MARCH 14, 2017 REGULAR MEETING

RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR BOYNE CITY COMMISSION MEETING DULY CALLED AND HELD AT BOYNE CITY HALL, 364 NORTH LAKE STREET, ON TUESDAY MARCH 14, 2017

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Neidhamer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Mayor Tom Neidhamer, Mayor Pro-Tem Gene Towne Commissioners Ron Grunch, Laura Sansom and Hugh Conklin

Absent: None

Staff: Michael Cain, Barb Brooks, Scott McPherson, Mark Fowler, Jeff Gaither, Andy Kovolski, Cindy Grice and Kelsie King-Duff

Others: There were seven citizens in attendance.

CONSENT AGENDA MOTION

2017-03-014
Moved by Conklin
Second by Towne

2017-03-014A
Approved the February 28, 2016 City Commission regular meeting as presented
2017-03-014B
Approved the contract with Root Mechanical in the amount of $5,905 to rebuild the Wastewater plant's failed backwash pump and authorize the City Manager to execute the documents
2017-03-014C
Approved the recommendation of the Parks & Recreation Commission to appoint Tom Smith to fill a term vacancy ending December 31, 2020 and accept the resignation of Patrick Patoka

Ayes: 5
Nays: 0
Absent: 0
Motion carried

CITIZENS COMMENTS

None

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence from Jim and Jane Hawkins was received and filed

CITY MANAGERS REPORT

City Manager Cain reported:

- Gary Dunlop has officially retired after 38 years with the City. Congratulations and best wishes on his retirement. Applications are now being accepted for his position
- Bids for the fiber for the new construction are being requested
- The new copier has been installed
- There are three City Commission seats available for the November 7, 2017 General Election. Petitions are now available at City Hall.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS AND STANDING COMMITTEES

Draft Minutes of the February 9, 2017 Parks & Recreation Board meeting minutes; the February 9, 2017 Main Street Board meeting minutes; the February 20, 2017 Planning Commission meeting minutes and the February 23, 2017 Airport Board meeting minutes were received and filed.

FYE 2017 Budget Presentation

Presentation from City Manager Michael Cain of the FYE 2018 Proposed Budget

City Manager Cain presented the FYE 2018 Budget. There will be a budget work session on Tuesday, March 21, 2017 beginning at 8:00 a.m.

Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Application Engineering Approval

Consideration to 1) select a preferred route for an extension of the Boyne City/Charlevoix non-motorized trail to the Old City Park trailhead; 2) authorize the City Manager to execute proposed agreement with C2AE for $2,800 for preliminary engineering services; and 3) authorize staff to prepare MNRTF grant application materials for further review at the March 28th City Commission meeting

City Manager Cain discussed the proposal from the City's consulting engineering firm to provide services that would allow the City to seek grant funding for an extension of the Boyne City/Charlevoix non-motorized trail into our downtown.

The separate, off road trail currently ends in the City at the intersection of West Michigan and Boyne City/Charlevoix Road. Beyond that point are paved shoulder areas outside the white lane stripe that extend south to about the North Lake Street bridge. Interest exists to extend a non-motorized trail further into the City. The proposal before you would provide cost estimates and related materials to submit grant applications to the MNRTF and other appropriate possible funding sources to take an extension to the previously designated Old City Park trailhead. MNRTF applications are due April 1st. If this recommendation is approved tonight, we believe we can prepare and submit a viable grant application by the deadline. This matter would come back for further public and City Commission consideration at our next meeting on March 28th.

In addition to the C2AE proposal, attached are maps with various routes for the proposed trail extension for review and consideration. Some of the route segments involve the use of pavement markings on lower volume streets. Those segments are identified with dashes. We will be providing this memo and its attachments to members of the Park and Recreation Board and other interested parties. We have put up our yellow informational meeting signs along the route segments as well.

At the end of this meeting, if the City Commission chooses to move forward with this project, we would like the Commission to designate a preferred route to apply for. The route recommended by staff is labeled as the 'Lakeside Route' and is the first route shown.

The final details of the route and the project would be worked out with input from the abutting property owners and other interested members of the community if the funding process moves forward.

The City will need to determine the amount and find the source for its proposed local match. As I have reported previously that is becoming more difficult as we have taken on many other quality projects which have diminished our available financial resources. On the positive side the actual cash for our match would not be needed until the 2018-19 budget, at the earliest. If the City chooses to apply for an MNRTF grant at this time it would be up against Phase II of the Boyne Valley non-motorized trail project and possibly other phases of the Boyne City/Charlevoix trail. It may take several application funding cycles for this project to receive funding, if it does. Also consider how this possible project ranks with others such as the Pavilion, River Mouth Restroom improvements, etc. We have lots of things we would like to do, but limited resources.

City Manager Cain added that with all that said I believe we should proceed with the route selection and the preliminary engineering services contained in C2AE's proposal. If nothing else, we will have the basis for a 'shovel ready' project should the opportunity arise even if we were to ultimately choose not to apply at this time. The funds for the proposed $2,800 fee are available in our current budget.

After much discussion of the proposed routes, it was agreed to have other advisory boards and committees look at this and have a good proposed route to present when applying for a grant. It would make the grant application that much stronger.

Staff Comments: Police Chief Gaither said he would like to do a speed and traffic study to get more data from the area.

Citizens Comments: Lisa Alexander said she agrees that we should wait for the best plan. Darryl Parish said he agrees to wait. Any route sanctioned by the City should be safe.

Commissioners Comments: Mayor Pro-Tem Towne said he agrees to wait for further information. Commissioner Sansom said to wait and make it stronger. Commissioner Conklin asked how we can engage C2AE to see what the possibilities are. City Manager Cain said we should run this through other boards and commissions to narrow down plans. After that, we can go out for other proposals. Commissioner Grunch agrees to wait. Mayor Neidhamer said he thinks we can solve this with C2AE's input within the next few weeks to meet the April grant deadline, but agrees that it makes sense to do it right.

Good of the Order

Commissioner Conklin said he attended the medical marijuana meeting and that a webinar is coming up. He also asked for an update regarding the Community Center.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mayor Neidhamer seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Towne to adjourn the Regular City Commission meeting of Tuesday, March 14, 201at 9:05 p.m.

Thomas Neidhamer
Tom Neidhamer
Mayor

Cindy Grice
Cindy Grice
Clerk / Treasurer