

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Leeming called the Regular City Council Meeting to order at 7:00 pm. She led the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Council Members Present: Matt Cooper, Denise Donohue, Dave Hunsaker, Trevor VanDyke, Frank Waters, (arrived at 7:02), and Jennifer Whitman

Excused: None

STAFF:

Daniel Coss, Lisa Grysen, Bruce Ferguson, Stg. Stoltzfus, and Brian Goodenough, City Attorney

AUDIENCE:

Madelyn Stoltzfus, Sarah Stoltzfus, Kayla Klug, Clyde Smith, Sharon Worthington, Eric Thompson, Clay Coey, and Stella Gallagher

AGENDA:

Motion by Whitman, seconded by Hunsaker and carried by unanimous vote of the Council that **the agenda be approved as presented.**

SPECIAL PRESENTATION:

Sgt. Stoltzfus presented Officer Clyde Smith with a letter of commendation for a job performed beyond the call of duty on August 12, 2022.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by Donohue, seconded VanDyke and carried by unanimous vote of the Council to **approve the minutes from the September 12, 2022, Regular City Council Meeting as presented.**

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Clay Coey, 409 Riverview, would like City Council to consider changing the date and hours for trick or treating.

Stella Gallaher, 110 N. Logan, spoke regarding volunteering for the ox roast, fireworks at the ox roast, barking dog complaint, and starting a go fund me. In regards to no fireworks, she said not having the fireworks at the ox roast was like the scene in Christmas Vacation where the employees find out that annual bonuses were canceled without their knowledge after getting them every year. People were upset.

CITY ADMINISTRATORS REPORT:

MDOT CATEGORY B GRANT

Attached in your General Information Packet is a communication from MDOT regarding the Category B Grants. Due to a large number of applicants, an announcement is not expected until the week of September 26. MDOT received projects requesting \$19 million and only has funding for \$3 million. The City submitted an application requesting \$240,000.

SCCMUA SRF PROJECT CAPITAL CONTRACT

The SRF Project for SCCMUA was selected for funding in 2023 at \$16.7 million and will receive 10-percent principal forgiveness, or approximately \$1.67 million. At the October 10, 2022 meeting a Capital Contract between the City and SCCMUA will be presented to City Council. Due to the original by-laws of SCCMUA, a separate contract will have to be entered by all the municipalities agreeing to issue and pay the debt for the project. The agreement is currently being reviewed by Foster Swift.

LEAF COLLECTION STAFFING

Once again 2022 leaf collection staffing is proving to be a challenge. A job posting has been advertised for approximately 3 months and we have not received an application. The starting wage is listed at \$14.75 per hour. In an effort to attract applicants the hourly rate will be increased to \$16.50 and a “Performance Bonus” program will be offered. Leaf season is approximately 7 weeks long and 264 hours of work time. If a seasonal employee works at least 251 hours (95%) of the 264 a \$500 performance bonus will be paid.

General Information Packet

- MDOT FY2023 Category B Communication
- Huntington Econ Report
- DAESA Minutes 8/18/2022
- DeWitt Chamber of Commerce Materials
- Invoice Cloud Activity Report
- General Ledger Report 9/9 - 9/22

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Frontier Communications Relocation of Utilities on Bridge Street:

City Council was provided with the agreement with Frontier Communications that the City Council approved on July 13, 2020, to authorize the relocation of the utilities on North and South Bridge Street.

Frontier Communications is going to be moving this project forward, based on Council approval, with the fiber optic installation. Frontier has agreed to maintain the pricing from 2020 and would be able to start the project in the 4th quarter of 2022 or the 1st quarter of 2023.

The cost of relocation for Frontier is \$42,375.00.

The cost estimates from the utilities are as follows:

Consumers Energy	\$92,527.00 (2020 cost)
Frontier Comm.	\$42,375.00

Consumers Energy has been notified that the city is ready to proceed with this project and requested that the transformer in front of Santorini Salon be relocated with the burial project.

This project has been budgeted for the FY22-23 Major Street fund.

Motion by Hunsaker, seconded VanDyke and carried by unanimous vote of the Council **to approve the agreement with Frontier Communications and authorize \$42,375.00 to be paid to Frontier Communications for the utility burial.**

2. 3LD Turkey Trot Special Event Application of Road Closure:

Downtown business 3LD Yoga and Strength Training is proposing to hold a Turkey Trot 5K run on Thanksgiving Day, November 24 starting at 8 am.

The 5K will start on West Main Street and end in Riverside Park. The race is scheduled to begin at 8 am. The organizers are not requesting traffic control at any locations along the course or in the park but would like to close the 100 block of West Main Street to stage the runners at the starting line. The closure for West Main Street would be from 6:30-8:30 am. Once the runners have left the starting area the race organizers will tear everything down and open the road to traffic.

City Council was provided with the Special Event Application with Road Closure Request, Certificate of Insurance, and Race Course Map. 3 LD has named the City of DeWitt as an additional insured for this event.

The Special Event application has been reviewed by Chief Ferguson and is considered complete.

Motion by Cooper, seconded Waters and carried by unanimous vote of the Council **to approve the Special Event Application and Road Closure request for the Turkey Trot beginning Thursday, November 24 at 6:30 am and ending Thursday, November 24 at 8:30 am.**

3. Police Department Patrol Car Purchase:

The next patrol car for the Police Department is not budgeted until FY23-24, but due to the extremely lengthy order/build time from the car manufacturers cars need to be ordered approximately 12-14 months in advance.

In addition to the long lead time, pricing for the vehicles and up-fitting has increased by approximately 23 percent. The 2022 Explorer purchased in April 2022, including up-fitting, was \$46,150.50 (\$36,094.00 – Vehicle & \$10,066.50 – Up-Fitting).

The purchase of the car will not happen until FY23-23, so a budget amendment is not necessary at this time. The FY23-24 budget will reflect the purchase of this patrol vehicle.

City Council was provided with a staff report from Chief Ferguson with additional details of the patrol car purchase.

Motion by Hunsaker, seconded Cooper and carried by unanimous vote of the Council **to authorize the purchase of a 2023 Ford Explorer Police Interceptor from Signature Ford of Owosso, MI in the amount of \$45,571.00 and the up-fitting charge with Pro Comm in the amount of \$14,177.30, for a total amount of \$59,748.30.**

4. MML Liability & Property Pool Election – Board of Directors:

There are two (2) candidates for two (2) positions on MML Liability and Property Pool Board (City’s General Liability carrier). City Council was provided information for each of the three candidates.

Motion by Donohue, seconded VanDyke and carried by unanimous vote of the Council **to cast a ballot for Ms. Jean Stegeman, Mayor, City of Menominee for a three-year term beginning January 1, 2023, for the MML Liability & Property Pool Board of Directors.**

Motion by Donohue, seconded VanDyke and carried by unanimous vote of the Council **to cast a ballot for Ms. Brenda Stumbo, Supervisor, Charter Township of Ypsilanti for a three-year term beginning January 1, 2023, for the MML Liability & Property Pool Board of Directors.**

5. Consumption of Alcohol in the Right-of-Way for DDA Events:

City Ordinance Chapter 58, Article I, Section 58-1 Consumption of alcoholic liquor in public areas states: “The city may permit the consumption of beer and wine but no other alcoholic liquor in its designated municipally owned or controlled areas, other than public parks, for a limited time, by the issuance of a written license by the State of Michigan filed with the city clerk, upon written application to the city and approval by the city council and the chief of police or the designee of either of them.”

The Downtown Development Authority (DDA) is requesting the approval of a street closure, and approval to allow for the consumption of alcohol in accordance with the City ordinance for the October 18, 2022, Farmers Market and the Christmas Market on December 3, 2022. Each of the licensed establishments in the downtown district would be responsible for complying with the provisions of their license to determine if carry-out, off-premise consumption is permitted.

The limits of the consumption in the downtown for the October 18 Farmers Market would be Bridge Street from Main to Jefferson, and Main Street from Scott Street to Market Street from 4:00-7:00 pm. The December 3 Christmas Market would be Bridge Street from Washington to Jefferson, and Main Street from Scott Street to Market Street from 2:00-6:30 pm (see attached map). Signage will be in place delineating the areas where the consumption of alcohol is permitted.

Chief Ferguson has reviewed the request and is satisfied with the proposed measures to keep the area safe and secure.

Motion by Hunsaker, seconded VanDyke and carried by unanimous vote of the Council **to approve the DDA request to allow for road closures and the consumption of alcohol in the City right-of-way from 4-7:00 pm, October 18, 2022, on Bridge Street from Main to Jefferson, and Main Street from Scott Street to Market Street as outlined in the map(s) provided dated September 21, 2022, in accordance with City Ordinance, Chapter 58, Article I, Section 58-1.**

Motion by Hunsaker, seconded by Whitman and carried by majority vote of the Council to **approve the DDA request to allow for road closures and the consumption of alcohol in the City right-of-way from 2-6:30 pm, on December 3, 2022, for the Christmas Market on Bridge Street from Washington to Jefferson, and Main Street from Scott to Market, as outlined in the map(s) provided dated September 21, 2022, in accordance with City Ordinance, Chapter 58, Article I, Section 58-1.**

Council Member Donohue voted no

COUNCIL STAFF REPORTS:

City Attorney:

- Nothing to report

City Clerk-Treasurer:

- Ballots have arrived and are in the process of being mailed
- Property taxes are due on the 30th

DARA:

- No Meeting

DAESA:

- September's meeting was canceled

DDA:

- Façade grant meeting tomorrow (9/27)

Planning:

- Preliminary discussions regarding fences

Parks:

- Meeting in October
- Playground equipment is delayed

Police Chief:

- New Sergeant will be starting 10/10
- PA 300 gives new towing procedures

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by VanDyke, seconded by Whitman and carried by unanimous vote of the Council that **the meeting is adjourned at 8:15 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa M. Grysen
City Clerk-Treasurer

Susan J. Leeming
Mayor