



CITY COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA

City Hall, 125 South Maple Street, Fennville, MI 49408
Monday, June 21, 2021
7:00 p.m.

In light of the recent orders to limit social interactions due to COVID-19, the City Commission will allow for public participation through a virtual meeting site and by telephone

MINUTES

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Call to Order/Roll Call by Mayor Pantelleria at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Hayden, Jamros, Langston, Machan, Rastall, Suerth, Pantelleria
Absent:

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. Approval of Agenda

Agenda approved as presented.

4. Public Comments

Mary Whiteford, State Representative, presented the Commission with an update. Mary Whiteford also presented Police Officer Kate Strong with the Life Saving award. Police Chief Rekucki also awarded Strong with a Life Saving patch for her uniform.

5. Consent Agenda Items A through C:

All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by the City Council and will be enacted by one motion.

- A. The City Commission is asked to approve the regular meeting minutes from Monday, June 7, 2021.
- B. The City Commission is asked to approve invoices totaling \$55,070.86.
- C. The City Commission is asked to accept the following reports and minutes for the record:
 1. Michigan Township Services Report – May 2021.

Moved by Machan, seconded by Suerth, to approve the Consent Agenda Items A through C as presented. Voted Yes: All. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

6. The City Commission will be asked to take the following action regarding the FY2022 Budget:

- a. **Hold a public hearing regarding the proposed budget.**
- b. **Approve Resolution 2021-10: A Resolution adopting General Appropriations Act for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022.**

Background Information The City Commission received the draft budget during their last meeting for review. During that same meeting, the City Commission also approved the Fire Department budget which has been updated within the document. For this meeting, the City Commission is being asked to hold a public hearing on the budget and approve a resolution adopting the budget and millage rate.

Moved by Pantelleria, seconded by Machan, to open a public hearing on the proposed budget at 7:11 p.m. Voted Yes: All. Motion carried.

Mayor Pantelleria requested that before any planned equipment purchases are made that the Commission be appraised of the purchase. Jamros inquired if a decision had been made to keep or sell the old police cruiser; no decision has been made at this time. Rastall inquired if the City was using the Fennville Public School Garage for vehicle maintenance.

Moved by Pantelleria, seconded by Suerth, to close the public hearing on the proposed budget at 7:16 p.m. Voted Yes: All. Motion carried.

Moved by Machan, seconded by Langston, to approve Resolution 2021-10: A Resolution adopting General Appropriations Act for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022. Voted Yes: All. Motion carried.

7. **The Commission will be asked to approve the following ordinances regarding utility rates for FY2022:**
 - a. **Ordinance 2021-02: A Ordinance to set rates for City of Fennville water utilities.**
 - b. **Ordinance 2021-03: A Ordinance to set rates for City of Fennville sewer utilities.**

Background Information Since 2014, the City of Fennville has been working to develop a Capital Improvement Plan to address the needs of the City's aging water and sewer infrastructure. Construction will be completed within the FY22 budget season and repayment of bonds has already begun. Throughout the planning and construction process the City has been working with a financial consultant to ensure that our revenues will cover the cost of the bond payments, grant match and maintain the fund balance.

It is also important to note that in the last few years, the state has been imposing laws regulating lead and copper services within water supply systems. These laws has created additional financial burden on the water fund and has caused a higher rate increase than was anticipated during the initial construction planning projects. This is to help cover the long term financial implications of that state law.

This year, the financial advisor recommends an 8% increase to water rates and a 5% increase to sewer rates. With these increases the typical homeowner's bill will go up \$10.41 per quarter (\$3.47/month)

Rastall commented that he believes this to be an unreasonable action since it is unknown at this time how much lead piping will have to be replaced, and there may be grants and loans available to help with the cost.

Moved by Jamros, seconded by Hayden, to approve Ordinance 2021-02: A Ordinance to set rates for City of Fennville water utilities. Voted Yes: Langston, Suerth, Jamros, Hayden, Pantelleria; Voted No: Machan, Rastall. Motion carried.

Moved by Jamros, seconded by Hayden, to approve Ordinance 2021-03: A Ordinance to set rates for City of Fennville sewer rates. Voted Yes: Suerth, Jamros, Hayden, Langston, Pantelleria; Voted No: Machan, Rastall. Motion carried

NEW BUSINESS

8. The City Commission will be asked to approve Traffic Control Order 2021-01 creating a truck route on Center and Sherman Streets.

Background Information Conagra has been working with MDOT to get some signage placed on Main Street directing truck traffic to Wilson Street. MDOT is able to put up signage if the City has a traffic control order in place calling for the truck route.

The proposed traffic control order directs all truck traffic to Wilson, onto Center then onto Sherman Street per Conagra's request. The TCO has been reviewed and signed off on by the Chief of Police.

The truck route will be one-way traffic by the hotel on Sherman Street.

Moved by Rastall, seconded by Jamros, to approve Traffic Control Order 2021-01 creating a truck route on Center and Sherman Streets. Voted Yes: All. Motion carried.

9. The City Commission will be asked to review the cemetery rules.

Background Information The City Commission has recently received some correspondence regarding an issue at the cemetery. The Mayor asked that all Commissioners be given a copy of the rules for review. The rules were adopted by the City Commission in 2018.

It is important to note that staff is working to identify areas where rules might need to be amended and added and will be working to draft a Resolution for consideration in the near future. A few of these items include headstone size, foundation size, number of burials allowed, and a review of the rates.

Discussion of the rules of the cemetery and the rule requiring flat stones in the North-east corner and why it has historically been this way. This rule is also in the City Ordinance. In order to change it, a new ordinance would have to be introduced. City Administrator Morgan will prepare a draft of a new ordinance for review by the Commission.

10. The City Commission will be asked to review and discuss the Standing Committee assignments.

The following updates to the Standing Committee assignments were made:

- a. Finance/Personnel: Mayor, Machan, Suerth
- b. City Services (Police, Ambulance & Fire): Machan, Suerth, Rastall (alternate to Machan)
- c. City Properties: Jamros, Langston
- d. Ordinances/Community Relations: Langston, Hayden

- e. Planning: Hayden, Rastall
- f. Administrative/DDA: Mayor, Machan, Suerth

11. Reports of Standing Committees:

- a. Finance/Personnel: Staff annual reviews have been completed.
- b. City Services (Police, Ambulance & Fire): Police have been busy directing traffic for the construction on M89. The Fire Board meets Tues 6/22/21 and the water bill remains an issue. Hayden moved, seconded by Rastall, to bill the FAFB for the last quarter billing, and the current quarter, at the 5/8-inch meter rate, with the understanding that the 5/8-inch meter would be installed by July 31, 2021. Voted Yes: Rastall, Hayden, Langston, Machan, Suerth. Voted No: Jamros, Pantelleria. Motion carried.
- c. City Properties: Consumers has some of the street lights fixed and is working on the others. They have a new reporting software; they suggested we tie a ribbon around a tree that is nearest to the light out to aid them in locating the lights that need service. There is some graffiti on the sidewalk by the softball field.
- d. Ordinances/Community Relations: Meeting on Mon 6/28/21 at 5:30 to discuss the building dedication.
- e. Planning: No report.
- f. Administrative/DDA: The Social District will be in place soon and on Thursdays there will be music on Main Street.

12. Miscellaneous

Machan suggested the Police and Fire run number reports be removed from the Consent Agenda; tabled for now.

13. City Attorney Report

The Attorney reported there is new short term rental regulations being proposed that would take local control out, unless the same action was being taken for owner occupied dwellings. The City does have a few short term rental properties.

14. City Administrator Report

There was a water main break on Fennville Street that stirred up a lot of rust in the water. A boil notice was issued for affected properties on Fennville Street and was lifted after 48 hours.

15. Additional Public Comments

Concerns over Consumers trimming trees; branches are also being cut and the trees are looking disheveled. Concerns over speeding on Maple Street and Landsburg Road with the construction road closures.

16. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Perez
City Clerk/Treasurer