

REGULAR MINUTES
PERE MARQUETTE DEPOT
Tuesday, February 3, 2009

A meeting of the City Council of the City of Belding, Michigan was convened in open and public session at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 3, 2009.

The City Clerk took the roll call:

Members Present: Council Members Bunce, Stout, Wills, Satterlee and Husted.

Members Absent: None.

Mayor Husted delivered the invocation.

The Mayor led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Mayor called for the City Manager's Report – noted and filed.

The Board and Commission Appreciation Dinner will be held at the Candlestone on April 20, 2009 at 6 p.m.

Council Member Bunce stated he was very impressed with the Main Street Program on Monday evening and hopes the city goes forth with it.

Council Member Bunce made a motion to rescind the city council motion made on January 20, 2009, which cancelled the council meetings of February 17, 2009 and March 17, 2009, supported by Council Member Satterlee.

Ayes: Council Members Bunce, Wills, Satterlee and Husted.

Nays: None.

Absent: Council Member Stout.

The Mayor called for the Consent Agenda.

A. Approval of Minutes 1-20-09

Council Member Wills made a motion to approve the consent agenda, supported by Council Member Stout.

The question on the motion was called and the result of the voting is as follows:

Ayes: Council Members Bunce, Wills and Husted.

Nays: None.

Abstain: Council Members Stout and Satterlee.

The Mayor called for Citizen Comments.

Rebecca McGill stated that she and her friends at school thought maybe the city workers could turn the clock tower building into a hotel.

The Mayor called for Council Comments.

Council Members Satterlee, Bunce and Wills had no comments.

Council Member Stout stated he agreed with the general consensus. The agendas are light and maybe they could do a council meeting shift to give them some more leeway, having a slightly staggered schedule.

Mayor Husted stated that he didn't agree with the attorney opinion. He has felt strongly about having one meeting per month for years and other cities do it. He will miss some meetings due to an increased work load at his employment. He may not be able to attend all city events. He will take the appropriate action if he feels he is not fulfilling the responsibilities of the position. He thanked the staff members who have been working outside in the cold.

Council consensus was not to participate in Mayor's Exchange this coming year.

The Mayor called for Work Session A – Capital Improvements Program

City Manager DeBruine reviewed the Capital Improvements Plan. He stated that he reviewed the plan with the Planning Commission at their last meeting. It is a six year plan for major capital expenditures. He asked that council members let him know if they have changes. This is the direction council provides to city staff.

Council Member Wills asked what the plan was to do improvement to city hall? They had talked about a study.

City Manager DeBruine stated a feasibility study was done in 1999 for \$12,500. He talked to Gene Hopkins. If they spent \$20,000 to \$25,000 a year, an architect would not be needed much.

The study laid out the possibilities of what could be done to city hall. Initially the building needs shingling and a boiler. Eventually an architect would be involved.

Council Member Bunce stated that the mold issue should be attacked first, for safety.

City Manager DeBruine stated they have a study, which details what needs to be addressed.

Mayor Husted stated the mold is an immediate concern. They will pay more in workman's comp issues than on the carpet and floors to correct the issue. They should act on that quickly.

City Manager DeBruine stated the mold is mostly where the radiators have leaked over the years. The five or six areas are known.

Mayor Husted asked, on the street milling and resurfacing, would they pay \$12,500 every year, or just one time?

Finance Director Andres stated that the loan was taken out so they could do the work last year. The city may pay a portion of that again next year.

City Manager DeBruine stated 4% interest is paid to the state, as the payments have to come in to the state.

Mayor Husted stated they have fixed every other city building in town. The main building is deteriorating. They should start to allocate money now for minor renovations, including the roof, mold, boiler, paint and flooring. It would improve the overall image of city hall. The evergreens in front of city hall should be removed. That would change the appearance of city hall dramatically.

City Manager DeBruine stated they had talked about removing the evergreens in November, but decided to wait until spring.

The Mayor called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Bunce moved to adjourn the meeting, supported by Council Member Wills.

Ayes: Council Members Bunce, Stout, Wills, Satterlee and Husted.
Nays: None.

Mayor Husted adjourned the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Shane T. Husted, Mayor

Kareen J. Thomas, City Clerk