

**CITY COUNCIL
121 N CHURCH STREET, HUDSON, MI
PUBLIC HEARING
July 06, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.**

747316:

The Public Hearing was called to order by Mayor Carmel Camp at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL: PRESENT: Carmel Camp, Lee Ann Minton, Rick Moreno, Carl Sword, Pam Ely, Darlene VandeZande and Lee Daugherty

ABSENT: none

ALSO PRESENT: Ian Wendt – WLEN News Director, Richard & Carolyn Halliwill, Teri Moreno, Tammy Jewell, Joesph Yeider, John Ervin, WWTP Superintendent Ted Hutchison, DPW Superintendent Jay Best, Barb Ireland – Hudson Post Gazette, George Truchan & Melinda Schwyn, Receptionist Kris Eschedor, Acting City Treasurer Brandon Hudson, Interim City Manager Charles Weir, and City Clerk Jeaniene McClellan

ORDERS OF THE DAY: Set the Utility Rates

Public Comment:

Barb Ireland – Tiffin Street – very frustrated when she realized the sewer bond will be going up from \$10 a month to \$22.45 a month.

John Irvine – Lincoln Street - If everyone is paying for the sewer even when you are washing your car and watering your lawn, the city doesn't pay to clean that water but the residents are still paying for the sewer, then where is all that money. Someone didn't pay attention to what was going on.

Adjourn sine die.

**CITY COUNCIL
121 N CHURCH STREET, HUDSON, MI
REGULAR MEETING
July 06, 2021 following public hearing**

747317:

The regular meeting was called to order by Mayor Carmel Camp at 7:20 pm.

ROLL CALL: PRESENT: Carmel Camp, Lee Ann Minton, Rick Moreno, Carl Sword, Pam Ely, Darlene VandeZande and Lee Daugherty
ABSENT: none

ALSO PRESENT: Ian Wendt – WLEN News Director, Richard & Carolyn Halliwill, Teri Moreno, Tammy Jewell, Joesph Yeider, John Ervin, WWTP Superintendent Ted Hutchison, DPW Superintendent Jay Best, Barb Ireland – Hudson Post Gazette, George Truchan & Melinda Schwyn, Brad VandeZande, Receptionist Kris Eschedor, Acting City Treasurer Brandon Hudson, Interim City Manager Charles Weir, and City Clerk Jeaniene McClellan

ORDERS OF THE DAY:

Approval of Minutes of June 15, 2021:

747318:

Motion by Carl Sword, seconded by Pam Ely to **approve the minutes of June 15, 2021 and place on file.** CARRIED 7-0 by roll call vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No comments received

NEW BUSINESS:

APPROVE: Resolution on setting the new Utility Rates and Monthly Billing:

Due to the \$400,000.00+ deficit in the utility fund, the water and sewer rates have to be adjusted to be fiscally responsible and continue to supply the Hudson community with safe drinking water and sewer services.

Due to the rate increases, billing customers monthly instead of quarterly will help the customers with their budgets and provided much needed revenue to fix the deficit and provide funds for the operation and maintenance of the City's water and sewer systems.

747319:

Motion by Darlene VandeZande, seconded by Pam Ely **to postpone the “resolution to set the utility rate and monthly billing as written” and return as soon as possible.** CARRIED 7-0 by roll call vote

APPROVE: Joseph Yeider to the Planning Commission:

The Planning Commission has been running at 5 members for awhile now, they should have 9 members.

Mr. Yeider has requested to be on the Planning Commission and he meets all the requirements to be appointed with a 3-year term expiring in July 2024.

747320:

Motion by Darlene VandeZande, seconded by Rick Moreno **to appoint Joseph Yeider to the Planning Commission for a 3-year term expiring in July 2024.** CARRIED 7-0 by roll call vote

APPROVE: Present 10-Year Service Award to Jeaniene McClellan:

Per the City of Hudson Employee Handbook, employees are to receive a Certificate of Appreciation Service Award for ten years of service in the City of Hudson.

On behalf of the citizens of Hudson, the Hudson City Council extends its appreciation for Jeaniene McClellan for ten (10) years of dedicated service in the City of Hudson from July 1, 2011 to July 1, 2021.

747321:

Motion by Lee Daugherty, seconded by Pam Ely **to present the 10-year Certificate of Appreciation to Jeaniene McClellan.** CARRIED 7-0 by roll call vote

APPROVE: George Truchan as the City Attorney:

Due to the passing Attorney Denis Jodis, is necessary that the City hire a new City Attorney. Attorney George Truchan is currently the interim City Attorney and has been the Hudson City Prosecutor for several years and has done an excellent job for the City.

Interim City Manager spoke with Mr. Truhan and asked if he would be interested in the position and he advised that he would be willing to fill the position.

He also asked Mr Truchan about compensation for his services as the City Attorney, and he advised me that he would bill the City at the rate of \$150.00 per hour. Interim City Manager, Charles Weir looked over a few bills from Mr. Jodis and it appears that he was billing the City \$160.64 per hour.

747322:

Motion by Carl Sword, seconded by Darlene VandeZande to **approve George Truchan as the Hudson City Attorney at the rate of \$150.00 per hour, effective immediately.** CARRIED 7-0 by roll call vote.

APPROVE: Changes on the BHS Premium:

Interim City Manager, Charles Weir had been working with Chris Arendshorst at BHS the City's Liability Insurance carrier on how we can reduce the City's premiums and still have sufficient liability coverage.

Reviewing our policy it was discovered that the City was insuring things that should not be on the policy such as vehicles that have been sold, over insured and the largest discovery was that the City was insuring the contents of the library estimated value of \$1,724,184.00. This was eliminated from the policy after he spoke with Librarian Joann Simmons who advised that the library has it's own insurance policy. There were a few items that were under insured and asked them to make the adjustments there as well.

Our Insurance policy renewal date is July 1, of each year. The renewal premium for July 1, 2021 is \$87,469.00 annually. He advised Mr Arendshorst to make the adjustments made. The premium now will be \$80,469.00 saving the City \$7,000.00. He also requested that they bill the City quarterly which BHS agreed to do.

Our liability insurance coverage is currently at \$5,000,000.00 with a \$1,000.00 deductible. The City can save additional premium dollars by making adjustments in the amount of coverage and deductible in this area as well, but he wanted Council 's input and approval before making any changes to this. He provided an attachment that explained the options. Mr. Arendshorst suggested that the City not go any lower than \$3,000,000.00 per occurrence. If Council wishes to lower liability coverage to the \$3,000,000.00 per occurrence, with the \$2,500.00 deductible, the City would save another \$9,622.00 per year. Total savings with all adjustments suggested will save the City \$16,622.00.

747323:

Motion by Carl Sword, seconded by Lee Daugherty **to approve the reduction of the insurance liability limit from \$5,000,000.00 per occurrence to \$3,000,000.00 per occurrence with a \$2,500.00 deductible.** CARRIED 7-0 by roll call vote

APPROVE: Vacant City Property:

Tat the May 18, 2021 Council meeting Interim City Manager requested permission to sell vacant City lots. He informally spoke with the Planning Commission Members prior to the meeting and they approved the sale of the lots. Four council members approved the sale but it was later discovered that it takes five votes from Council to sell City Property.

On June 21, 2021 at a Planning Commission meeting and brought it to them formally. Again all members present unanimously approved the sale of the vacant City lots.

DPW provided the amount of time they spend on upkeep of the lots. If mowed weekly the cost is \$558.35 a week. This includes wages and benefits along with equipment costs. Mowing for seven months weekly is \$15,633.80 per season.

We are requesting that the following vacant City lots be sold:

500 Tiffin (corner of Buchanan and Tiffin)
 458 Cross (Old Thorn Hospital Property)
 Oak Street (small lot behind Sheanigans)
 100 Maple Street (2 empty lots east of 519 Grove)
 315 and 319 School (both east of 323 School)
 100 Fayette Street (NE Corner)
 400 Railroad (corner of West and Railroad)
 201 N Market and 203 N Market (Empty lots at the end of Railroad on N Market Street)

747324:

Motion by Darlene VandeZande, seconded by Carl Sword **approve to have the vacant City Properties put up for sale that was forwarded by the Planning Commission.** CARRIED 5-2 by roll call vote (Camp, Ely, Moreno, Sword, VandeZande – yes Minton, Daugherty – no)

Executive Session: OMA Section 8 (c) DPW Union Negotiations:

Per Section 8 (c) of the OMA, Council entered into Closed Session for the purpose of discussing and continuing contract negotiations regarding the Department of Public Works and Hudson Police Department union contracts expired on June 30, 2021.

747325:

Motion by Rick Moreno, seconded by Carl Sword to **enter into Closed Session pursuant to OMA Section 8 (c) for strategy and negotiations regarding the Department of Public Works & Hudson Police Department Union Contracts,** CARRIED 7-0 by roll call vote.

**Entered executive session at 7:48 p.m.

**Returned to open session at 8:02 p.m.

APPROVE: HPD Union Agreement:

Interim City Manager Charles Weir spoke with HPD Union members and Duane Smith, representative of the Police Officer Labor Council (POLC), and they agree to extend the current contract for a year as “Status Quo” including wages and benefit at the current contract levels.

After the year, the members and the POLC would like to re-open and negotiate a multi-year agreement.

747326:

Motion by Lee Daugherty, seconded by Rick Moreno to **direct Charlie to pursue the union contracts as discuss**, CARRIED 7-0 by roll call vote.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Bills:

Bills to Council

July 6, 2021

Bills to be Approved

Lincoln National Life	\$1,178.97	July Premium
Douglas Safety Systems	\$1,807.73	Site survey, Install, Compressor
Soccer	\$1,439.89	
Summer Softball	\$2,487.17	
Little League	\$5,898.49	
Michigan Municipal League	\$2,136.00	Membership 9/1/21 - 8/31/2022
Total	\$14,948.25	

Bills to be Confirmed

Ryan & Bradshaw	\$11,700.00	HVAC for the 2nd Ambulance station
Bill Deo	\$1,780.00	5th payment Maple Grove Cemetery
Etna	\$1,145.00	2" water meter for Thompson Field
Maner Costerisan	\$3,200.00	First payment for the forensic Audit Professional Services on the Tax Anticipation Note
Miller, Canfield, Paddock & Stone PLC	\$1,500.00	
Consumers	\$3,384.01	WWTP June 2021
Consumers	\$2,005.84	WTP June 2021
Douglas Safety Systems	\$1,193.02	Parts for the Air Pressure System
Modern Waste Systems	\$9,559.25	June Monthly Refuse Service
Blue Cross	\$30,448.77	July Employees Health Insurance
Wickham Tree Service	\$1,500.00	PAST DUE - Tree services
Total	\$67,415.89	

Grand Total \$82,364.14

747327:

Motion by Carl Sword, seconded by Rick Moreno **to pay the bills.** CARRIED 7-0 by roll call vote

Account Balances:

Old National Accounts

As of July 2, 2021

ALS Membership	\$1,206.72	
DDA	\$3,180.86	
DRUG Enforcement	\$1,223.37	
HPD Abandoned Prop	\$203.42	
Payroll Account	\$0.00	
Pooled Account	\$0.00	
Sweep Account	\$88,399.04	This account has enough for BCBS and Payroll
CD - 36 Months	\$5,312.40	
CD - Public Funds	\$2,262.45	

County National Bank

Income Tax	\$30,161.84
Incoming ACH Payments	\$375.45
Bond Account	\$0.00

747328:

Motion by Darlene VandeZande, seconded by Lee Daugherty **to accept the account balances and place on file.** CARRIED 7-0 by roll call vote

MINUTES FROM OTHER BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

Planning Commission minutes dated June 21, 2021

747329:

Motion by Darlene VandeZande, seconded by Carl Sword **to accept the Planning Commission minutes dated June 21, 2021 and place on file.** CARRIED 7-0 by roll call vote

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Councilmember Lee Ann Minton -if you have time read Country of the blind by H G Wells. It will take about a hour.

ADJOURNMENT:

747330:

Motion by Lee Ann Minton, seconded by Rick Moreno to **adjourn the meeting at 8:20 pm**

APPROVED: _____
Carmel Camp, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Jeaniene McClellan, City Clerk

REVIEWED BY: _____
George Truchan, City Attorney

Dated: _____