**CITY OF ST. CLAIR**

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

**MONDAY, APRIL 1, 2013 ‑ 7:00 P.M.**

**BERNARD E KUHN MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 547 N CARNEY DRIVE**

Mayor Pro Tem LaPorte convened the Regular Meeting of the City Council to order in the Council Room of the Municipal Building at 7:00 pm.

PRESENT: Mayor Pro Tem LaPorte, Members Burns, Foley, Kindsvater, Krebs, McCartney.

ABSENT: Mayor Cedar.

ADMINISTRATION: James T Downey, Jr; Kane, Clemons, Joachim & Downey; Michael E. Booth, City Superintendent; Janice Winn, City Clerk.

AUDIENCE: There were six persons in attendance.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** was recited.

Kindsvater moved, McCartney seconded, CARRIED, to record the absence of Mayor Cedar as excused.

**AGENDA AMENDMENTS** – None.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Kindsvater moved, Foley seconded, CARRIED, to approve Consent Agenda item A., as presented.

1. City Council Minutes of March 18, 2013 Regular Meeting: Approve

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**Hearing on City Election Date Changes**

Mayor Pro Tem LaPorte opened the public hearing at 7:02 pm to hear public comment related to changing the regular election schedule for city offices and ballot issues.

City Clerk explained that PA 523 of 2012 allows the city to change local elections from odd-year elections to even-year elections, a move that could save the city approximately $5,000 per election. If adopted, the change would take effect January 1, 2014.

Councilmembers Foley and Kindsvater commented on the cost savings benefit to the city of the change was approved, and Councilmember Burns noted the one-time extension of the term of office of local officials elected in November, 2013 from January 1, 2016 to January 1, 2017.

No one else from the audience spoke for or against changing the city’s regular election schedule for city offices from odd-year elections to even-year elections.

Kindsvater moved, McCartney seconded, CARRIED, to close the public hearing at 7:03 pm.

**ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

**Ordinance Introduction – Amendment to Zoning Ordinance to Change the Zoning Classification of Property, 500 Fred Moore Hwy, Special Police Building**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ST. CLAIR, ST. CLAIR COUNTY, MICHIGAN TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE, ARTICLE 4, SECTION 4.2, ZONING DISTRICT MAP, TO RE-CLASSIFY CERTAIN LANDS FROM P, R & PF, PARKS, RECREATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES TO MD-2 MIXED USE DEVELOPMENT (RESIDENTIAL/COMMERCIAL)

Council received the Planning Commission recommendation to change the zoning classification of the former Special Police Building, 500 Fred Moore Hwy, from Parks, Recreation and Public Facilities to Mixed Use District. The property was recently split off from the Pine Shores Golf Course parcel, meets the criteria to support a zoning change, and the proposed use for retail sales is compatible with the surrounding area.

Burns moved, Kindsvater seconded, CARRIED, to introduce the Special Police Building, 500 Fred Moore Hwy, P,R & PF Parks Recreation and Public Facilities, to MD-2 Mixed Use Development District Zoning Ordinance amendment.

**Resolution No. 13-04 – Changing City Elections from Odd- to Even-Numbered Years**

RESOLVED, that the City of St Clair RESOLVES to hold its regular elections for local offices and ballot issues on the even-year November election date and its primary elections for local offices on the even-year August election date, effective January 1, 2014.

Foley moved, McCartney seconded, CARRIED, to adopt Resolution No. 13-04, the City Elections Odd-Number to Even-Number Years Change Resolution. Ayes: LaPorte, McCartney, Burns, Foley, Kindsvater, Krebs. Nays: None. RESOLUTION ADOPTED

**REPORTS FROM ADMINISTRATION**

**City Superintendent**

Yard Waste Collection– Waste Management will begin seasonal yard waste collection services on April 3, 2013. The weekly collection program runs through November 28, 2013.

Lawn Maintenance Bids – Bids are being accepted thru April 8, 2013 for mowing/trimming and lawn maintenance of city parks and properties for the 2013 and 2014 seasons. Modifications were made to the specifications this year to address problems with blowing grass on headstones and trimming at the cemetery.

**City Attorney** – None.

**City Departments** – None.

**Authority, Board, Commission, Committee Chairman or Council Representative**

Harbor Commission (McCartney) - Council Representative McCartney communicated concerns with the low water depth at the marina boat ramp which could create problems for some boats to launch, and threaten the $30,000 annual boat ramp revenue. Historically low water levels have caused less than a 3’ extension from the end of the floating dock to the water’s edge, prompting city and county officials to look at possible ramp extension options and funding solutions. A $24,000 proposal to permanently extend the ramp 20’ with steel sheeting is being evaluated along with other temporary options by the harbormaster. It may be necessary to move quickly to get the work done once measurements are taken and a design option is selected because of the arrival of the boating season. Councilmember Burns suggested that Michigan DNR or US Army Corps of Engineers permits may be needed before construction can begin, or that a consulting engineer with expertise in this area may be able to assist the city with the project. More information will be provided to council following a meeting with city, county, and state officials.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS** – None.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Sons of the American Legion Memorial Park Project**

Council received correspondence from the Sons of the American Legion, Squadron 382, requesting permission to install two memorial headstones honoring St Clair soldiers Sp/5 Robert Lowe and Sp/5 Paul Thomas Hurt III, Purple Heart recipients from the Vietnam era. The headstones would flank either side of the memorial in place for Medal of Honor recipient Dewayne T Williams. A local Eagle Scout project will be coordinated to enhance the Memorial Park site with landscape stone and plantings. All costs associated with the project will be paid by the organization.

Foley moved, Kindsvater seconded, CARRIED, to approve the Sons of the American Legion Memorial Park project request.

**Schedule Special City Council/Recreation Commission Joint Meeting**

A Special Joint City Council/Recreation Commission workshop was scheduled on Monday, April 22, 2013 at 6:00 pm to discuss parks and recreation goals and objectives.

**CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS** – March 21 & 28, 2013

Check registers listing the bills for the period ending March 21, 2013 (check numbers 34380 -> 34417), and March 28, 2013 (check numbers 34418 -> 34449) were presented for Council review.

Kindsvater moved, McCartney seconded, CARRIED, to approve payment of March 21 & 28, 2013 Claims and Accounts as submitted.

**PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS** – None.

**MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ADJOURNMENT** at 7:23 pm.

Janice Winn, City Clerk Mike LaPorte, Mayor Pro Tem