

**ESSEXVILLE CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
FEBRUARY 11, 2020 7:00 PM  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Mayor Scott Wittbrodt called the REGULAR MEETING of the Essexville City Council held on February 11, 2020 to order at 7:00 PM.

City Attorney, Gerald Pergande, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

The following City Council Members were present at the meeting: John Connelly, Jack Covieo, Adam Hughes, Dennis Rondeau, Russell Tanner, and Mayor Scott Wittbrodt.

ABSENT: Jennifer Gradowski

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Connelly, Rondeau:

**Resolved the agenda be approved as amended, an item d. was added under new business.**

YES: Connelly, Rondeau, Covieo, Hughes, Tanner, Wittbrodt

Motion Carried

ABSENT: Gradowski

NO: None

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Hughes, Tanner:

- A. Resolved; City Council hereby approves the minutes of its January 14, 2020 regular meeting, said minutes prepared by the City Clerk and submitted for the City Council's consideration at its February 11, 2020 regular meeting.**
- B. Resolved; In accordance with Section 1.2 of Chapter 1 of Title I of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Essexville, Chapter 13 of Title IX of the Code of Ordinances is hereby repealed and a new Chapter 13 of Title IX is hereby created in its place and stead, which shall be entitled "FRONT YARD PARKING", at this the second reading of said ordinance to be effective on February 26, 2020.**
- C. Resolved; pursuant to the City's Zoning Ordinance and law, the City Council re-appoints Al Bilhimer to the Board of Zoning Appeals to a three year term ending December 31, 2022.**
- D. Resolved; the amendments recommended by the City Manager to be made to previously approved appropriations within the fiscal year 2019/2020 budget, as set forth in his communication to the City Council on this subject dated February 11, 2020 are authorized.**

General Fund	Increase	Decrease
Computer Support/Maintenance - Assessor	\$862.00	
Contractual Services - Assessor		\$400.00
Office Supplies - Assessor		\$462.00
<b>Fund Totals</b>	<b>\$862.00</b>	<b>\$862.00</b>

YES: Hughes, Tanner, Connelly, Covieo, Rondeau, Wittbrodt

Motion Carried

ABSENT: Gradowski

NO: None

**PRESENTATIONS**

Bay County Crime Stoppers representatives presented the Officer of the Year award to Public Safety Officer Lt. Nate Van Tifflin.

Councilmember Gradowski arrived at 7:10 p.m.

### **CITIZEN INPUT**

The following citizens addressed the Council:

Richard Crete, 1807 Ward Street  
Patsy Enos, 1806 Ames Street  
Jeremy Owen, 905 Pine Street  
Rebecca Owen, 905 Pine Street  
Jennifer Gradowski, 408 Sharpe Street

### **COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S REPORT**

Mr. Michael Lutz, County Commissioner, was not in attendance.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

##### **PAYMENT OF BILLS**

Tanner, Covieo:

**Resolved; that expense vouchers 50 through 51 totaling \$192,246.00 and payroll voucher 52 through 55 totaling \$75,922.20 for a grand total of \$268,168.20 paid as stated.**

YES: Tanner, Covieo, Connelly, Gradowski, Hughes, Rondeau, Wittbrodt Motion Carried

ABSENT: None

NO: None

#### **LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

The committee met regarding the revised rental properties ordinance and dangerous building ordinance. Mayor Wittbrodt appointed Councilmember Rondeau as an alternate committee member.

#### **MUNICIPAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

Councilmember Rondeau reported the committee met regarding the City Manager's annual evaluation which will be discussed further in Executive Session.

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

Councilmember Gradowski would like to schedule a committee meeting in March.

#### **PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE**

Councilmember Covieo had no report.

#### **PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

Councilmember Gradowski reported on Kidsfest, Citizen of the Year Award and the St. Patrick's Day Parade.

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

Councilmember Connelly reported the committee met to discuss the website and the replacement of lead water lines.

#### **PLANNING COMMISSION**

There was no meeting, Councilmember Gradowski would like to schedule a meeting for March.

**DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

No Meeting

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Wittbrodt reported on the following:

- He attended the municipal relations committee, utility and special committee and the legislative committee meetings.
- Invited councilmembers to participate in the St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 15
- Reminded the councilmembers that the March regular city council meeting has been moved to Tuesday, March 24<sup>th</sup> due to the Presidential Primary Election.
- Updated the council on the progress at Ransom Essex Park.

**ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

City Attorney Pergande reported on the Charter Revision Commission and improving private property.

**CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

City Manager, Dan Hansford, reported on the following:

- Request for governmental assistance for Michigan waterfront communities damaged by high water levels.
- Disposal of the old DPW building at 1500 Main Street
- Deficit elimination plan
- Lead and copper abatement program
- Website
- Answered questions from the council.

**PUBLIC HEARING(S)**

None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTING ORDINANCE NO. 2020-1 "CITY COUNCIL SALARIES"

Rondeau, Hughes:

**Resolved: That a new Chapter 8 in Title I of the Code of Ordinances is hereby created, which shall be entitled "CITY COUNCIL SALARIES" and contain those provisions for the salaries of the City Council and the Mayor that shall take effect at the Organizational meeting of the next city council to be held in November of 2020 as allowed and provided for in the City Charter at this second reading and as passed by a majority vote of five or more members of the city council.**

YES: Rondeau, Hughes, Covieo, Gradowski, Tanner, Wittbrodt

Motion Carried

NO: Connelly

ABSENT: None

**NEW BUSINESS**

CONSIDERATION OF REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR ASK FOR FEDERAL ASSISTANCE FOR DAMAGES CAUSED BY THE HIGH WATER LEVELS ON BEHALF OF MICHIGAN WATERFRONT COMMUNITIES.

Gradowski, Covieo:

**Resolved, the City of Essexville requests that the Governor of the State of Michigan along with the State Legislature give favorable consideration to the declaration of the shoreline in the State of Michigan as a disaster area, and seek**

**assistance from Congress and the President of the United States for this devastating situation which has an impact statewide.**

YES: Gradowski, Covieo, Connelly, Hughes, Rondeau, Tanner, Wittbrodt Motion Carried  
ABSENT: None

CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING THE DEFICIT ELIMINATION PLAN.

Tanner, Hughes:

**RESOLVED that the City Council approves the increase in Internal Service Fund Revenues by approving an increase in amounts charged to other funds for charges for services.**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the City of Essexville City Council approves the continued assessment of charges for services charged to other funds based on budgeted expenses expected to be incurred by the Internal Service Fund.**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Essexville City Manager and/or clerk submits the Deficit Elimination Plan in its entirety to the Michigan Department of Treasury for Certification.**

YES: Tanner, Hughes, Connelly, Covieo, Gradowski, Rondeau, Wittbrodt Motion Carried  
ABSENT: None  
NO: None

CONSIDERATION OF INTRODUCING ORDINANCE NO. 2020-2 "RENTAL PROPERTIES".

Gradowski, Tanner:

**Resolved: That ordinance of the City known as Chapter 6 entitled "Rental Properties" of Title VII of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Essexville is hereby repealed and a new ordinance also to be entitled "Rental Properties" is hereby created in its place and stead which shall be known as Chapter 6 of Title VII of the Code of Ordinances. This resolution be considered the first reading of its passage as required by the City Charter.**

YES: Gradowski, Tanner, Connelly, Covieo, Hughes, Rondeau, Wittbrodt Motion Carried  
ABSENT: None  
NO: None

CONSIDERATION OF SETTING THE CHARTER COMMISSION'S PLACE OF MEETING, COMPENSATION AND MONEY FOR EXPENSES.

Connelly, Hughes:

**I move that the city charter commission being elected on March 10, 2020, have its place of meeting, the compensation of its members, and the money for its expenses be fixed as the same as that provided the city charter commission that was elected on November 7, 1995.**

YES: Connelly, Hughes, Covieo, Gradowski, Rondeau, Tanner, Wittbrodt Motion Carried  
ABSENT: None  
NO: None

**INFORMATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS**

None

**CITIZEN INPUT**

The following citizens addressed the Council:

None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

Rondeau, Gradowski:

**Resolved, the City Council meet in closed session for the purpose of discussing the City Manager’s annual performance evaluation pursuant to the City Manager’s written request to have this matter discussed in closed session and as permitted by MCLA 15.268(a) and applicable law.**

YES: Rondeau, Gradowski, Connelly, Covieo, Hughes, Tanner, Wittbrodt Motion Carried

ABSENT: None

NO: None

The Council exited Executive Session at 9:20 PM.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Gradowski, Covieo:

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

YES: Unanimous voice vote

Motion Carried

ABSENT: None

NO: None

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm.

Scott Wittbrodt  
Mayor

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Sarah Wilcox  
City Clerk

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