

**CITY OF AU GRES
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 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, Arenac County Commissioner Bobbie Burke

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 (Barbour) to approve February 6, 2024 regular meeting minutes as presented; support (Heinrich). Motion carried.

5). SET AGENDA

MOTION (Popovich) to set agenda as presented; support (Barbour). Motion carried.

6). CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

Mayor asked for public comments for DNR Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant Application. This grant application of \$400,000 will go towards the overall cost of the Riverfront Campground Expansion and be used for a new bathhouse and amenities. City will do a percent match towards this grant. No public comments were made.

7). AU GRES CITY POLICE CHIEF REPORT

Police Chief Charles Allen was present tonight and had February 2024 stats included in council packet. Please note that he did start reporting all assists to the County Sheriff Department and also calls the Arenac County Sheriff Department assisted and/or handled in the city limits. He also mentioned that there will be an insert in the next water billing going out end of April on blight enforcement and that City will be getting dumpsters for city residents to use to clean up their yard and/or blight.

8. OLD BUSINESS: None

9). NEW BUSINESS

9.1 Open Public Hearing/Sale of Property

MOTION (Warr) to open public hearing at 7:10 p.m. to hear comments of the sale of 3 city lots in the Industrial Park; support (Barbour). Motion carried.

9.2 Public Comments

City Manager informed Council that ATD is offering \$15,000 for 2 lots contiguous to their business with no infrastructure offered and land locked parcels and John Rollins is offering \$15,000 for one lot with infrastructure to build pole building for storage. For now, ATD is willing to let disc golf course remain on these lots (2 holes) with no plans of future expansion; just a back entrance driveway connecting all parcels together. No public comments were made.

9.3 Close Public Hearing

MOTION (Popovich) to close public hearing at 7:15 p.m.; support (Warr). Motion carried.

9.4 Council Action/Sale of Property

MOTION (Barbour) to approve sale of 3 lots in the Industrial Park: Parcel #200-001-000-006-02 and 200-001-000-006-03 to ATD for \$15,000 total for both lots and Parcel #200-001-000-006-07 to John Rollins for \$15,000; support (Heinrich). Ayes: Heinrich, Sanford, Barbour, Warr, Popovich. Motion carried.

9.5 Budget Adjustments 2023/34 Year

MOTION (Heinrich) to approve budget adjustments as presented for the 2023/24 fiscal year; support (Popovich). Motion carried.

9.6 MML Capital Conference

MML Capital Conference is March 12-13, 2024 this year at the Lansing Center in Lansing. City Manager looked at agenda and planning on not going. If any council member would like to attend, get ahold of City Hall to register.

9.7 Truck Bids

City Manager still taking bids and not finalized yet; table for April meeting.

9.8 Resolution of Support

MOTION (Barbour) to approve resolution of support for the DNR Natural Resources Grant Application; support (Warr). Motion carried.

10). CITY MANAGER REPORT

- Planning Commission is developing an Agriculture Labor Camp Ordinance and Short-Term Rental Ordinance. Becoming a problem in town and City needs to have an ordinance to regulate. Biggest issues are parking and occupancy limits. John Popovich: allow short term rentals with control. Agricultural labor camp ordinance set up to be on the farm they are working on only; will regulate the migrant workers coming up to work in the area. Will have rough draft ordinances of both later for City Council review.
- Working with Republic Waste on blight elimination program that Chuck talked about. Hoping to get 2-3 dumpsters for couple weeks to help residents get rid of blight issues in their yards; more information to follow with insert in next water bills.
- Park expansion project moving forward this spring.
- Pavilion repairs are scheduled to start March 2024.
- Post Office is trying to work a deal with the McDonald's investors.
- Chapel repairs- applied for \$10,000 ACF Maser Historical grant to refurbish floors, repair windows and upgrade electrical. Also applied to Consumer Energy "Put Your Town on the Map" grant towards this project as well.
- Fireworks Raffle/Trivia Night is set for April 8 at Ali's.

11). COMMENTS

11.1 Citizens:

Burke: Any word on the Lodge hotel/restaurant? City Manager answered that April 1 is expected opening date for hotel and restaurant.

11.2 Mayor: Thanked Dale for the research he did to set up these proposed Ordinances. Great job LaVonne and all election workers for the recent Presidential Primary Election held!

11.3 Council Members:

Heinrich: Will be glad to have pavilion done and looked forward to these improvements.

Warr: Working with Republic on blight and spring clean up is a great idea! If need volunteer group to help lift or haul away, he would be willing to help out. Agrees that ordinances need to be set up; short-term rentals need to be restrictive somewhat.

Popovich: None

Barbour: None

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 (Barbour) to adjourn meeting at 8:10 p.m.; support (Popovich). Motion carried.

