

**ESSEXVILLE CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
DECEMBER 13, 2016 7:00 PM  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Mayor Scott Wittbrodt called the REGULAR MEETING of the Essexville City Council held on December 13, 2016 to order at 7:00 PM.

Councilmember Thomas Rehmus, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

The following City Council Members were present at the meeting: Jennifer Gradowski, John Kustuch, Robert Mantei, Thomas Rehmus, Timothy Weiler, and Mayor Scott Wittbrodt.

ABSENT: None

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Rehmus, Mantei:

**Resolved the agenda be approved as written.**

YES: Rehmus, Mantei, Gradowski, Kustuch, Weiler, Wittbrodt

Motion Carried

ABSENT: None

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Kustuch, Rehmus:

- A. Resolved; City Council hereby approves the minutes of its November 21, 2016 regular meeting, said minutes prepared by the City Clerk and submitted for the City Council's consideration at its December 13, 2016 regular meeting.**
- B. Resolved; pursuant to applicable law and its own policy, the City Council authorizes the Board of Review for the City of Essexville to consider and grant, where appropriate, requests for exemptions from taxation of real property for homesteads of persons in poverty based on the federal income and poverty guidelines.**
- C. Resolved; pursuant to the City Code, the City Council hereby confirms the City Manager's reappointment of William Hydorn, Dennis Rondeau, and Jack Covio to the Board of Review to a two year term effective January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2018.**
- D. Resolved; pursuant to the City Code and law, the City Council hereby confirms the City Manager's reappointment of Tom Jacobs and Charles "Pete" Campbell to the Downtown Development Authority to a four year term effective January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2020.**
- E. Resolved; pursuant to the City code and State law, the City Council hereby confirms the Mayor's appointment of John Connelly to the Planning Commission for a three year term effective January 1, 2017 ending December 31, 2019.**

YES: Kustuch, Rehmus, Gradowski, Mantei, Weiler, Wittbrodt

Motion Carried

ABSENT: None

**SELECTION OF NOMINEES TO FILL TWO VACANT CITY COUNCIL SEAT**

Mayor Wittbrodt thanked all the candidates present for their interest in the vacant City Council seat. He wished them all good luck and asked them to introduce themselves and give a brief overview of why they would like to be on the City Council.

Ballot results for selecting a Council member for the vacancy left by Council member Scott Wittbrodt term expiring 11/18/2019:

**Ballot #1**

Councilmember Gradowski voted for  
Councilmember Kustuch voted for  
Councilmember Mantei voted for  
Councilmember Rehmus voted for  
Councilmember Weiler voted for  
Mayor Wittbrodt voted for

Russell Tanner  
Marnie Westphal  
Russell Tanner  
Dennis Rondeau  
Russell Tanner  
Russell Tanner

Dennis Rondeau received: 1 vote  
Russell Tanner received: 4 votes  
Marnie Westphal received: 1 vote

A majority vote of 4 was reached motion carried. Russell Tanner received the majority vote of 4, he was sworn in and took a seat at the council table.

**PRESENTATIONS**

Dave Gwizdald, representative from Quast Janke, presented the City's 2015/2016 financial audit to the Council.

**CITIZEN INPUT**

The following citizens addressed the Council:

None

**COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S REPORT**

Mr. Michael Lutz, County Commissioner, updated the Council on Bay County happenings.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**PAYMENT OF BILLS**

Rehmus, Mantei:

**Resolved; that expense vouchers 35 through 36 totaling \$247,217.91 and payroll voucher 37 through 41 totaling \$54,900.85 for a grand total of \$302,118.76 paid as stated.**

YES: Rehmus, Mantei, Gradowski, Kustuch, Tanner, Weiler, Wittbrodt Motion Carried  
ABSENT: None

**CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTING THE 2015/2016 FINANCIAL AUDIT**

Rehmus, Mantei:

**Resolved; the City Council hereby receives and accepts the annual audit of the City's financial statements for fiscal year ended June 30, 2016 said audit prepared by Quast Janke & Company and presented to the City Council at its regular meeting of December 13, 2016 for its review and discussion.**

YES: Rehmus, Mantei, Gradowski, Kustuch, Tanner, Weiler, Wittbrodt Motion Carried  
ABSENT: None

**LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

Councilmember Rehmus had no report.

**MUNICIPAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

Councilmember Mantei had no report. Mayor Wittbrodt encouraged the committee to schedule a meeting prior to the City Manager's review, which will be occurring at the March Regular Meeting.

#### **PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE**

Councilmember Gradowski had no report.

#### **PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE**

Councilmember Rehmus had no report.

#### **PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

Councilmember Gradowski gave a report on Citizen of the Year award. Council decided to skip this year due to lack of nominees. Mayor Wittbrodt mentioned he would like to move the Curb Appeal Award judging to June or July. He would also like the committee to consider reinstating the Holiday Lighting Contest.

#### **UTILITY AND SPECIAL COMMITTEE**

Councilmember Kustuch had no report.

#### **PLANNING COMMISSION**

Councilmember Weiler had no report.

#### **DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

Councilmember Mantei had no report.

#### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Wittbrodt reported on the following:

- Commented on all the Christmas lights around the city
- City Council picture will be taken at the January Regular Meeting
- Commended the DPW cleaning up curbs and snow plowing
- Commended the City Council for the great job they do
- Councilmember Tanner will be added to the Committee Schedule

#### **ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

City Attorney Pergande had no report.

#### **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

City Manager, Dan Hansford, reported on the following:

- Christmas luncheon
- Water line project
- DDA and Planning Commission meetings
- Citizen of the year
- Welcomed Russ Tanner to the City Council
- Thanked the Council for the Christmas Gift Certificates
- John Freel, a prior Mayor of Essexville, passed away recently

#### **PUBLIC HEARING(S)**

None

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Consideration of purchasing City Staff gift certificates for Christmas.**

Council gave City Manager Hansford direction to purchase gift certificates for the full time staff and part paid firefighters.

**INFORMATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS**

None

**CITIZEN INPUT**

The following citizens addressed the Council:

Robert Mantei, 406 Main Street  
Timothy Weiler, 805 Main Street

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Council entered into Executive Session at 9:05 PM.

Rehmus, Gradowski:

**Resolved; that the City Council meet in a closed session to discuss an opinion from the City Attorney as permitted by MCLA 15.268(h) and applicable law.**

YES: Rehmus, Gradowski, Kustuch, Mantei, Tanner, Weiler, Wittbrodt Motion Carried

ABSENT: None

The Council exited Executive Session at 9:25 PM.

Request the City Council meet in a special session on Wednesday, December 21, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. to discuss an opinion of the City Attorney.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Rehmus, Mantei:

**Resolved; that the meeting be adjourned.**

YES: Unanimous voice vote

Motion Carried

ABSENT: None

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 pm.

Scott Wittbrodt  
Mayor

---

Sarah Wilcox  
City Clerk

---

**ESSEXVILLE CITY COUNCIL  
SPECIAL MEETING  
December 21, 2016 6:00 PM  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Mayor Wittbrodt called the SPECIAL MEETING of the Essexville City Council held on December 21, 2016 to order at 6:00 PM.

City Manager, Dan Hansford, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

The following City Council Members were present at the meeting: Jennifer Gradowski, John Kustuch, Robert Mantei, Thomas Rehmus, Russell Tanner, Timothy Weiler and Scott Wittbrodt.

ABSENT: None

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Gradowski, Mantei:

**Resolved the agenda be approved as amended.**

YES: Gradowski, Mantei, Kustuch, Rehmus, Tanner, Weiler, Wittbrodt      Motion Carried

ABSENT: None

**PUBLIC HEARING**

None

**CITIZEN INPUT**

Timothy Weiler, 805 Main Street

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Rehmus, Gradowski:

**Resolved; the City Council meet in closed session to discuss a confidential legal opinion of the City Attorney as permitted by MCLA 15.268(a) and applicable law.**

YES: Rehmus, Gradowski, Kustuch, Mantei, Tanner, Weiler, Wittbrodt      Motion Carried

ABSENT: None

The Council entered into Executive Session at 6:04 p.m.

The Council reconvened at 6:48

**ADJOURNMENT**

Tanner, Kustuch:

**Resolved; that the meeting be adjourned.**

YES: Unanimous voice vote

Motion Carried

ABSENT: None

The meeting adjourned at 6:49 pm.

Scott Wittbrodt  
Mayor

---

Sarah Wilcox  
City Clerk

---