

**CITY COUNCIL
121 N CHURCH STREET, HUDSON, MI
REGULAR MEETING VIA TELEPHONE CONFERENCE
October 20, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.**

747176:

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

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

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Barb Ireland – Hudson Post-Gazette, Brent Shea – City Auditor, City Treasurer
Ben Farley, DPW Superintendent Jay Best, City Manager Steven Hartsel and City
Clerk Jeaniene McClellan

ORDERS OF THE DAY:**Approval of Minutes of October 6, 2020:****747177:**

Motion by Carl Sword, seconded by Rick Moreno to **approve the minutes of October 6, 2020, and place on file**, CARRIED: 7-0 by roll call vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No comments received

NEW BUSINESS:**APPROVE: Pay Application 4 for N. Maple Grove Reconstruction Phase 1:**

Pay Application 4 for Phase 1 of the Maple Grove Reconstruction Project from Bailey Excavating has been validated by the Project Engineer and forwarded for Council approval. The application covers construction cost for the month of September in the amount of \$294,778.48. Including retainage, the remaining balance on the contract is \$166,076.67.

747178:

Motion by Lee Ann Minton, seconded by Rick Moreno to **approve Pay Application 4 for the Maple Grove Reconstruction Project Phase 1 in the amount of \$294,778.48**. CARRIED 7-0 by roll call vote.

APPROVE: Health Care Plan Renewal for 2021:

The Michigan Municipal League – League Employee Benefit Services has submitted the 2021 Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan rates, effective as of December 1st. The plan is the Community Blue PPO Platinum 250, which is compliant with the Affordable Care Act.

The proposed 2021 Plan renewal has an average premium increase of 8%. For budgeting, we assume a 10% increase each year. With this increase, the 4-year average increase is 7.9%.

747179:

Motion by Lee Ann Minton, seconded by Carl Sword to **approve the renewal of the Blue Cross Blue Shield PPO 250 Health Plan for the contract year beginning December 1, 2020.** CARRIED 7-0 by roll call vote.

APPROVE: PA 152 Compliance for the 2021 Health Care Plan Year:

The 2011 Public Act 152 (The Publicly-Funded Health Insurance Contribution Act) requires a resolution from Council indicating compliance with the law's provisions. A municipality may comply with P.A. 152 by adopting the Exemption option each health plan year (with a two-thirds vote of Council). Council has voted very year since 2013 to adopt the Exemption, and we recommend that the City adopt the Exemption option again this year.

By adopting the resolution, the City can maintain full eligibility for State Statutory Revenue-sharing, and also meet the requirements of P.A. 152.

747180:

Motion by Carl Sword, seconded by Rick Moreno to **adopt the resolution adopting the Exemption option of 2011 Public Act 152 for the upcoming health care plan year which begins on December 1, 2020.** CARRIED 7-0 by roll call vote

APPROVE: Financial Audit Report for Fiscal Year 2019-2020:

Brent Shea, City Auditor, has prepared the financial statement of accounts for the fiscal year period of July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020. The auditor will review his opinion with the Council.

747181:

Motion by Lee Ann Minton, seconded by Carl Sword to **approve the audit report given by Brent Shea for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020.** CARRIED 7-0 by roll call vote

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**Bills:****Bills to be Approved for Payment: \$49,690.62**

CMP Distributors, Inc.	\$ 1,242.00	Thermal Imagers for HPD
US Blue Book	\$ 2,022.82	Diaphragm & Pump Wheel Kit for WWTP
Big C Lumber	\$ 3,168.18	Building Materials for ALS Building #2
Brent Shea CPA	\$15,500.00	Annual Audit
BCBS of Michigan	\$27,757.62	Health Insurance Premiums for November

Bills to be Confirmed: \$5,354.53

Consumers Energy	\$ 1,814.12	Electricity Costs for WPP
Consumers Energy	\$ 3,540.41	Electricity costs for WWTP

747182:

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

Department Head reports for September 2020:**747183:**

Motion by Rick Moreno, seconded by Carl Sword to **accept the Department Head Reports for September 2020, and place on file**, CARRIED: 7-0 by roll call vote.

Accounts Payable Report for September 2020:**747184:**

Motion by Lee Ann Minton, seconded by Darlene VandeZande to **accept the Accounts Payable Report for September 2020, and place on file**, CARRIED: 7-0 by roll call vote.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

- N. Maple Grove Phase 1 Construction: The project is substantially complete. Concrete work, paving and turf re-establishment have been finished. Other final actions such as sewer line debris vacuuming and concrete collars have also been completed. A walk-through was conducted as part of the October 13th monthly progress meeting. The main item noted was water pooling in a low spot on Taney; this area will be drained by installing a small catch basin on the spot. The removal of the traffic control signs and the final demobilization of the construction site should occur next week, prior to the contract completion date. The upcoming pay application should be the last.
- With the removal of the pandemic executive orders, concurrent health code regulations remain in effect which continue to prevent holding in-person Council meetings. The State legislature passed a law amending the Open Meetings Act to allow virtual meetings to the end of the year and retroactive to the beginning of the pandemic. Meetings will continue to be conducted via teleconference until such time as the health regulations permit a return to in-person meetings.
- The Murdock Trail Bridge rehabilitation project is now moving forward into the finalization of design. Our usual bridge engineer from Fleis & VandenBrink, Jon Moxey, has been promoted within the company, and Matt Johnson now has the project lead. Jay and I met with him this week and discussed the project elements and timeline. Bidding for the construction contract should occur in February, with construction projected to begin in June. The DNR is providing \$150,000 toward this project, with the City providing an identical match. The project includes a complete ADA-compatible trailhead area near the bridge.
- With the General Election on November 3rd only two weeks away, the plans are in place to conduct the election within the constraints of the pandemic guidelines. City staff is working diligently to process absentee and early voting requests. There may be a delay in when we may be able to schedule the Council Organizational meeting, due to the requirement to hold it on the Monday after the election is certified. The certification may take much longer this year.
- We are proceeding with repairs to the Library ceiling after a section of plaster fell out. The damage is being handled as an insurance claim.
- We received notification from the State Tax Commission that on October 20th, they are scheduled to consider the return of the Tax Roll to the City, which will close out the long process resulting from the sudden departure of our former Assessor due to her elevation to the State Tax Tribunal.
- The City's Bond Counsel advised that guidelines restrict bonding debt (on General Obligation Bonds) to 10% of the municipalities State Equalized Value. Though the Wastewater Bond is a Revenue Bond, we are near that limit. This leads me to be cautious before incurring additional long-term debt such as the prospective bond for the completion of the N. Maple Grove reconstruction. I tentatively recommend proceeding with a pay-as-we-go approach, using Act 51, Income Tax and LCSA revenues to complete the project in three phases over the next 7-9 years.

ADJOURNMENT:

747185:

Motion by Lee Ann Minton, seconded by Rick Moreno to **adjourn the meeting at 7:32 p.m.**

APPROVED: _____
Carmel Camp, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Jeaniene McClellan, City Clerk

REVIEWED BY: _____
Denis F. Jodis, City Attorney

Dated: _____