

**CITY OF AU GRES
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2024
7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Mayor Jon Sanford, Dan Heinrich, Jane Barbour, John Popovich, Joe Warr

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: City Manager Dale Wiltse, Bobbie Burke, Brandon Murphy, Sarah Dettloff

1). CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Jon Sanford called meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2). PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor led City Council and audience into the Pledge of Allegiance.

3). ROLL CALL

Roll call noted all members present.

4). MINUTES

MOTION (Heinrich) to approve October 1, 2024 regular meeting minutes as presented; support (Popovich). Motion carried.

5). SET AGENDA

MOTION (Warr) to approve agenda as presented; support (Heinrich). Motion carried.

6). CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: None

7). AU GRES CITY POLICE CHIEF REPORT

Police Chief Chuck Allen was not present tonight but had October monthly stat sheets to present.

8. OLD BUSINESS:

8.1 Bob Wiltse Zoning Issue

City Manager wanted to inform City Council that since we tabled this issue for further information and until the November City Council meeting, he wanted to give an update on situation. All tenants have moved out already and City only received half the information that was requested. City was contemplating a trial period to allow for this type of temporary housing, but since it failed, no other action to discuss and City will not be pursuing another trial period in the future.

9). NEW BUSINESS:

9.1 City Property Insurance Renewal

MOTION (Warr) to approve city's property insurance renewal from 11/1/24-10/31/2025 with additional increases; support (Popovich). Motion carried.

9.2 Resolution of Support- Housing Grant

MOTION (Heinrich) to approve resolution of support to apply for \$500,000 to the MI Neighborhood Grant Application with a city match of \$1,000,000; support (Barbour). Motion carried.

9.3 Closed Session- Campground Manager Evaluation

MOTION (Popovich) to enter into closed session at 7:18 p.m.; support (Warr). Motion carried.

MOTION (Warr) to approve a raise of \$125/week (from 800/week to 925/week) from April 1-October 31 along with a \$4000 bonus to Park Manager Chris Ireland for job performance for the 2024 park season; support (Popovich). Motion carried.

MOTION (Popovich) to enter back into regular session at 7:30 p.m.; support (Warr). Motion carried.

10). CITY MANAGER REPORT

- Presidential Election went smoothly and wanted to thank LaVonne and all election workers for a great job!
- City ballfields still have not been tiled; contractor has not shown up.
- Ballfield group received new fence and backstop from Moffatt Township.
- Halloween in the Park was again a huge success!
- Christmas Trees will be arriving Monday, November 25 to decorate inside the City Park.
- Christmas Parade and Tree Lighting will be Saturday, December 7.

- Old Fashion Christmas will be held inside chapel on Sunday, December 8 at 2 & 4 PM.
- Holiday Auction will be held at Four Ones Landing on Thursday, December 5.

11). COMMENTS

11.1 Citizens:

Burke: Inquiring on McDonald's property: City Manager informed her it was sold to a group of private investors that will be leasing it to the local post office once renovations complete. Inquiring on old Bacardi bar: City has no idea what they are doing since no permits have been pulled.

11.2 Mayor:

Thanks for a great election! Thanks, HIP, for a great event and great turnout! ACE Group and City will be getting ready for Christmas Parade and Christmas in the Park event next month. Congratulations to Dr McKinley on being in business for 50 years!

11.3 Council Members:

Popovich: Nothing to report- nice to see great things happening in Au Gres!

Warr: Positive feedback and great things happening! Looking forward to the holidays!

Barbour: Heard Post Office fell through and City Manager had answers for her immediately; still going through but has been a long process with the Post Office. Looking for a family in need for Christmas- would like to sponsor.

Heinrich: HIP was great! Can City do anything on the marijuana smell from building across from Pier 23 gas station?

11). PAYMENT OF BILLS

MOTION (Warr) to approve payment of bills as submitted; support (Heinrich). Motion carried.

12). APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

MOTION (Warr) to approve September financial statements as submitted; support (Popovich). Motion carried.

13). ADJOURNMENT

MOTION (Popovich) to adjourn meeting at 8:00 p.m.; support (Heinrich). Motion carried.

Jon Sanford, Mayor

LaVonne Pritchard, City Clerk