

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
April 12, 2016

The Regular City Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor Bronson in the Council Chambers at City Hall at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call:

Present: King, Riddle, Bronson, Lavender, Temple and Couture

Absent: Kwiatkowski

Councilman Temple led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Approval of Agenda, and Receive and File all Communications:

Councilman King moved to approve the Agenda and receive and file all communications; supported by Councilman Temple. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes:

▪ **Regular City Council Meeting Minutes – March 22, 2016.**

Mayor Pro Tem Couture moved to approve the Regular City Council Meeting Minutes of March 22, 2016 as presented; supported by Councilman King. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Hearing:

▪ **Public Hearing: Department of Public Safety Federal Grant Application to the USDA for Grant Funding for the Purchase of 8 Ballistic Vests –** City Manager Eustice stated we are getting a grant from the USDA for \$2,520.00 to help pay for 8 bullet proof vests. He then asked Kurt R. Jones, Director of Public Safety, to speak. Director Jones stated this Public Hearing is a formality in the grant application process. Councilwoman Riddle asked if there is an outlay of cash on the part of the City. Director Jones replied 50% or \$2,520.00.

The Public Hearing was closed with no public comment

Councilwoman Riddle moved to approve the Department of Public Safety Federal Grant Application to the USDA for grant funding for the purchase of 8 ballistic vests; supported by Councilman Lavender. A roll call vote was taken; motion carried unanimously.

Communications and Petitions:

▪ **Presentation by Brendan Carson and Michael Lynch (representing Loyola University-Chicago and the Little Traverse Conservancy) – re: Consideration to Approve Construction of a Bird Watching Trail through Gordon Turner Park Marsh Area –** Mr. Brendan Carson updated the Council on what was done in the marsh last year. He did a slide presentation, the first slide showing all of the coastline that Michigan has along the Great Lakes stretched along the eastern coast and how much coastal wetlands there are. The Great Lakes Coastal Wetlands are really an important habitat for a lot of different animals and recreationally for humans that like to hunt and fish. They are used for migratory waterfowl like ducks and geese. A pristine wetland in this region could have more than 100 plant species growing in it and a lot of different amphibians like frogs, salamanders and turtles. Mr. Carson then stated one of the things a lot of people don't

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realize about wetlands is that they are actually really important nurseries for sport fish that spend most of their adult lives out in the open water; they swim into wetlands to lay their eggs and the wetlands will provide shelter for baby fish before they swim out into the lake. The quality of wetlands has been closely tied to perch, walleye and pike fishing. There are at least 90 species of Great Lakes fish that use the wetlands at some point in their life cycle. They are focusing on an invasive plant that affects the Great Lakes, which is the cattail that is really common in this area also referred to as *Typha Latifolia*. He explained when the *Typha latifolia* and *Typha Angustifolia* (European) cross with each other their hybrid is really big and vigorous and take advantage of any nutrients that get into the water from runoff from farm fields or wastewater treatment plants. When this happens you will see this hybrid species will grow huge clones and will displace all the other plants that grew there and over time as they grow up the leaves will die and form a dense leaf litter layer. Mr. Carson noted that in the marsh here it is almost like walking through deep snow as there is so much deep leaf layer that has built up over time. Mayor Bronson asked if these cattails then grow closer together and denser. Mr. Carson replied yes and will also grow faster and taller. These hybrid cattails also have a lot of ecological effects. There are a lot of red winged blackbirds in the marsh, but not a lot else. One of the ways that this plant is really affecting the habitat quality is the accumulation of biomass (leaf litter). He then stated the Forest Service conducted an experiment and found there are actually a lot of seeds underneath the leaf litter. When the leaf litter is removed from the top of the seeds the seeds will grow. The Forest Service got funding through the EPA, through the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, to get a wetland tractor, which is what his group used last year in Cheboygan. They used hand held weed whackers and the aquatic tractor in Cheboygan, but the tractor could not cut below water very well because the harvester cannot spin under water. Councilwoman Riddle asked Mr. Carson if they don't remove the ecosystem at all. Mr. Carson replied no, it is so labor intensive to remove roots. Councilwoman Riddle then asked how they are correcting the problem. Mr. Carson answered they are not going to remove all the cattails from the site, but by going in and repeatedly removing the above ground leaf litter you stress a lot of the energy from the plants down into the roots. If you can remove the growing vegetation periodically then you are removing all the nitrogen and phosphorus that is found in the plant tissue and that may be able to reduce the amount that is present in that system, which should reduce the amount that goes into the open water. Councilwoman Riddle then inquired on the maintenance program. Mr. Carson stated there is a lot of money that goes toward invasive plant management all over the country. He commented using herbicide doesn't really do anything to fix the problem because you still have all of the leaf litter still keeping anything else from growing and being able to be used as a habitat. There has been a lot of interest from the Nature Conservancy and the Department of Natural Resources to see if this works. He noted this experiment will not remove the cattails entirely, but should increase the habitat value of the site.

Mr. Carson stated their main field site last year was in Cheboygan. He then showed Council a slide of the Cheboygan marsh and the birdwatching platform that goes out into the marsh. They separated out 60 meter by 60 meter squares to do the project, explaining the process. Some they cut the cattail once and then it grew and they cut it again; or they just cut the cattail once to see what the difference is between harvesting once a year and twice a year. Most the area was treated in some way. This year they will go back and see what kind of affect it had and re-implement those treatments. He thinks that by next summer (2017) they will have a really clear idea of how effective it has been. Mr. Carson then showed Council a picture of the tractor they are using, in addition to pictures showing after one harvest and two harvests. They end up with a lot of

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biomass and they are investigating different ways to use that. They gave most of the material they cut last year to Mr. Carl Reiman who used it as bedding for his cattle and then will make compost out of it. They are investigating to see if they can make fuel pellets to use in a wood pellet stove, in addition to bio-gas to use for heat or electricity.

Mr. Carson referred Council to the proposal for the Cheboygan Marsh Bird Watching and Wetland Education Trail information and map. He then reviewed this for the Council, stating an issue will be who will be responsible for maintenance, recognizing the lake levels change and they do not want part of the Trail to be under water. He explained they have revised where the Trail is going so it is in upland area. The idea behind the Trail is that it will connect Gordon Turner Park with the west side of the wetland by Todd Street to be able to access it from either side. There is also the Gauthier Preserve which is north on Todd Street. He thinks it might be a little too wet to actually build a trail from the existing trail, so one may have to go up the road a little bit to get to the other trail. Mr. Carson commented they think people already come to view the osprey, pointing out the viewing platform already there going out into the wetland. People that are interested in birdwatching would like having access to that area. He then reviewed information that will be available along the Trail.

Mr. Carson then informed Council they know what it is going to take to put in the Trail and think it is going to be a lot easier than realized. There are only a few areas that go through forests so someone will have to go in in and clear these with a chainsaw. Mr. Lynch explained when they make a trail system or recreate an existing trail, Mr. Lynch and another co-worker will have chainsaws. They like to have a good group of 4 to 5 volunteers who will clean up behind them. Mr. Carson then stated there are two boardwalks shown, noting the money comes from the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative. He went on to state he doesn't want to see the maintenance fall on the City's shoulders, but in talking with Mr. Lynch it really would be as much as having one person walk it once a season (during the summer). Once the Trail is established, they are thinking of ways to really draw attention to it and identify people who might be interested in volunteering (there would be a birdwatching competition or birdathon). He thinks this will draw people from around the region, including local people, if organized as an event. At the event they can talk to people to see if they are interested in volunteering to help with maintenance in the future. Councilwoman Riddle asked if this area is appropriate for wood ducks and some of the water birds. Mr. Lynch stated at this point he does not think it is because of the cattails, but next year we could see some.

Mayor Bronson inquired as to the surface of the Trail when they are done brush cutting. Mr. Lynch stated they try and leave it as natural as possible. If they cut a tree down, they will cut it down to the ground so it is not a trip hazard. Also, if there is a hole where the trail would go, this will be filled in or the trail altered somewhat. They try to keep it as level as possible, removing any tripping hazards, while leaving it as natural as possible. They are hoping to have a lot of foot traffic to keep the maintenance down. Mr. Carson noted when you are out in the marsh itself there are no mosquitos because it is open enough and it's sunny and breezy. He thinks the trail will be used mostly in the fall and spring, which is when certain migrations happen.

City Manager Eustice commented the Trail is indicated in the right spot because the shoreline is the highest he has seen it in probably 20 years. He added the Trail is dry right now, which is a good thing. Mr. Carson informed Council he is here to get approval for the Trail.

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Councilman Lavender moved to approve the construction of the Cheboygan Marsh Bird Watching and Wetland Education Trail; supported by Councilman Temple. A roll call vote was taken; motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Riddle asked how Mr. Carson and Mr. Lynch are planning on getting the volunteers to work on the Trail. Mr. Lynch replied by basically reaching out to the local groups, noting the Audubon Society is actually the group that helps them out the most because they seem to be the most dedicated and most reliable. Any group that is looking for an activity to do together as a team such as 4-H or a church. Mayor Pro Tem Couture asked when they would get started on the Trail. Mr. Lynch replied toward the end of this summer. They will probably get everything constructed this year and make the signs over the winter to be put in next spring and then have a birding event.

Bills and Disbursements:

▪ Prepaid Bills and Disbursements for the Month of March 2016.

Councilman Lavender moved to approve the prepaid bills and disbursements for the month of March 2016 in the amount of \$398,329.78; supported by Mayor Pro Tem Couture. A roll call vote was taken; motion carried unanimously.

▪ Unpaid Bills and Disbursements for the Month of March 2016.

Councilman King inquired as to no. 23, pump fittings and labor, WWTP. Clerk/Treasurer Kwiatkowski stated we purchased a new pump from Jett Pump & Valve, L.L.C. and these are all the fittings and the labor. He noted this is a capital outlay item in the Sewer Department (Treatment Plant). Clerk/Treasurer Kwiatkowski then stated with the 2011 Watermain Project, every year we have to set aside about \$26,300.00 in the Water Fund; part of it is for a bond fund and the rest of it \$12,200.00 goes into a repair and replacement fund, noting these are part of the bond covenant. We were able to use the RR&I money for the new water meters, so it does not affect the normal Water Fund.

Councilman Lavender moved to approve the unpaid bills and disbursements for the month of March 2016 in the amount of \$59,584.01; supported by Councilman King. A roll call vote was taken; motion carried unanimously.

Department, Board and Commission Reports:

▪ Downtown Development Authority Board of Directors, April 5, 2016 – City Manager Eustice informed the Council that Chamber Director Matt Friday resigned from the Chamber and there is a position on the DDA Board, which is the Director of the Chamber of Commerce. He noted that Mr. Friday was also the DDA Board Vice-Chair. The DDA Board then elected Mr. James Granger, Vice-Chair. Mayor Bronson noted that the DDA Board voted to remove the tree in front of Festival Square. City Manager Eustice stated he is still working with Fred Stempky to see if the tree can be removed and replanted, noting there is a little cost involved - \$150 to \$200. Mr. Stempky is concerned the removal may put additional stress on the tree, as it is stressing right now but we could fertilize it before we remove and replant it. This will be done this spring.

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General Business:

- **Consideration to Place 6-Month Delinquent Water/Sewer Utility Bills as Liens on the 2016 Summer Tax Roll** – City Manager Eustice stated there is currently \$105,193.26 that will go on the summer tax roll with Council’s approval, noting some will be paid before they actually go on the tax roll.

Councilman King moved to approve the placing of 6-month delinquent water/sewer utility bills as liens on the 2016 Summer Tax Roll and direct the City Assessor to spread these amounts against the properties; supported by Mayor Pro Tem Couture. A roll call vote was taken; motion carried unanimously.

- **Consideration of Contract Agreement with Wolverine Fireworks Display, Inc.** - City Manager Eustice stated this is our annual Contract for the 4th of July fireworks in the amount of \$7,000.00, noting this cost has been the same for several years and we get a pretty good product.

Mayor Pro Tem Couture moved to approve the Contract Agreement with Wolverine Fireworks Display, Inc. in the amount of \$7,000.00 for the July 4, 2016 Fireworks Display and to authorize the City Manager and Mayor to sign the Contract Agreement and Permit on behalf of the City of Cheboygan; supported by Councilman Temple. A roll call vote was taken; motion carried unanimously.

- **Consideration of Request from Relay for Life to Paint the Town Purple, including Washington Park, beginning May 1, 2016** – City Manager Eustice stated Relay for Life did this last year and the decorations will be up for about a month.

Councilman King moved to approve the request from Relay for Life to Paint the Town Purple, including Washington Park, beginning May 1, 2016, with the decorations being removed shortly after the June 4-5 Relay for Life; supported by Mayor Pro Tem Couture. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments: *(None.)*

City Clerk/Treasurer’s Comments:

- **Encryption Virus** – Clerk/Treasurer Kwiatkowski explained the recent news on an encryption virus. He informed Council that two weeks ago this happened to his computer. Mr. Jason Straight removed his computer, wiped it clean and reinstalled all the software. Because of the City’s backup system and the fact that it takes snapshots, they were able to recover everything. He then explained the ransom note, which wanted \$2,000.00 from the City of Cheboygan to recover all of his documents. Councilman King asked if this seeped into our server. City Manager Eustice replied no, adding the virus got the Clerk’s Word and Excel files (office files).

Councilwoman Riddle commented on a scam she has gotten telephone calls on regarding lowering your credit card interest rate. She noted local numbers are being used of individuals and businesses.

Mayor Bronson commented on a radio program recently that stated we shouldn’t have any bitcoins because then there is not a way for them to get paid. City Manager Eustice stated

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bitcoins are untraceable and that's why these people don't get caught. Councilwoman Riddle asked what a bitcoin is. Mayor Bronson explained it is electronic money, a traded monetary unit.

City Manager's Report:

- **Strategic Planning Session** – City Manager Eustice told Council he would like to continue the Strategic Planning process prior to the next City Council meeting, April 26 at 5:00 p.m.. He will get to Council the minutes, or at least a listing what was discussed at the last session. Councilman Temple asked that an e-mail be sent to Council.
- **Property Sale to Little Traverse Conservancy** – City Manager Eustice stated he has been working with Mr. Kieran Fleming of the Little Traverse Conservancy on the property on the east side that we obtained with the Port purchase. They are very interested in buying portions of that property, with the City keeping and maintaining the uplands. A preliminary appraisal (cost estimate) was done, by Mr. Paul Rose who did the appraising on the Port property for the City, which was \$175,000.00. They also want to purchase another piece of the property the City has owned for 100 years that is basically under water. Mr. Fleming told him today they may only be able to get \$100,000.00 in funding, so this is something we need to talk about. Mayor Pro Tem Couture asked if the Conservancy got approved for \$100,000.00 in funding. City Manager Eustice replied yes. Councilwoman Riddle stated they can get the land for what they can get for \$100,000.00 and we will hold the rest of the land until they can get the rest of the money. Councilman Lavender asked if this was a full blown appraisal. City Manager Eustice replied no. For the Conservancy to actually purchase it, they will have to get an appraisal and will not be able to pay more than what it appraises at. Councilman Temple asked if that property can be used for anything else other than what they are going to use it for. City Manager Eustice replied basically not, you would have to mitigate it and fill it, as it is all wetlands. What they are going to buy is all wetlands located in the floodplain. Mayor Pro Tem Couture commented he does not want to sell it for under value. Councilman Temple asked why keep the property if the only thing you can do is park a boat on it. Mayor Bronson asked if the Conservancy is going to do an appraisal and make an offer. City Manager Eustice replied that's what they need to do. At this point, Mr. Fleming wanted him to inform the Council on what their position is. He went on to ask should we go forward and tell them to get an appraisal. Mayor Bronson stated we need to know that information. City Manager Eustice stated he will ask Mr. Fleming to get an appraisal. Councilman Lavender commented they may put another birdwatch and trail on that property, also.
- **Kokosing Offer/Port Property** - City Manager informed Council that Attorney Steve Joppich was here on April 1 and met with Mayor Bronson, Councilwoman Riddle and Councilman Lavender, as well as himself. He and Attorney Joppich met later that day with Kokosing to discuss their offer. The summary of the meeting is that we need to definitely have an operation agreement in place before we move forward and sell property to Kokosing. Kokosing is willing to work with us to formulate that agreement and we need to make a determination of how much property we are going to sell them. The Port Commission discussed this at their meeting last Monday, but for them it was too early and they wanted more information to review, in addition to discussing it with Mr. Mark Lorenz, who was not at the meeting, and is also the Chairman of the Port Action Committee. Mayor Pro Tem Couture asked if we sold the whole piece Kokosing would like to purchase, how much is left. City Manager Eustice answered just over 400 feet. The City would retain this 400 feet, noting as you go further south down the River it gets less and less deep. Mayor Pro Tem Couture stated he thought the idea for going into that meeting was to figure out a higher price than the offer, asking if this got discussed. City Manager Eustice stated it was an information gathering meeting and we have not prepared a counter-offer. He went on to

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state if we have an operation agreement there would be reversion clauses in it that the City would get the property back should they disband or move out of Cheboygan, which could lower the initial cost of the purchase for Kokosing because of the contingencies. Mayor Pro Tem Couture commented he thinks Attorney Joppich was cautious about selling at a lower value. City Manager Eustice noted some of the property as you get to the north end is very narrow (not much land), but certainly the 288 feet next to Lake Street he would be very careful not sell it less for what we sold to Ryba. Mayor Pro Tem Couture stated we just cannot sell it according to square footage of the piece, because when you are buying waterfront property most of the value is the waterfront. Mayor Bronson asked if we need to approach the working agreement preferably than the land purchase. City Manager Eustice replied he thinks Attorney Joppich got the impression that they didn't want to work with us on the operating agreement, but he did not get that impression at all. Councilman Lavender commented he thought Attorney Joppich was making things extremely complicated. Mayor Bronson responded he is very careful. He stated at the Kokosing meeting, it was said they are willing to negotiate and don't need a decision right away. He went on to state part of what the Port group is thinking is that two of the principal people that developed this vision, Dave Kronberg and Mark Lorenz, weren't at the meeting. Councilwoman Riddle stated she thought Kokosing really wasn't interested in that one section at the southern most end. City Manager Eustice replied they would like to buy all of that if they could, which squares up their entire piece of property. Mayor Bronson stated we still have the Fish & Wildlife that would like property, too. He commented that Mr. Kronberg is no longer available, but when Mr. Lorenz gets back the Port Commission can make a recommendation to Council as to how much of the property to sell. Mayor Pro Tem Couture asked if anyone has talked to Fish & Wildlife or what would that process entail. City Manager Eustice stated the Fish & Wildlife want 160 feet for the Spencer Baird, their 95 foot boat and has been talking to Scott Koproski out of the Alpena office. They already have the purchase budgeted for this year, noting their fiscal year ends September 30. Again, they would have to get an appraisal and cannot pay more than the appraised price. They are waiting for the City to tell them where we can locate them. Mayor Bronson commented they do not care where they are along the River. City Manager Eustice stated they do not need a lot of land, but would possibly want to put up a small storage building. They need dock space and access to the waterfront. Mayor Pro Tem Couture stated south of where Ryba is, is the USGS and Fish & Wildlife together, asking what is south of that. City Manager Eustice replied the condos. He explained north of the Ryba property is City property, noting Mr. Zac Morrish is considering buying more land and moving north, with possibly putting the dock on the south end of Ryba's property. He went on to state Ryba has about 66 feet there and then the City has another 66 foot lot plus the right-of-way where the boat launch is. This is in the middle of Ryba, as Ryba owns parcels on either side of the City property. Councilwoman Riddle commented now is the time to get it all shifted the way the City wants it to be. Mayor Bronson commented the Fish & Wildlife does use the USGS for support, i.e. mechanics, so it might be better if they are closer. Mayor Pro Tem Couture then asked if there was anything else that came up with the meeting with Kokosing, asking if the Council should meet and talk with the Port Commission. City Manager Eustice replied he feels the next step is to get the Port Commission together, as a whole, with the exception of Mr. David Kronberg (noting he will try and keep him involved since he has been with this from the beginning). It was asked if the City could Skype Mr. Kronberg in. City Manager Eustice replied yes. Mayor Bronson noted Mr. Kronberg will be absent from the community only occasionally.

- **Resignation of David Kronberg** - City Manager Eustice then stated he was going to announce that Mr. Kronberg has resigned from the Planning Commission and Port Commission,

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noting he has been the Chair of the Planning Commission at least ten years. He added this will be a big loss for the City. He explained he will still be in Cheboygan, but will be traveling quite a bit in the next couple years. A brief discussion was held.

- **Bois Blanc Township** - Councilwoman Riddle asked the City Manager if he has heard anything from the Township. City Manager Eustice answered he nor Attorney Steve Joppich have heard anything from them. He thinks they are still pursuing the DNR property, noting they have an application in.
- **Continuing Services of Steven Joppich, Attorney** - Councilman Lavender asked the reason why we are using Attorney Steve Joppich. City Manager Eustice replied there was a conflict of interest with the Township and our current City Attorney. Councilman Lavender asked if the Township is out of the picture, do we still need to use Attorney Joppich. City Manager Eustice replied he thinks probably to the point that we sell property to Kokosing. It is Attorney Joppich's opinion on how we can sell this property without auctioning it and thinks we should keep him in the game until we at least satisfy (pay off) the Land Contract, which we could by selling to Ryba and Kokosing. Mayor Bronson commented Attorney Joppich has some specialized expertise that we can't get locally. Mayor Pro Tem Couture then asked what Attorney Joppich's cost is accumulating to. City Manager Eustice replied overall probably \$30,000.00. Mayor Pro Tem Couture stated he feels we can't do that amount again. City Manager Eustice stated Attorney Joppich's costs have slowed down significantly. Mayor Bronson commented he does not feel the Kokosing purchase is going to be nearly as complicated as it was with the Township. Discussion held on the negotiations thus far.
- **Lincoln Avenue Intersection** – City Manager Eustice stated the repair of the Lincoln Avenue intersection is on the MDOT list for May. They are going to try and do some of it after school hours and at night. It should not be that long of a project. We may have to detour a couple of days, at least coming in on Lincoln Avenue from the high school.
- **U.S. 23 Bridge Replacement Project** – City Manager Eustice reported the U.S. 23 bridge replacement is in progress, noting they hit a natural gas line twice.

Messages and Communications from Mayor Pro Tem and Council Members:

- **Kokosing Port Property Purchase** – Mayor Pro Tem Couture stated he is still somewhat unclear on the direction we are taking with Kokosing, asking is the next step the Port Commission. City Manager Eustice replied Attorney Joppich is in the process of drafting a port operation agreement and the next step is to go back to the Port Commission with this agreement and review Kokosing's offer to get the Commission's opinion on what a counter-offer should be, which would then be brought back to Council. Mayor Pro Tem Couture asked if Kokosing is okay waiting for us to make the next move, as he does not want this to be set aside. City Manager Eustice answered he thinks we are okay to early May. Mayor Pro Tem Couture commented that selling property at that end is really crucial so we cannot set it aside, and they need to know this. City Manager Eustice commented Kokosing already has approval from its home office to buy property and this is a cash transaction. Mayor Pro Tem Couture stated meetings have to happen if Attorney Joppich has to have something in place; we have to put a rush on it. Buying this property and taking control of it became a priority for the City. Mayor Bronson stated Mr. Stan Neff said if we went through the summer that would be okay, noting their fiscal year ends in September. Councilman Lavender stated Kokosing is crucial to the whole port operation. Councilwoman Riddle commented we have to have an agreement in place so we are protected as a community. Mayor Pro Tem Couture said he understands that but we need to move along. City

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Manager Eustice stated he will call Attorney Joppich tomorrow, noting we could certainly have a special Port Commission meeting instead of waiting until the regularly scheduled meeting in May. Mayor Pro Tem Couture commented we need a timeline on the agreement from Attorney Joppich.

- **County Marina** – Councilman King commented from Cheboygan County Commissioner minutes someone is stirring the pot on the County getting rid of the marina and returning it to the City. City Manager Eustice stated nobody has called him, including Mr. Jeff Lawson who he talks to about every couple of weeks. City Manager Eustice stated he will follow up on that. A brief discussion was held.

- **All Night Parking** – Councilwoman Riddle asked if there is still no night parking on the roads. Chief Jones replied it ended April 1.

- **Street Paving Project** – Councilman Temple asked City Manager Eustice what three streets are we going to resurface this year. City Manager Eustice answered we might do four – Duncan Avenue, Lincoln Avenue (from City limits at least to Western), W. State Street (resurface the rest to Main Street); and Bailey Street. DPW Director Karmol is deciding whether to do Bailey Street or not because it has an 1894 watermain underneath the road. Councilman Temple commented Bailey Street is a main thoroughfare to the other end of town, noting it is really bad especially between Mackinaw Avenue and Division Street. The reason he asks is last year we were going to re-do State Street and then all of a sudden we didn't do it. City Manager Eustice replied we got cost estimates on it, but we didn't have the funding to do it because it came in at about \$280,000.00. Councilman Temple asked if we have bids on the paving yet. City Manager Eustice answered no, but City Engineer James Granger is working on the request for proposals, adding he and DPW Director Karmol are meeting quite regularly right now on how they are going to approach those. Councilman Temple then asked if the infrastructure under the streets has to be fixed. City Manager Eustice replied not on State Street or Lincoln Avenue, only on Bailey Street. He noted we might have to resurface that short section between Division Street and Mackinaw Avenue. He then stated there are no complaints and it is an 1894 watermain and so we may not need to replace it now. Councilwoman Riddle asked if it is a wooden main. City Manager Eustice stated no, it is cast iron which has lead in it, which is another reason to start changing those out.

- **Council Strategic Planning Session** – Councilman Lavender asked if DPW Director Karmol is going to be at the next Strategic Planning Session because a lot of Council's discussion is about infrastructure, roads and water. City Manager Eustice replied he could be. He then informed Council they did have a Utility Committee meeting last week, noting Councilman Temple and Councilwoman Riddle are on that Committee. They are looking at 7 million dollars of infrastructure improvements, that includes the water tower, with 5 million dollars of it being water and sewer mains. City Manager Eustice stated he will ask DPW Director Karmol to be at the meeting.

- **Blight Committee Meeting** – Councilman King reported they had a Blight Committee meeting today, stating there are things being done.

- **Huron Estates' Street Issues** – Mayor Bronson mentioned the Letters to the Editor about the streets in Huron Estates, stating those are not City streets. City Manager Eustice stated that is correct and it is all private property. Mayor Bronson then mentioned the 425 Agreement, wondering if it is a blight issue if they do not fix roads. City Manager Eustice stated he does not know what ordinances the City could apply to that. He stated he will speak to City Attorney Lindsay to see if there is anything the City can do to help.

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- **Asphalt Used to Fill Potholes** - Councilman Temple stated he noticed the City has had to order asphalt two or three different times and wondered if the City got a bigger amount at one time would we pay less per ton. City Manager Eustice stated it is possible. Clerk/Treasurer Kwiatkowski commented we don't really purchase enough to get a volume discount. City Manager Eustice stated we just got asphalt in yesterday because MDOT used quite a bit of our cold patch in and around the bridge. He will ask DPW Director Karmol about this, as well.
- **County Commissioner Meetings** – Mayor Pro Tem Couture stated he has thought for a while that we should have a presence at the Commissioner meetings, wondering if there is a stipend for a meeting and then someone can volunteer or be appointed to attend. If that person cannot do it, then there could be another Council Member in attendance. He commented that County Commissioner Bruce Gauthier attends the Council meetings. City Manager Eustice stated he does not attend them as they are during the daytime, which is usually a really busy part of the day for himself, Clerk/Treasurer Kwiatkowski and staff. Councilman King commented he could attend during the summer season. City Manager Eustice stated he will look and see if we can pay special meeting fees and coordinate getting someone there. Councilman Temple asked if the marina was always a County marina. City Manager Eustice replied yes. Councilman King stated the Marina was built with a DNR Trust Fund and what the County is ruffled about now is long-term maintenance and staffing.

Adjournment:

Councilman King moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 p.m.; supported by Mayor Pro Tem Couture. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Mark C. Bronson

Clerk/Treasurer Kenneth J. Kwiatkowski

Councilman Joseph Lavender

Councilwoman Winifred L. Riddle

Councilman Vaughn Temple

Councilman Nathan H. King

Mayor Pro Tem Nicholas C. Couture

Councilwoman Betty A. Kwiatkowski