

SEP 14 2020

City of New Baltimore
City Council
Zoom Meeting
Meeting Minutes
August 24, 2020

Mayor John Dupray called the regular City Council meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Roll Call: Covert, Dittrich, Duffy, Hayman, Weinreich, Szymanski

Absent: None

Also present were Tim Tomlinson, City Attorney, Bonnie McInerney-Slater, Administrative Assistant, Jeanne Bade, Treasurer, Mike Mertens, Chief of Police, Jell Stellman, Fire Chief, John Klimaszewski, DPS Superintendent, Bill Bade, Wastewater Plant Superintendent, Chris Hiltunen, Water Plant Superintendent, Emma Germain, Assessor, and Tim Novak, Parks & Recreation Director.

Opening voluntary prayer was offered by Pastor Randy Volkert.

Motion by Covert, second by Szymanski to approve the regular City Council meeting minutes of August 10, 2020 with corrections.

All voting yes.

Opposing: none

Motion carried.

Motion by Covert, second by Duffy to receive and file the Budget & Revenue Reports.

All voting yes.

Opposing: none

Motion carried.

Motion by Hayman, second by Szymanski to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- A. Asphalt Unlimited, Inc. \$9,875.00- Road repairs on Taylor Street
- B. BS&A Software \$8,123.00 – Annual support fee for software
- C. Giffels Webster \$4,317.16 – Professional Services for July 2020
- D. Michigan Fire Apparatus, Inc. \$2,234.94 – Safety inspections and maintenance of Fire Trucks
- E. Motorola Solutions, Inc. \$14,124.00 – Consolette’s at Chesterfield Dispatch
- F. Plante & Moran, PLLC Invoices
 - 1. \$3,231.84 - Professional Services for March 2020
 - 2. \$5,104.65 – Professional Services for May 16, through May 31, 2020
 - 3. \$6,131.62 – Professional Services for May 1, through May 15, 2020
- G. Project Control Engineering \$25,119.50 – Engineering Services for July 2020
- H. Schedule of Bills

All voting yes.

Opposing: none

Motion carried.

Motion by Duffy, second by Weinreich to receive and file the following communications and petitions:

C-1 Treasurer’s Report as of July 31, 2020

All voting yes.

Opposing: none

Motion carried.

Motion by Covert, second by Dittrich to approve the agenda as presented.

All voting yes

Opposing: none

Motion carried.

Motion by Duffy, second by Covert to approve and adopt the Bylaws for the New Baltimore Arts & Culture Commission upon review and comments from the City Attorney.

All voting yes.

Opposing: none

Motion carried.

Motion by Duffy, second by Weinreich to discuss Public Act 33 of 1951 regarding Police and Fire Department Special Assessment.

All voting yes.

Opposing: none

Motion carried.

The Mayor asked Tim Tomlinson, City Attorney to give the Council an over view on the process of a Special Assessment utilizing Public Act 33, of 1951 as a mean of financing both the Police and Fire Departments by Special Assessment. Attorney Tomlinson advised the Council that the process there for townships and for certain qualifying cities that have a population of less than 15,000 people. The City of New Baltimore qualifies under the population amount. This process is not a true tax, it is considered a Special Assessment for the purposes providing equipment, other needs on an on-going basis for Police & Fire Services. The City Attorney advised that there was a recent amendment to the Act that really has been clarified but when you read it, it is designed for going forward expenses not past expenses. The process starts with a resolution that would include what the expected costs would be for the Police & Fire Department. Notice of a public hearing is published in the local newspaper for the entire City, except for properties under the general tax aw act, a public hearing is held, then the Council can make the determination on how Council wants to proceed, either by imposing the Special Assessment District based on the number of mills needed to raise the funding required over the period of years that Council decides they need to do so. The Special Assessment must be established on a yearly bases, meaning Council would have to vote on the millage that is imposed to meet those needs moving forward. Council can impose the Special Assessment District without going to a vote of the people. If the Council made that decision, notices would be required to be posted in the local newspaper, public hearing would be required. The Council can also make the decision to a place the vote before the electors of the City, however, the Council could consider the results from the outcome of the election as an advisor vote and still make the decision to proceed with a Special Assessment District. The Council discussed the process, the pro and cons of both scenarios pertaining to the future financing for both departments, without making any decisions at this time.

Motion by Duffy, second by Dittrich to adopt the recommendation from Public Utilities Committee to approve the estimated proposal from Kennedy Industries for new submersible sewage pumps and controls for the St. Clair lift station in the amount of \$33,750.00.

All voting yes.

Opposing: none

Motion carried.

Motion by Dittrich, second by Weinreich to approve the request from City Clerk to purchase one (1) DS450 High Speed Tabulator for the Absentee Voter Counting for the November Presidential Election in the amount of \$18,648.00 contingent receiving the Bureau of Elections grant.

All voting yes.

Opposing: none

Motion carried.

Motion by Covert, second by Szymanski to adjourn at 8:35 PM.

Voting yes: Covert, Duffy, Szymanski, Weinreich, Hayman

Motion carried.

Opposing: Dittrich