

**CITY OF AU GRES
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, JULY 11, 2023
7:00 P.M.**

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

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: City Manager Dale Wiltse, Bobbe 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 June 6, 2023 two Special City Council meetings and June 6, 2023 regular meeting minutes as presented; support (Barbour). Motion carried.

5). SET AGENDA

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

6). CITIZEN'S COMMENTS:

Bobbe Burke reported that the Board of Commissioners has abandon the Event Center project due to wetlands.

7). AU GRES CITY POLICE CHIEF REPORT:

City Manager reported for Chief Chuck Allen. Everything has been good. Chuck worked the Holiday weekend. It was noted that the Arenac County Marine Patrol was not out over the Holiday weekend.

8. OLD BUSINESS:

8.1 City Park Pavilion Repair

City Manager discussed the estimated cost to repair the pavilion would be around \$200,000. This includes Morton Buildings estimate to repair the posts, new siding, acoustical ceiling, adding garage style doors, and new entrance doors at \$170,000. The remaining cost is for upgrading the electrical, new fence, rain gutters, and downspouts. Council wants the City Manger to check with local builders before awarding the project to Morton Builders. Cost estimate from Morton Builders to build a new pavilion the same size would be 3 -4 times the upgrade cost. The decision to move forward with the project will be discussed at the August 1st meeting.

9). NEW BUSINESS

9.1 Au Gres Township Water Contract

The City Manager met with Troy Williamson (Bilacic Trucking) and Keyno Shellenbarger (City Engineer). to discuss the cost of installing a water meter to service Au Gres Township. The council felt that the \$100,000 estimate to install was economically not worth doing. The new proposed contract will be forwarded to the City Attorney for review. The current contract expires on August 1, 2023.

9.2 Northern Automotive Violation

The City Manager presented a slide show to the council showing them pictures of the blight ordinance violations at Northern Automotive. He has been in contact with the business and reported some progress in the clean-up has been done, but felt a completion date was needed.

MOTION (Heinrich) to send a letter to Northern Automotive giving them until August 31st, 2023 to be compliant with the ordinance.; support (Popovich). Motion carried

9.3 City Property for Sale

John Paulson is interested in purchasing the city owned property (210 & 216 Mackinaw) next to his residence. The council set the price of the combined properties at \$49,900 (SEV x 2 = cash value).

MOTION (Barbour) to list the property at cash value of \$49,000; support (Warr). Motion carried.

10). CITY MANAGER REPORT

- WIFI is up and running at the Campground. Receiving good reviews.

- Arenac County Celebration did a good job on fireworks show. They were short on achieving their fund-raising goal. Plan to reach out to the Standish area to get additional funds for next year.
- Bill Borushko is reaching out for volunteers; would like to put in newspaper.
- Bopp Busch will be having a picnic on July 22, 2023 to celebrate their 75th years in Business. The City is presenting them with a statue for the 75th Anniversary.
- Car Cruise is July 29th and 30th.

11). COMMENTS

11.1 Citizens:

Bobbe Burke will check on Marine Patrol.

11.2 Mayor:

When you see DPW staff, thank them for doing a great job on the sidewalks.

11.3 Council Members

Heinrich: Enjoyed the fireworks. The campground also had great fireworks.

Warr: Nothing

Popovich: My house was selected to test for lead and copper. Lead was good and copper was at 300. Went over national studies and rural areas not having problems.

Barbour: Was able to see the fireworks from her house. It is a great event and will help whenever she can.

11). PAYMENT OF BILLS

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

12). APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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

13). ADJOURNMENT

MOTION (Barbour) to adjourn meeting at 8:42 p.m.; support (Warr). Motion carried.

Jon Sanford, Mayor

Sandra Metzger, Recording Secretary