

REGULAR MINUTES

PERE MARQUETTE DEPOT
Tuesday, July 1, 2008

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, July 1, 2008.

The City Clerk took the roll call:

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

Members Absent: None.

Council Member Bunce 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 Mayor called for the Consent Agenda.

A. Approval of Minutes 6/17/08

Council Member Bunce made a motion to approve the consent agenda, supported by Council Member Satterlee.

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

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

The Mayor called for Business Agenda Item A – **QUIT CLAIM DEED – 932 JAMES**

The City Clerk read the preamble to the resolution.

Council Member Wills moved the passage of the resolution and the motion was supported by Council Member Stout.

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-07-34

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELDING, MICHIGAN GRANTING A QUIT CLAIM DEED TO THE OWNERS OF THE PROPERTY AT 932 JAMES FOR THE EAST 20 FEET OF LOT 62 OF BROAS 3RD ADDITION TO THE VILLAGE (NOW CITY) OF BELDING, ACCORDING TO THE

RECORDED PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN LIBER 1, PAGE 42.

WHEREAS, a request was received by the property owner of 932 James Street for the City to deed twenty feet owned by the City on the east portion of the property; and

WHEREAS, City Council approval is required to sell property.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Belding, Michigan hereby grants a quit claim deed to the owners of the property at 932 James Street for the east 20 feet of Lot 62 of Broas 3rd Addition.

Council Member Stout made a motion to amend the resolution subject to a MISS DIG evaluation clearance on the 20 ft. section, supported by Council Member Bunce.

DPW Director stated that all utility companies generally get permission before placing utilities on city property. The city can't give away property that they have allowed utilities to be installed in.

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

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

The Mayor called for Business Agenda Item **B – CATEGORY A APPLICATION**

The City Clerk read the preamble to the resolution.

Council Member Satterlee moved the passage of the resolution and the motion was supported by Council Member Stout.

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-07-35

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELDING, MICHIGAN SUPPORTING THE CITY OF BELDING'S SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION FOR TRANSPORTATION ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUNDS OF \$375,000 THROUGH THE CATEGORY A PROGRAM ADMINISTERED BY THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION.

WHEREAS, the city staff has determined that the reconstruction of Merrick Street to be of the highest priority; and

WHEREAS, the City of Belding desires to secure financial assistance from Transportation Economic Development funds to defray the cost of reconstruction; and

WHEREAS, the total cost of this project is estimated to be around \$475,000, with the local match from the City of Belding estimated to be about \$100,000, and the grant funds available to be \$375,000.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Belding, Michigan supports the City of Belding's submission of a grant application to MDOT for the Category A grant funds.

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

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

Nays: None.

The Mayor called for Business Agenda Item **C – ADOPTION OF STANDARD CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS AMENDMENTS**

The City Clerk read the preamble to the resolution.

Council Member Stout moved the passage of the resolution and the motion was supported by Council Member Bunce.

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-07-36

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELDING, MICHIGAN AUTHORIZING AMENDMENTS TO THE STANDARD CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS.

WHEREAS, the Standard Construction Requirements were adopted on November 2, 2004 and became effective on November 16, 2004; and

WHEREAS, staff has determined that certain amendments to the Standard Construction Requirements are desirable and necessary; and

WHEREAS, changes, additions, deletions or modifications to the Standard Construction Requirements are allowable through a resolution by the Belding City Council.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Belding, Michigan that the amendments to the Standard Construction Requirements are hereby approved and become effective immediately.

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

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

Nays: None.

The Mayor called for Citizen Comments.

There were no citizen comments.

The Mayor called for Work Session **A – HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE RAMP/SIDEWALK RIGHT OF WAY**

City Manager DeBruine stated that the McGowans want to install a handicap ramp by the door on the Bridge Street side. There should be 5 ft. of sidewalk for safe pedestrian access. He had suggested looking at the Main Street side. The third option would be to construct the ramp inside the building. He came up with the possibility of applying for an Enhancement Grant for Bridge St. and Main St. improvements including decorative lighting, sidewalk improvements and a possible ramp. He handed out the conceptualls and price estimates. There would be 90/10 match tied to job creation. McGowans would commit to a number of jobs. For approximately five new jobs, the city would receive \$30,000 from the State per job, or \$150,000. The city would have a 10% match. It would add new decorative lights, nine on Bridge St. from Congress to Depot, and some on Main St., down to Belco. There would be new bumpouts on the east side of Bridge and landscaping.

Option A would provide a handicap ramp on Bridge St., leave the street the same with the bumpout, and leave 3 ft. for sidewalk. That would not be a good option.

Option B would provide a ramp on Main St., leaving plenty of room for the ramp and 8 ft. for sidewalk. With the bumpout, there would be a 25 ft. radius.

Option C would provide a ramp on Bridge St., and extend from the bumpout out into Bridge St. and back to the alley. There would be 12 ft. between the ramp and Bridge St. It would take two parking spots on Bridge St.

The cost estimates were \$163,000 for Options A and B, and \$166,000 for Option C.

Council Member Stout stated that they could scale the lighting back dependent on the number of jobs.

City Manager DeBruine stated that he would have a meeting with the State next Tuesday. He has high expectations that this project could generate grant funds.

City Manager DeBruine stated that the drawings from McGowans were from the 1972 architect drawings. They were looking at a sloped sidewalk up to the door from Bridge St. The other drawings left 3 ft. on Bridge St. and 5 ft. on Main St.

Mayor Husted inquired about the timeframe?

City Manager DeBruine stated that it would be late fall or early spring. The city could forego the ramp requirement in order that they could open business while the city applies for the grant. It was a liability concern installing the ramp in the right of way. City Attorney Randy Kraker advised that the city would have governmental immunity.

Council Member Bunce stated that they had already installed doors on Bridge St.

City Manager DeBruine stated that the McGowans would prefer it on Bridge St. If the ramp was on Bridge St., the cost would be higher to make it compatible.

Council Member Satterlee stated that she preferred Option B.

Council Member Stout stated if exploring a grant, it may be that Options B & C would be preferable in case of additional improvements. They have already foregone parking with MDOT.

Mayor Husted stated that Option C has traffic calming effects.

Council Member Stout stated that they wanted to introduce angle parking on Main St.

Jon McGowan stated that all options are based on a ramp. Randy did mention the possibility of elevating the sidewalk and slanting it back down.

Council Member Stout stated that they should pursue the grant to tie the area into the downtown. That would be a better option.

Mayor Husted stated that consensus was in support of Option C.

The Mayor called for Closed Session Agenda Item **A – DISCUSSION OF MATERIAL EXEMPT FROM DISCLOSURE**

Council Member Bunce made a motion to enter closed session at 7:42 p.m., supported by Council Member Stout

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

Council Member Wills made a motion to enter regular session at 8:30 p.m., supported by Council Member Stout.

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

Council Member Stout made a motion to authorize staff to prepare and pursue formal repair orders for 100 E. Main, on the Gibson, Tol building or Silk Mill building, as a first step in addressing concerns with the Property Maintenance Code, supported by Council

Member Satterlee.

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

The Mayor called for Council Comments:

Council Member Satterlee stated that she loved the new banners, as they were nice and welcoming. She appreciates them.

Council Member Bunce stated that he has checked out all the nature trails this summer and they are really enjoyable.

Council Member Stout had no comments.

Council Member Wills asked, along the river at Ashfield and Main, was there soil stabilization on the undercutting on the road?

City Manager DeBruine stated that the estimate for sheet piling was \$200,000 to \$300,000.

Council Member Stout stated that he would get more information on natural methods.

Council Member Wills stated after the city supporting the Silk City Drum Corps for several years, he got to the field. It was such a professional extravaganza. It exposes kids and people to quality music. It was money well spent. It was great to invest in that program. He asked how they would address the changeover for the light at Ellis and Bridge?

City Manager DeBruine stated that it would be taken down when it dies, or they could look at taking it out.

DPW Director Thomas stated that it would have been \$9,000 to take it down and put up the flashers.

Police Chief Nelson stated that it was a very clean intersection. Most are compliant. Overall it has enhanced the intersection.

Council consensus was to leave the light up as long as it was working.

Mayor Husted stated that he did receive a plaque for the Drum Corps. The banners do look nice. The comments have been positive.

Council Member Wills stated that Ernie and the crew put down a lot of asphalt throughout the city. He appreciates all the work, as it is all hard physical work. It is well appreciated.

The Mayor called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

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

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

Mayor Husted adjourned the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

Shane T. Husted, Mayor

Kareen J. Thomas, City Clerk