

**CITY OF AU GRES
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 2, 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 (Warr) to approve March 5, 2024 regular meeting minutes as presented; support (Heinrich).
Motion carried.

5). SET AGENDA

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

6). CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

Burke: Had meeting with Health Department and they reported some of these diseases that have been eradicated are now back like measles and tuberculous with all the illegals crossing the border. When city develops short-term rental ordinance, don't know if it is discrimination but can we put in there US citizens only. City Manager will check into.

7). AU GRES CITY POLICE CHIEF REPORT

Chuck Allen present tonight and passed out March stats sheet. Very quiet month.

8. OLD BUSINESS:

8.1 Truck Bids

Waiting on quote from Monroe Truck; table until next month.

9). NEW BUSINESS

9.1 Resolutions-1% Administration Fee & Delinquency Fees

MOTION (Barbour) to pass 1% administration fee to be imposed on the 2024 summer and winter tax roll along with a 4% penalty on summer 2024 taxes and 3% penalty on winter 2024 taxes if paid after the due date; support (Heinrich). Motion carried.

9.2 Farmer's Market

City Manager talking with Stephanie Wentworth from Northeast Michigan Regional Farm Market about taking over our City farm market. They would run and have their own set of rules and regulations and do not allow crafts, pampered chef, etc so some of our vendors will not be allowed to participate. Stephanie feels that with this group in charge, we should be able to pick up new vendors with farm market items and they would be willing to come to Au Gres. In past years, the City charged \$35 per Friday to hold the farm market (approximately \$600 in revenue). This group does not pay any fees at the other spots they hold in Tawas and Oscoda and they do not want to in Au Gres. City Council will be fine with no fee and letting this group take over the Farm Market for the 2024 season. Dale will let Stephanie Wentworth know our decision and they will proceed.

9.3 Review Agricultural Labor Camp Ordinance

The proposed ordinance will address migrant workers only and has been reviewed by the Planning Commission. Two changes that Planning Commission would like to see is adding in maximum square footage or occupancy number and removal of structure if abandoned or not in use for a period of time. City Manager will get to City Attorney for review and will need to hold public hearing and adopt.

MOTION (Popovich) to move forward with changes to Agricutal Labor Camp Ordinance; support (Barbour). Motion carried.

10). CITY MANAGER REPORT

- Park expansion project is moving forward; City submitted Mi DNR Trust Fund Grant for \$400,000 for Phase II for new bathhouse, paving, driveway, etc.
- Pavilion Repairs: scheduled to start April 8 with equipment being hauled in Monday and materials on Tuesday.
- Consumer Energy Grant: Au Gres has been selected 1 of the top 10 finalists. Top 3 receive monetary award. Presentation will be made at the CEDAM conference scheduled for April 29. Grant will be for KinderPlatz Park and chapel improvements to include electrical, flooring, windows, etc.
- During the current water billing cycle of November/December it was discovered that city had a massive water leak with 45% loss from water purchased. City staff discovered water leak on Midshipman Drive where a curb stop was hit and leaking. Repair was made by Bilacic Trucking but it continued to show we still had a leak somewhere else. It was discovered yesterday that water valve on corner of Michigan Avenue/Fannie Street is leaking. Water repair scheduled for Monday, April 8.
- City of Standish received \$958,000 for a hiking/nature walk to be put in at the proposed new fairground's location on US-23.
- Fireworks Raffle/Trivia night scheduled for April 8 at Ali's.

11). COMMENTS

11.1 Citizens:

11.2 Mayor: Thanked LaVonne & Dale for preparing budget and DPW workers for their due diligence in searching for the water leak.

11.3 Council Members:

Warr: Thanked LaVonne & Dale for budget preparations.

Heinrich: Looking forward to pavilion remodeling! We have a great park manager and glad to see he was able to remove ceiling.

11). PAYMENT OF BILLS

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

12). APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

MOTION (Warr) to approve February financial statements as submitted; support (Barbour). Motion carried.

13). ADJOURNMENT

MOTION (Heinrich) to adjourn meeting at 7:55 p.m.; support (Popovich). Motion carried.

Jon Sanford, Mayor

LaVonne Pritchard, City Clerk