

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Pro-Tem Hunsaker called the Regular City Council Meeting to order at 7:02 pm. He led the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Council Members Present: Denise Donohue, Dave Hunsaker, Trevor VanDyke, Frank Waters, and Jennifer Whitman

Excused: Matt Cooper

STAFF:

Daniel Coss, Lisa Gysen, Bruce Ferguson, and Anne Seurnyck, Foster Swift

AUDIENCE:

Brad Gurski, SCCMUA, Brad Richman, CCLP Business Agent, and Stella Gallagher

AGENDA:

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by Whitman, seconded by Donohue and carried by unanimous vote of the Council to **approve the minutes from the October 10, 2022, Regular City Council Meeting as presented.**

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

CITY ADMINISTRATORS REPORT:

DDA FARMERS MARKET

The last market was held on October 18 and despite the weather, there was a pretty good turnout. The DDA provided candy for Trick-O-Treating and gave out approximately 4,800 pieces of candy.

2023 TURNER STREET RESURFACING PROJECT

The City is receiving federal aid for the Turner Street Project in 2023. The plans have been submitted to MDOT and the project is on schedule for a March 2023 bid letting and June 2023 construction start.

LEAF COLLECTION – SEASONAL HELP

The DPS started leaf collection on October 17. The DPS did get one applicant for the seasonal position and Rich Miller is going through that process. If everything progresses smoothly that individual will start on October 24.

BI-ANNUAL BRIDGE INSPECTIONS

Brechting Bridge was in earlier this month to perform the bi-annual bridge inspections for Bridge Street and Schavey Road. The final report has not been completed but is in the final stages. There does appear to be some preventative maintenance they will be recommending on Schavey Road. Once the report is finalized, I will update City Council.

General Information Packet

- Huntington Econ Report
- Invoice Cloud Activity Report
- General Ledger Report 10/07 - 10/20
- Chamber of Commerce Material

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Police Union Grievance:

The Police Union Contract states that Wage Adjustments occur on July 1. This amendment to the contract was put in place with the 2019-2022 Contract. The prior contracts wage adjustments occurred on July 1 and the officer's anniversary date, if applicable.

The wage progression has five (5) steps; Start and Step 1-4. In previous contracts, officers would progress to the next step on their anniversary date until they reach Step 4, at which time wage adjustments would occur on July 1.

In 2019 the language was changed to specify July 1 as the date of wage adjustments. This was done to improve administrative efficiencies and to keep wage adjustments uniform across the city for budgeting purposes. The DPS contract was changed in 2019 as well to specify July 1 wage adjustments.

There have been two (2) other officers in the police department that have been subject to this change and their wages were only adjusted on July 1, 2019-2022 and the union did not file a grievance in those instances. Council is being asked to Approve or Deny the grievance. The appeal is at Step 4, which is the City Council step. The Chief, myself, and Mayor Leeming have all denied the grievance.

If City Council **denies** the grievance the decision of Steps 1-3 will remain. If City Council **approves** the grievance that would overturn the decisions in Steps 1-3.

City Council was provided with all the materials and communications for the Council review of the Union's appeal.

Brad Richman, Business Agent for CCLP, was in attendance.

Motion by Hunsaker, seconded by Waters and carried by unanimous vote of the Council **to Deny**
Grievance 01-NS-007-22-001

2. SCCMUA Resolution Capital Contract SRF Project:

As we have discussed in past City Council meetings the sewer authority, SCCMUA, has been in the process of designing significant updates/upgrades to the plant.

The authority submitted an application to EGLE for funding in State Revolving Loan (SRF) program, which is a low-interest (2.125%) loan program specifically for sewer systems. The application has been approved for funding and will be receiving ten percent (10%) principal forgiveness due to EGLE utilizing federal stimulus dollars to offset debt for municipalities and authorities.

For the authority to proceed with the SRF program, all the members of SCCMUA will be required to approve the Capital Project Contract (attached). The contract puts in place obligations for all member municipalities (City, DeWitt Twp, Bath Twp, and Watertown Twp) to pay the authority their share of the debt on an annual basis.

The project is estimated at \$16.7 million and the City's share of that debt is 12.7% or approximately \$2,120,900.00.

In addition, the contract places a cap on the amount of debt the authority would issue to complete this project at \$21.6 million.

The cap is approximately 30% higher than the current Engineer's estimate for the project due to the unpredictability in the bidding environment. Placing a cap allows for the member municipalities and authority to re-evaluate the timing of the project should the bids come in unexpectedly higher.

The following is a breakdown of what each residential customer's bill would cost to cover the debt:

| <u>Project Cost</u> | <u>REU Charge/Qtr*</u> |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| \$16.7 million | \$7.76 |
| \$18.3 million | \$8.82 |
| \$20.0 million | \$9.84 |
| \$21.6 million | \$12.59 |

City Attorney, Brian Goodenough, has reviewed and provided input on the Capital Project Contract.

The SCCMUA Board of Directors approved the contract and authorized it to be sent to each member municipality at their October 18, 2022, regular meeting.

Brad Gurski, SCCMUA Director of Operations, was in attendance to answer any questions City Council may have about the project.

Motion by Waters, seconded by VanDyke and carried by unanimous vote of the Council **to adopt Resolution 2022-14 approving the Capital Project Contract with Southern Clinton County Municipal Utilities Authority and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign on behalf of the City of DeWitt.**

COUNCIL STAFF REPORTS:

City Attorney:

- Nothing to report

City Clerk-Treasurer:

- Ballots are coming in and requests for absentee ballots continue

DARA:

- No Meeting

DAESA:

- New agreement between the City and DAESA will be presented to the Townships and voted on at the November meeting

DDA:

- No Meeting

Planning:

- No Meeting

Parks:

- Discussed monuments and columbarium in the cemetery

Police Chief:

- Held 3 sessions of Active Violence training at the schools. Classrooms on the second floor would like to have hammers to break the windows and rope ladders to climb down to safety

Mayor Pro--Tem:

- Attended the Michigan Municipal League Annual Conference with Mayor Leeming

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by VanDyke, seconded by Whitman and carried by unanimous vote of the Council that **the meeting is adjourned at 7:50 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa M. Grysen
City Clerk-Treasurer

David Hunsaker
Mayor Pro-Tem