

## REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – April 14, 2014

The City Council of the City of La Grange met in Regular Session on Monday, April 14, 2014 in the City Hall Council Chambers with the following members present: Mayor Janet Moerbe, Councilman Harvey Busch, Mayor Pro tem John Cernosek, Councilman Pat Janca, Councilman Calvin Kuehn, Councilman Arnold Romberg, Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn, and Councilmember Violet Zbranek. Councilman John Eilert was absent. Staff present: City Manager Shawn Raborn, Chief of Police Jackie Skelton, City Secretary Lisa Oltmann, and Finance Director Brett Wolff. Visitors: Deborah Bradley, Jeff Wick, Greg Trlicek with Trlicek & Co., P.C. and Deacon Mike Meismer.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Deacon Mike Meismer, of Sacred Heart Catholic Church gave the invocation.

The first item was a presentation of the City of La Grange Annual Audit Report. Mr. Greg Trlicek reviewed the audit for 2013-2014 with council. Mr. Trlicek reported that the city is in good financial standing. He also thanked the city staff for their assistance while the auditors were gathering information for the audit.

The next item was to discuss and or consider acceptance of the City of La Grange Audit Report. **MOTION** Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn, **SECOND** Councilman Arnold Romberg to accept the audit report. Motion carried. **INSERT #1**

The next item was to discuss and or consider authorizing staff to auction items that are obsolete and are no longer being used. Duncan Auctioneers will be holding an area-wide auction on April 26, 2014 and they have invited the City of La Grange to participate again this year. We have had good luck in the past with getting top dollar for our used and obsolete equipment by selling them through Duncan and staff is recommending that we do so again this year. This year items that staff would like to sell at the auction include a 2004 Ford F350 1-ton dually w/flat bed with 72,396 miles as well as a gas powered pressure washer purchased in 1998. **MOTION** Councilmember Weishuhn, **SECOND** Councilmember Violet Zbranek to approve these items for auction. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider awarding bid for the 2014 Seal Coating Project to H&C Construction. Staff is recommending that the 2014 seal coating and reclaiming project be awarded to H&C Construction in the amount of \$283,665.54. In addition to this amount, there will possibly be some additional work done on ribbon curb/gutter lines. This would be in addition to the bid amount of \$283,665.54. **MOTION** Mayor Pro tem John J. Cernosek, **SECOND** Councilman Pat Janca to approve staff's recommendation. Motion carried. **INSERT #2**

The next item was to discuss and or consider a request from Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church to close the 800 block of N. Franklin on May 18<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. A request was received from Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church for this closure for their 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Homecoming Picnic. Staff recommends approval of this request. **MOTION** Councilmember Zbranek, **SECOND** Councilman Romberg to approve staff's recommendation. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider authorizing staff to proceed with the construction contract with Don Krugger Construction to renovate the Casino Hall. In consultation with Don Kruger Construction, the Construction Manager on the project, bids for the renovation of the Casino Hall have been submitted and reviewed. The Construction Manager has established a guaranteed maximum price for the renovation of the Casino Hall at \$3,734,997. A review of the process that was utilized to obtain the guaranteed maximum price and history of the project is included in these minutes. The contractor has also established a 13 month construction schedule. The project will be funded with current cash reserves in the Capital Improvement Fund that are available for this construction project. City Manager Raborn reviewed a spreadsheet that showed the current and projected fund balance in the Capital Improvement Fund over the next several years. The renovated facility will serve the community as the La Grange Visitors Bureau, Performing Arts Center, Economic Development and Main Street Offices and rental space for weddings, receptions and other community events. Mayor Moerbe also reviewed timeline regarding past actions regarding this facility. This project actually began in 2006. Since that time, there have been many presentations made to civic/community organizations regarding the plans to renovate the building. The City has also applied for enhancement grants twice to assist with the project; however we were unsuccessful in obtaining either grant. **MOTION** Councilman Romberg, **SECOND** Councilman Calvin Kuehn to authorize staff to proceed with the construction contract with Don Krugger Construction to renovate the Casino Hall. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider a preliminary request regarding replatting of Ellinger Road Subdivision. **MOTION** Councilmember Zbranek, **SECOND** Councilman Romberg to approve this preliminary replat request. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider approval of minutes for March, 2014. **MOTION** Councilman Romberg, **SECOND** Councilmember Weishuhn to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

#### City Council Committee Reports

The Main Street Merchants meeting will be held on Thursday, April 24<sup>th</sup>.  
The Beautification Committee awarded Yard of the Month to Geralyn Vasut at 622 S. Franklin.

#### Chief of Police Report

There were no major incidents/problem with the MS150 which was held this past weekend. There were approximately 50,000 people in La Grange for this event.

City Manager Report

During Spring Clean Up there were over 400 loads of brush picked up. Due to the stormy weather since that time, the City of La Grange continues to pick up brush free of charge at this time.

Sales tax was down for the month of March compared to last year; however it is still up compared to the same time period of the previous five plus years.

At 6:50 PM a **MOTION** was made by Councilmember Weishuhn, with a **SECOND** by Councilmember Zbranek that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.

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Lisa Oltmann, City Secretary

These Minutes Approved by City Council on:

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Janet Moerbe, Mayor

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – April 28, 2014**

The City Council of the City of La Grange met in Regular Session on Monday, April 28, 2014 in the City Hall Council Chambers with the following members present: Councilman Harvey Busch, Mayor Pro tem John Cernosek, Councilman John Eilert, Councilman Pat Janca, Councilman Calvin Kuehn, Councilman Arnold Romberg, Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn, and Councilmember Violet Zbranek. Mayor Janet Moerbe and Councilmember Kathy Weishuhn were absent. Staff present: City Manager Shawn Raborn, and City Secretary Lisa Oltmann. Visitors: Deborah Bradley, and Jeff Wick.

Mayor Pro tem John Cernosek presided over the meeting.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Pastor Dennis Hill, of The Remnant Church gave the invocation.

The first item was to discuss and or consider rate request proposed by CenterPoint Energy Entex. The City has received a request from CenterPoint Energy Entex to

increase the current base residential rate. Entex is proposing to increase the base residential gas rate by \$1.00 per month effective May 30, 2014. Entex is framing the issue as a gas reliability infrastructure program (“GRIP”) adjustment and not as a rate increase. The end result is that the customer bill will increase from the current rate of \$16.89 to \$17.89 per month. This item was for discussion purposes tonight and will be brought back at the next meeting for formal consideration. City Manager Raborn reviewed the rate adjustment and the proposed rate schedule with council.

The next item was to discuss and or consider amending the FY 2013-2014 Equipment Fund to purchase the new mower for the Parks Department. Staff is requesting council approval to amend the Equipment Fund Budget in the amount of \$13,000 for the purchase of a new mower for the Parks Department. The Dixie Chopper mowers that we currently utilize in the Parks Department are about to experience a significant price increase due to new emission requirements and we can purchase a current year model now before the price increase. Staff was planning to include a new mower in the FY 2014-15 budget and we will begin the note payable in the new budget. The current balance in the Equipment Fund is \$405,993. **MOTION** Councilman John Eilert, **SECOND** Councilmember Violet Zbranek to approve staff’s request. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider preliminary request to replat property in the 800 Block of E. Fannin St. A request was received from BSF Unlimited Series, LLC & Charles Ferguson, Power of Attorney for Dorothy Jarmon to replat property owned by these 2 individuals in the 800 block of E. Fannin into one tract. It is their desire to sell the lots to an individual in order to have a home placed there. Each individual lot on its own is below the required lot size. Staff sent letters to all property owners within 200 feet of the boundaries of the proposed lot. There were a total of thirteen (13) letters sent out. Of these thirteen (13) there were four (4) returned which were in favor of the replat request. One (1) was opposed to the replat request, and there were eight (8) owners which did not return their letters. If combined the lot would have a total square footage of over 10,000 square feet. **MOTION** Councilmember Violet Zbranek, **SECOND** Councilman Calvin Kuehn to approve this preliminary replat request. Motion carried.

The next item was to discuss and or consider rescheduling the May 26<sup>th</sup> City Council Meeting. **MOTION** Councilmember Violet Zbranek, **SECOND** Councilman Pat Janca to approve a resolution to cancel the regular meeting set for Monday, May 26, 2014 and to have a special meeting called for Tuesday, May 27, 2014. Motion carried.

#### City Manager Update

It is anticipated that the new city website will go live next week. Construction will begin on the Casino Hall next week.

The Main Street Merchants Meeting held last week was a success. Thanks to all the council members who were able to attend.

At 6:15 PM a **MOTION** was made by Councilman Kuehn, with a **SECOND** by Councilmember Zbranek that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.

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Lisa Oltmann, City Secretary

These Minutes Approved by City Council on:

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John J. Cernosek, Mayor Pro tem