan survey. We had 113 surveys returned. A meeting of the committee has been set for Monday, January 12, 2009 at 7 p.m. at City Hall.
- D. **Budget & Finance Committee - Chairman Heid:** no report.
- E. **Emergency and Public Safety Committee - Chairman Kruzel:** no report.
- F. **Buildings and Lands Committee - Chairman Gramza:** no report.
- G. **Shoreline Protection Committee - Chairman Heid:** no report.
- H. **Downtown / Historical Committee -Chairwoman Young:** no report.
- I. **Building Inspectors report:** given to Council.

8. Community Input: Meeting open to the public:

Dr. Chapello, 10643 Valleywood, asked about Lakeside Drain progress. Administrator Stewart stated that he has not yet received a great deal of information from the Drain Commission, but that the work is scheduled for 2009.

9. Old Business:

Michigan Association of Planners; Councilman Murray discussed the fees for membership and stated that we do not qualify for

Council Meeting Minutes of Thursday, January 8, 2009

Page 3

individual memberships as previously thought and voted on by Council, but we may join under a group membership which could include the Planning Commission, ZBA, and City Administrator up to 12 people. Added to Council action.

10. New Business:

Poggemeyer Design Group; Randy Mielnik from Poggemeyer was introduced and he thanked Council for choosing their group as our new City Planners. He looks forward to working with the City on a new Master Plan, zoning ordinances and other projects and funding opportunities.

11. Council Action:

A. Appointment to ZBA (alternate): *A motion by Councilman Kruzel, supported by Councilwoman Young, to appoint Troy Ballard to the Zoning Board of Appeals as an alternate, term to expire 12/31/2011.*

Motion carried unanimously.

B. Appointment to Salary Commission

A motion by Councilwoman Young, supported by Councilman Murray, to appoint Troy Ballard to the Salary Commission, term to expire 03/08/2012.

Motion carried unanimously.

C. Approve an Alternative for the WWTP Project

Jason Dobsons letter recommending Alternative A-2 was discussed. Councilman Murray discussed the alternatives and DEQ's needed approval and feels we should go with Alternative A-1 for the long haul rather than try to get more funding later if needed. Discussion followed with the general consensus leaning toward Alternative A-1, feeling it is easier to return unused funds rather than obtain more funding.

A motion by Councilman Murray, supported by Councilman Russell, to approve Alternative A-1 as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Council Member's Gramza, Young, Russell, Murray, Kruzel, Liske

Nays: none

Absent: Councilman Heid

Abstain: none

Motion carried

Council Meeting Minutes of Thursday, January 8, 2009

Page 4

D. Michigan Association of Planners membership

A motion by Councilman Murray, supported by Councilwoman Gramza, to amend the motion from a previous meeting to purchase nine individual memberships and approve a group membership for up to twelve members for \$625.00.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Council Member's Gramza, Young, Russell, Murray, Kruzel, Liske

Nays: none

Absent: Councilman Heid

Abstain: none

Motion carried

E. Approve Fire Departments acceptance of Laptop Grant

Administrator Stewart discussed costs and community needs along with the need to keep up with communications technology. The yearly costs were discussed and will be approximately \$200 per year for program maintenance and \$60 a month for a wireless connection.

A motion by Councilwoman Young, supported by Councilwoman Gramza, to authorize the Fire Department to pay the fees associated with the acceptance of the laptop through the laptop grant program for fire departments.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Council Member's Gramza, Young, Kruzel, Liske

Nays: Council Member's Russell, Murray

Absent: Councilman Heid

Abstain: none

Motion carried

12. Community Input: Meeting open to the public: none.

13. Council Input & Information:

Councilman Kruzel asked if Administrator Stewart had checked with the DNR regarding our boat ramps. Administrator Stewart stated that he has spoke with a DNR representative and is waiting for him to get back with us.

Councilman Murray asked if the survey for the property behind Balencia has been completed. Administrator Stewart stated that it in the process of being completed.

Councilwoman Young asked about the amount of time spent on inspections on the Building Inspectors report. She asked about his time on other duties and commented on the pay that is paid to him and that we should look at other possibilities. Time sheets were discussed at length.

Council Meeting Minutes of Thursday, January 8, 2009

Page 5

Councilman Murray commented on the pay of the Building Inspector in respect to his duties and asked Harry Bodie to speak on his experience with a part-time inspector.

Councilman Russell discussed working up an on-call contract for the building inspector and discussed pay and hours for the inspector.

Councilman Kruzel feels it is wrong to be discussing an employee who is not present without the employee being here and having the option to go into closed session. He stated that the Building Inspectors duties include things other than inspections and asked what the City would do with an on call inspector for our citizens who have questions or just need help with design before a permit is issued.

Mayor Liske stated that she does not want further discussion without the employee here and stated that Council has the authority to do what it wants to do without skirting around the issues.

Administrator Stewart stated that he does not have relatives in Luna Pier and does not have a personal agenda, but he does want to see Luna Pier move forward and is here to do what is best for the City.

Forming a committee and researching what other communities do for their Building department was discussed. The committee will consist of Councilman Murray, Councilman Russell and Administrator Stewart.

Mayor Liske has been asked by the owners of the strip mall if the City will cut the trees by the City sign as they block the sign for the strip mall as you come into town.

14. **Correspondence Received and Sent:** will be placed on file.

15. **General Information:**

January 19, 2009 - Martin Luther King Day - City Hall closed.

January 20, 2009, Newsletter information due.

16. **Future Meeting Dates:**

Council Meeting, January 22, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. - City Hall

17. **Meeting Adjourned:**

A motion to adjourn by Councilman Kruzel, supported by Councilman Murray, at 9:15 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

P. Michelle Cureton, Clerk