

**CITY OF AU GRES
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 2025
7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Mayor Jon Sanford, Dan Heinrich, Jane Barbour, John Popovich, Joe Warr
ABSENT: None
ALSO PRESENT: City Manager Dale Wiltse, Kurt & Joyce Humerickhouse, George & Ruth Wissmiller, Melody Renshaw, George & Ruth Wissmiller, James Roszczewski, Sarah Dettloff (entered late)

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 (Warr) to approve February 4, 2025 regular meeting minutes as presented; support (Heinrich). Motion carried.

5). SET AGENDA

MOTION (Heinrich) to approve agenda with addition of 9.6 Joyce Humerickhouse letter; support (Warr). Motion carried.

6). CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

7). AU GRES CITY POLICE CHIEF REPORT

Police Chief Chuck Allen wasn't present tonight but had February stats sheet for City Council.

8. OLD BUSINESS: None

9). NEW BUSINESS:

9.1 Public Hearing to Purchase 5 Lots in Southcourt Estates Subdivision

MOTION (Warr) to open public hearing at 7:10 pm to hear public comments on the City purchasing five lots in the Southcourt Estates Subdivision contingent if City receives MSHDA grant on housing; support (Barbour). Motion carried.

George Wissmiller inquired on this project. City Manager explained that the City will purchase lots 15, 16, 24, 25, and 26 for a total of \$55,700 in the Southcourt Estates Subdivision only if City is successful in obtaining MSHDA Housing grant. The plan is to have 3 different styles from 1100-1400 square foot homes with garages to help with the housing shortage by putting 5 homes on the market to sell as attainable priced homes. City will get our money back when home sells and able to put on tax roll. No additional public comments.

9.2 Close Public Hearing

MOTION (Popovich) to close public hearing at 7:18 pm; support (Barbour). Motion carried.

9.3 Sign Purchase Agreement Pending Grant Approval

MOTION (Barbour) to sign purchase agreement for five lots in the Southcourt Estate Subdivision pending grant approval from MSDHA for the price of \$55,700; support (Warr). Motion carried.

9.4 Budget Adjustments 2024/25 year

MOTION (Warr) to approve budget adjustments as presented; support (Barbour). Motion carried.

9.5 MML Capital Conference

MML Capital Conference is set for March 18-19, 2025 in Lansing. Let City Hall know if interested in attending.

9.6 Joyce Humerickhouse Letter

Discussion followed in regards to all items listed in letter.

10). CITY MANAGER REPORT

- City is moving forward with applying for the MSHDA Grant.
- City will apply to the Arenac Community Fund for a ballfield shed/concession stand in the amount of \$10,600.
- Need to come up with ideas to apply to the SCIT 2% Grant due March 31, 2025. Thinking of starting up marine patrol (Police Chief Charles Allen is marine certified) and buying a boat to patrol waters was one idea.

11). COMMENTS

11.1 Citizens:

George Wissmiller: Speaking for the group, they are opposed to the campground expansion. Can't see any benefits to it, just more problems.

Ruth Wissmiller: Did you survey the local residents to see if they are for park expansion? City Manager surveyed the park patrons but not the residents.

Jim Roszczewski: Need to patrol park more this summer; lots of kids driving golf carts.

Melody Renshaw: Lights are on at basketball/tennis courts; please reset timer.

Joyce Humerickhouse: Au Gres State boat launch is not on State map; have to pay to advertise and think this is very important to market/advertise and City should do.

11.2 Mayor:

Thanked DPW staff for all there hard work this winter in snow removal!

11.3 Council Members:

Popovich: Attended AGS School meeting on the proposed fieldhouse; invited Superintendent Chris Ming to our Council meetings. Also attended the Arenac County Board of Commissioners meeting; will continue to go to these meetings and report back.

Heinrich: City crew doing a great job snow plowing! School fieldhouse idea; awfully big idea for such a small school!

11). PAYMENT OF BILLS

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

12). APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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

13). ADJOURNMENT

MOTION (Popovich) to adjourn meeting at 9:00 p.m.; support (Barbour). Motion carried.

Jon Sanford, Mayor

LaVonne Pritchard, City Clerk