

**ESSEXVILLE CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
FEBRUARY 14, 2023 7:00 PM  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Mayor Scott Wittbrodt called the REGULAR MEETING of the Essexville City Council held on February 14, 2023 to order at 7:00 PM.

Mayor Wittbrodt asked for a moment of silence for the tragic shootings that occurred at Michigan State University last night.

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

**ROLL CALL**

The following City Council Members were present at the meeting: Jack Covieo, Jennifer Gradowski, Adam Hughes, Robert Mantei, Dennis Rondeau, Todd Wendt and Mayor Scott Wittbrodt.

ABSENT: None

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Hughes, Mantei:

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

YES: Hughes, Mantei, Covieo, Gradowski, Rondeau, Wendt, Wittbrodt

Motion Carried

ABSENT: None

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Hughes, Covieo:

**A. Resolved; City Council hereby approves the minutes of its January 10, 2023 regular meeting, said minutes prepared by the City Clerk and submitted for the City Council's consideration at its February 14, 2023 regular meeting.**

**B. Resolved; pursuant to Article VII of the Restated Articles of Incorporation of the Bay Area Storm Water Authority, the Essexville City Council appoints its City Manager as the City of Essexville's representative and the Superintendent of Public Works as its alternate representative on the Board of Trustees for the Bay Area Storm Water Authority said appointments to be effective February 14, 2023 through December 31, 2025.**

YES: Hughes, Covieo, Gradowski, Mantei, Rondeau, Wendt, Wittbrodt

Motion Carried

ABSENT: None

**PRESENTATIONS**

Councilmember Gradowski presented the 2023 Citizen of the Year Awards to Tom and Nicole Jacobs of State Farm Insurance, and Rachel Cathel of Petit 4 Pastry.

Duane Reyhl and Danielle Hoppe from Andrews Hooper Pavlik PLC presented the 2021/2022 City Audit.

**CITIZEN INPUT**

The following citizens addressed the Council:

Jason Nalazek, 1465 Seena Court, Hampton Township

John Connelly, 10 West Sharlear Drive

Robert Mantei, 535 Gateway Place

**COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S REPORT**

Mr. Dennis Poirer, County Commissioner, updated the council on business at Bay County and took questions from the council.

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**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**PAYMENT OF BILLS**

Mantei, Wendt:

**Resolved; that expense vouchers 56 totaling \$168,967.42 and payroll voucher 57 through 62 totaling \$72,491.54 for a grand total of \$241,458.96 paid as stated.**

YES: Mantei, Wendt, Covieo, Gradowski, Hughes, Rondeau, Wittbrodt

Motion Carried

ABSENT: None

**CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTING THE ANNUAL AUDIT OF THE 2021/2022 FISCAL YEAR**

Mantei, Wendt:

**Resolved; the City Council hereby receives and accepts the annual audit of the City's financial statements for fiscal year ended June 30, 2022 said audit prepared by Andrews Hooper Pavlik PLC and presented to the City Council at its regular meeting of February 14, 2023 for its review and discussion.**

YES: Mantei, Wendt, Covieo, Gradowski, Hughes, Rondeau, Wittbrodt

Motion Carried

ABSENT: None

NO: None

**LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

Councilmember Mantei had no report.

**MUNICIPAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

Councilmember Rondeau reported the city manager's annual review will be later in the meeting during executive session.

**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE**

Councilmember Gradowski had no report.

**PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE**

Councilmember Covieo had no report.

**PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

Councilmember Gradowski reported she is thinking about organizing a Kidsfest this year in September.

**UTILITY AND SPECIAL COMMITTEE**

Councilmember Wendt had no report.

**PLANNING COMMISSION**

No meeting, no report.

**DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

A meeting is scheduled for January 11<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m.

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Wittbrodt reported on the following:

- Thanked the DPW for quickly repairing a water main break that occurred on February 4<sup>th</sup>.
- Attended two municipal relations committee meetings to discuss hiring a new city attorney.

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- St. Patrick's Day parade will be March 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Presented City Attorney Gerald Pergande with a plaque of recognition for his retirement in honor of his 37 years of service to the City of Essexville.

**ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

Mr. Pergande reported on a couple new ordinances that have recently been adopted at other municipalities.

**CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

City Manager, Craig Goulet, reported on the following:

- Thanked the City Attorney, Gerald Pergande, for his service to the City.
- Thanked the City Council and the Public Relations Committee for all they did for the Citizen of the Year award.
- Toured the Bay County Waste Water Treatment Plant.
- Thanked the DPW for their quick work in fixing a water main break on Valerie Court.
- Thanked the office staff for their work in helping with the audit.
- Answered questions from the council.

**PUBLIC HEARING(S)**

None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

CONSIDERATION OF ACCEPTING THE RESIGNATION OF GERALD PERGANDE AS CITY ATTORNEY.

Rondeau, Hughes:

**Resolved, that the resignation of Gerald Pergande as the Essexville city attorney is hereby acknowledged as received and shall be effective as of February 28, 2023.**

YES: Rondeau, Hughes, Covieo, Gradowski, Mantei, Wendt, Wittbrodt

Motion Carried

ABSENT: None

CONSIDERATION OF ACCEPTING THE APPOINTMENT OF JACOB LYDAY AS THE CITY ATTORNEY.

Rondeau, Hughes:

**Resolved, that Jacob Lyday of the law firm of O'Neill, Wallace & Doyle is appointed as the Essexville city attorney effective March 1, 2023.**

YES: Rondeau, Hughes, Covieo, Gradowski, Mantei, Wendt, Wittbrodt

Motion Carried

ABSENT: None

**INFORMATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS**

None

**CITIZEN INPUT**

The following citizens addressed the Council:

None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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Council entered into Executive Session at 8:50 PM.

Hughes, Rondeau:

**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: Hughes, Rondeau, Covieo, Gradowski, Mantei, Wendt, Wittbrodt                      Motion Carried

ABSENT: None

The Council exited Executive Session at 9:33 PM.

CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING A RESOLUTION TO PAY THE TUITION OF THE CITY MANAGER’S FIVE REMAINING CLASSES REQUIRED TO OBTAIN HIS MASTER OF BUSINESS DEGREE.

Rondeau, Hughes:

**Resolved, that the City Manager being presently attempting to complete classes to obtain a Master of Business degree from the Flint, Michigan University of Michigan extension facility and it being required he attend five remaining classes to do so,**

**And, the City being desirous he obtain such degree and to encourage his efforts in such regard, the City agrees to pay the tuition required for each class of the five that he completes successfully prior to June 30, 2024.**

YES: Rondeau, Hughes, Covieo, Gradowski, Wendt, Wittbrodt                      Motion Carried

NO: Mantei

ABSENT: None

**ADJOURNMENT**

Hughes, Wendt:

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

YES: Unanimous voice vote                      Motion Carried

ABSENT: None

The meeting adjourned at 9:42 p.m.

Scott Wittbrodt  
Mayor

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Sarah Wilcox  
City Clerk

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