

CITY OF TECUMSEH
COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 20, 2009
TECUMSEH CITY HALL
7:30 P.M.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Pro-Tem Baker.

Mayor Pro-Tem Baker led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call was taken as follows:

PRESENT: Mayor Pro-Tem Baker, Council members Housekeeper, Johnson, Naugle,
VanAlstine and Wright.

ABSENT: Mayor Schmidt

Motion VanAlstine and seconded Johnson, that Mayor Schmidt be excused from this evenings' meeting, as he is out-of-county. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Pro-Tem Baker welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The Annual Tecumseh Police Department Report was given by Chief Mack Haun, who referred to written copies of the report given to Council in their meeting packets. Stats: Accidents, tickets and crime (misdemeanor and felony complaints) decreased significantly in 2008, and are at their lowest in 5 years; Personnel: Operated entire 2008 calendar year one sworn officer short, and half the year two sworn officers short, due to injuries; Equipment Improvements – (1) Stinger Spike Strip - was purchased in May – now there is one in every patrol car trunk; (2) Firearm Replacements - In June, all sidearm duty weapons carried by officers were replaced under the manufacturer's trade program. The replacements were due to age and number of rounds through the old guns; (3) Replaced Dispatch Recording System & Added Camera – New system is an 8 channel digital recorder and multiplexor. This allowed the department to add one additional camera in the lock-up/fingerprint area for officer safety, and (4) In-Car Camera System – upgraded from a VCR based system to a wireless digital system. Lastly, Chief Haun described a MIOC meeting he attended today. MIOC (Michigan Intelligence Operation Center) is comprised of FBI personnel, emergency managers, and state, county and local law enforcement officials and functions as an intelligence gatherer to guard against possible terrorist attacks or security breaches by collecting information from several sources. The agency, sometimes called the "Fusion Center", is typically called upon to provide top level security for large scale events. Mayor Pro-tem Baker thanked Mack for his excellent report.

Motion VanAlstine and seconded Wright to receive and place on file the Annual Report of the Police Department. Motion carried unanimously.

No one spoke during the public comment opportunity for items on this evenings' agenda.

Motion Wright and seconded VanAlstine, to receive and place on file the report of the City Manager. Kevin Welch added the following: (1) Item #3 under 8. New business – Resolution to appoint an ad hoc budget advisory committee – explained the following options: (a) proceed as normal – (entire Council could meet for several study sessions to manage FY 2010-11 budget

CITY OF TECUMSEH
COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 20, 2009
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7:30 P.M.

issues), or (b) adopt the resolution establishing the ad hoc committee, and appoint 3-4 Council members to serve. The ad hoc committee would submit recommendations to the entire City Council for consideration, or, (c) table the motion (if ad hoc committee not desired). (2) Referred to Retirement/Resignation letter received from Pat Sorise and submitted to Council this evening effective September 6th, 2009, noting that when Pat announced his retirement last week, he didn't know that Recreation Supervisor Sara Distelrath is not planning to return to work after the birth of her baby (in late October or early November). Kevin noted that a meeting has been scheduled this Wednesday with Pat, Sara and Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Chairman Larry Ash to address these transitional matters. (3) Displayed new City website that was up and running today, complimenting Marketing Coordinator Shelley Lim for doing a great job coordinating this project with our web developer and staff. Kevin noted that many of the tasks that used to be handled by our web developer (various postings) will be done by staff, following training. In addition to posting City Council information, the new site will accommodate the activities of other boards and commissions like the DDA, Planning Commission and Historic Preservation Commission (agendas, minutes and public notices). Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION

CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TECUMSEH RESOLVES: to adopt the Consent Agenda, approving, receiving and placing on file the following: (1) City Council minutes from regular and study session meetings held 7/6/09; (2) Report of the Police Department for June, 2009; (3) Report of the Emergency Services Department for June, 2009 and, (4) most recent bond rating from Standard and Poor's.

RESOLUTION was offered by Council member Naugle and supported by Council member VanAlstine. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

YES: VanAlstine, Wright, Baker, Housekeeper, Johnson and Naugle.

NO: None.

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

RESOLUTION

CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TECUMSEH RESOLVES: to approve the July 20, 2009 list of bills to be paid.

RESOLUTION was offered by Council member Housekeeper, and supported by Council member Naugle. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

YES: VanAlstine, Wright, Baker, Housekeeper, Johnson and Naugle.

NO: None.

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

CITY OF TECUMSEH
COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 20, 2009
TECUMSEH CITY HALL
7:30 P.M.

City Manager Kevin Welch explained that the Strategic Plan Council is being asked to consider this evening is the same one described at the study session held 7/6/09, noting that the next step will be to implement strategies and assign tasks. Goals identified were (1) Improve Roads, Infrastructure and Buildings; (2) Maintain Housing Values/Tax Base; (3) Economic Development, and (4) Quality of Life. Council member VanAlstine remarked that all the goals are interrelated. City Manager Kevin Welch concurred.

RESOLUTION

CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TECUMSEH RESOLVES: to adopt the 2009 City of Tecumseh Strategic Plan and to authorize the City Manager to begin implementation of the Goals, Objectives and Strategies.

RESOLUTION was offered by Council member Naugle and supported by Council member VanAlstine.

YES: Baker, Housekeeper, Johnson, Naugle, VanAlstine and Wright.

NO: None.

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

City Manager Kevin Welch concurred with Mayor Pro-Tem Baker that Council could select from the following 3 options concerning Item #3 under 8. New business: (1) remove item from the agenda; (2) table the matter, or (3) proceed as proposed. Council member Johnson spoke in support of appointing an ad hoc committee, and Council member VanAlstine spoke against this measure.

Motion Housekeeper and seconded VanAlstine, to remove item 3 under 8. New business – Resolution Re: 2010/11 Fiscal Budget Ad Hoc Committee, from this evening's agenda. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

YES: Wright, Baker, Housekeeper, Naugle and VanAlstine.

NO: Johnson.

MOTION CARRIED.

RESOLUTION

CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TECUMSEH RESOLVES: to accept and place on file the Supplemental Actuarial Valuation dated January 29, 2009, addressing possible changes to the Death Benefit Before Retirement provision in the pension ordinance, and further, this resolution does not change the current benefit.

RESOLUTION was offered by Council member VanAlstine, and supported by Council member Wright.

CITY OF TECUMSEH
COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 20, 2009
TECUMSEH CITY HALL
7:30 P.M.

YES: Baker, Housekeeper, Johnson, Naugle, VanAlstine and Wright.

NO: None.

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

City Manager Kevin Welch explained that we've been approached by the Community Arts of Tecumseh organization (known as "CAT"), requesting that we allow them to utilize the building located at Smith Park. Members of the newly organized 501c3 group present were Ron Frenzen, Jean Lash, and Martha Melcher. City Marketing Coordinator Shelley Lim spoke on behalf of the group, explaining that their vision is to partner with the City to bring artists together and offer art and music lessons to people of all ages beginning this October, noting that CAT's goal is to eventually have their own facility. A meeting will be held this Thursday, July 22nd, 2009 at 7:30 am at the West Chicago First Federal Bank hosted by Wendy Pizana, to begin planning fundraisers. Jean Lash remarked that even in hard times, there is a need for parents to involve their children in the arts, noting that the Summer Art Program held at the Smith Park facility experienced the highest participation rate ever this year.

RESOLUTION

CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TECUMSEH RESOLVES: to allow and encourage the City Manager to continue to discuss a plan to utilize the Smith House with the Community Arts of Tecumseh organization (CAT).

RESOLUTION was offered by Council member VanAlstine and supported by Council member Naugle. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

YES: Baker, Housekeeper, Johnson, Naugle, VanAlstine and Wright.

NO: None.

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

City Manager Kevin Welch explained that the Wrong Way needs a new Entertainment Permit for their pool leagues on Tuesday night. Council member Naugle asked if the proposed permit would cover any other activities. Kevin replied no.

RESOLUTION

CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TECUMSEH RESOLVES: to approve the request from the Wrong way Pub, Inc. for a new Entertainment Permit to be held in conjunction with the 2009 Class C licensed business located at 107 S. Evans Street, Tecumseh, MI 49286.

RESOLUTION was offered by Council member Johnson, and supported by Council member Wright. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

YES: Baker, Housekeeper, Johnson, Naugle, VanAlstine and Wright.

NO: None.

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

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RESOLUTION

CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TECUMSEH RESOLVES: to reappoint Joseph Morgan to serve another 3-year term on the Zoning Board of Appeals, expiring in August, 2012.

RESOLUTION was offered by Council member VanAlstine, and supported by Council member Naugle.

YES: Baker, Housekeeper, Johnson, Naugle, VanAlstine and Wright.

NO: None.

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

During the public comment opportunity for items not on these evenings' agenda, Kara Boden of 700 Conklin Dr., questioned the status of the proposed CanAm bottling facility. City Manager Kevin Welch replied that nothing has changed since he last reported to Council two weeks ago, noting that the company still needs financing and State approval.

Motion Naugle and seconded Wright, to adjourn to closed session as allowable under Section 8 (d) & (e) of Public Act 267 of 1976, at 8:07 pm. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

YES: Baker, Housekeeper, Johnson, Naugle, VanAlstine and Wright.

NO: None.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The regular meeting reconvened at 8:25 pm.

Council member Johnson congratulated the City for being named by CNN Money magazine as one of the top 100 places to live in America, remarking that Tecumseh is more than deserving of this title.

City Attorney Laura Schaedler announced that she will be out-of-county July 22 – 30, 2009, and be attending a seminar on 7/23/09 concerning making theatres profitable during hard economic times.

Motion VanAlstine and seconded Wright, to adjourn the meeting at 8:29 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Jack Baker, Mayor Pro-Tem

Laura Caterina, City Clerk