

CITY OF BANGOR
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
 January 2, 2024 @ 7:00 PM
 257 W. Monroe St. Bangor, MI // City Council Room

1. CALL TO ORDER.

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Farmer.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

3. ROLL CALL.

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Pati Martinez-Serratos	Mayor Pro Tem	Present
Heléne Rivers	Councilmember	Present
Jeremy Uplinger	Councilmember	Present
Jerry Muenzer	Councilmember	Present
Amber Garcia	Councilmember	Present
Darla McCrumb	Councilmember	Present
Lynne Farmer	Mayor	Present

OTHERS PRESENT.

Interim City Manager Justin Weber, Attorney City Attorney Scott Graham, Acting DPW Director Steve Lowder, Office Leonard, Treasurer Stephenie Cagle, and approximately 25 members of the public.

4. APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA.

Motion to accept Regular Meeting Agenda.

RESULT:	APPROVED (UNANIMOUS)
MOVER:	Jeremy Uplinger, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Heléne Rivers, Councilmember
AYES:	Martinez-Serratos, Rivers, Uplinger, Muenzer, Garcia, McCrumb, Farmer

5. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES.

a. Approval of Minutes of the Council Meeting held on December 18, 2023

RESULT:	APPROVED (UNANIMOUS)
MOVER:	Jerry Muenzer, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Pati Martiezz-Serratos, Mayor Pro Tem
AYES:	Martinez-Serratos, Rivers, Uplinger, Muenzer, Garcia, McCrumb, Farmer

b. Approval of Closed Session Minutes of the Closed Meeting held on December 18, 2023

RESULT:	APPROVED (UNANIMOUS)
MOVER:	Darla McCrumb, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Amber Garcia, Councilmember
AYES:	Martinez-Serratos, Rivers, Uplinger, Muenzer, Garcia, McCrumb, Farmer

6. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND PAYROLL.

- a. **Motion to pay bills from General Checking 2 in the amount of \$74,248.88**

RESULT:	APPROVED (UNANIMOUS)
MOVER:	Pati Martiez-Serratos, Mayor Pro Tem
SECONDER:	Heléne Rivers, Councilmember
AYES:	Martinez-Serratos, Rivers, Uplinger, Muenzer, Garcia, McCrumb, Farmer

- b. **Motion to pay bills from Roads Checking in the amount of \$2,500.00**

RESULT:	APPROVED (UNANIMOUS)
MOVER:	Pati Martiez-Serratos, Mayor Pro Tem
SECONDER:	Heléne Rivers, Councilmember
AYES:	Martinez-Serratos, Rivers, Uplinger, Muenzer, Garcia, McCrumb, Farmer

- c. **Motion to pay bills from T&A2 Checking in the amount of \$98,694.05**

RESULT:	APPROVED (UNANIMOUS)
MOVER:	Pati Martiez-Serratos, Mayor Pro Tem
SECONDER:	Heléne Rivers, Councilmember
AYES:	Martinez-Serratos, Rivers, Uplinger, Muenzer, Garcia, McCrumb, Farmer

7. OTHER REGULAR BUSINESS.

- a. Presentation of Prizes for Winning Christmas Tree Decorating
- i. 1st Grade.
 - ii. 2nd Grade

Notes: Mayor Farmer presented the two winning classrooms \$100.00 each.

8. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT.

Public comments were heard.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- a. **Amended Purchasing Policy.**

Motion to accept Purchasing Policy with changes discussed in notes below.

RESULT:	APPROVED (UNANIMOUS)
MOVER:	Jeremy Uplinger, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Pati Martiez-Serratos, Mayor Pro Tem
AYES:	Martinez-Serratos, Rivers, Uplinger, Muenzer, Garcia, McCrumb, Farmer

Notes: Attorney Scott Graham to make changes to D, 2 to say over \$5,000.00; should read \$250.00-\$5,000.00; on page 5, should read \$20,000.00 and not \$10,000.00; E, 9 to have wording that prior authorization by City Manager before making purchases.

- b. **Bryce Saylor/Total Lawn Care Invoices.**

Attorney Scott Graham gave an update that after the last Council Meeting there has been meaningful discussion between Bryce Saylor and him. He will bring the information to the City Council as necessary. There should be an update by the next meeting 01/16/24.

c. **City Manager Resume Review.**

Motion to nominate Justin Weber as City Manager pending the ability to negotiate terms of employment.

RESULT:	APPROVED (6 to 1)
MOVER:	Heléne Rivers, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Amber Garcia, Councilmember
AYES:	Martinez-Serratos, Rivers, Uplinger, Garcia, McCrumb, Farmer
NAYES:	Muenzer

Notes: Two resumes were received. One is disqualified because he does not meet the qualifications. Attorney Scott Graham said he notified MML regarding the job posting and why we did not receive more applications. They said that applicants across the board are way down. He also let everyone know that MML is the best and most used spot for posting City Manager. There is discussion that there is already a qualified candidate in the City Manager position, because an interview has already been conducted, no need for another one with Interim City Manager Justin Weber. There is consensus that he has been doing a great job.

Original motion amended by Rivers and Garcia from 'Nominate Justin Weber as City Manager' to add 'pending ability to negotiate terms of employment.'

d. **Crossing Guard Pay Scale.**

Motion to accept pay scale as presented – Starting: \$13.00 per hour, After 90 Day Probation: \$13.25, Year 1: \$14.00, Year 2: \$14.75, and Year 3: \$15.50

RESULT:	APPROVED (6 to 1)
MOVER:	Jeremy Uplinger, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Heléne Rivers, Councilmember
AYES:	Martinez-Serratos, Rivers, Uplinger, Muenzer, Garcia, McCrumb, Farmer

e. **South Haven Area Chamber of Commerce.**

Notes: Mayor Farmer presented brief facts about South Haven Area Chamber of Commerce. The fee is \$125.00 annually. Fire Chief Babcock is the representative for the City on the Commerce. Council Members would like a representative to present at the next Council meeting 01/16/24. Mayor Farmer will set up that appointment.

f. **Dangerous Trees/Cost Estimate.**

Motion to accept bid from UFC Tree Care, LLC in the amount of \$5,150.00 for the removal of two (2) trees at the southwest corner of the post office.

RESULT:	APPROVED (6 to 1)
MOVER:	Jeremy Uplinger, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Heléne Rivers, Councilmember
AYES:	Martinez-Serratos, Rivers, Uplinger, Muenzer, Garcia, McCrumb, Farmer

Notes: Three (3) quotes were offered to the City Council for review. DPW looked at the trees and area with City Manager Weber and the trees are dangerous. They need to be removed. DPW will help with the asphalt area, blocking off the area, and contacting MISS DIG as there is a gas line in the area. Per City Manager the post office owner has agreed to pay half of the invoice.

10. **NEW BUSINESS.**

a. **2024 Treasurer Resolutions and Policy.**

i. Resolution 2024-01

Motion to accept Resolution 2024-01, Preparation and Payment of Invoices.

RESULT:	APPROVED (UNANIMOUS)
MOVER:	Amber Garcia, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Heléne Rivers, Councilmember
AYES:	Martinez-Serratos, Rivers, Uplinger, Muenzer, Garcia, McCrumb, Farmer

ii. Resolution 2024-02

Motion to accept Resolution 2024-02, Authorize Electronic Transactions.

RESULT:	APPROVED (UNANIMOUS)
MOVER:	Pati Martiez-Serratos, Mayor Pro Tem
SECONDER:	Darla McCrumb, Councilmember
AYES:	Martinez-Serratos, Rivers, Uplinger, Muenzer, Garcia, McCrumb, Farmer

iii. Policy for Automated Clearing House (ACH) and Electronic Transactions of Funds

Motion to accept Policy for Automated Clearing House (ACH) and Electronic Transactions of Funds.

RESULT:	APPROVED (UNANIMOUS)
MOVER:	Pati Martiez-Serratos, Mayor Pro Tem
SECONDER:	Heléne Rivers, Councilmember
AYES:	Martinez-Serratos, Rivers, Uplinger, Muenzer, Garcia, McCrumb, Farmer

11. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT.

Public comments were heard: The City Council was thanked for taking the time to review the documents and information in front of them. The residents watch and are seeing this. South Haven Chamber of Commerce was highly recommended and will make Bangor a better City. The City should use ACH, it will save time and money. Thank you to Mayor Farmer for coming out to South Walnut Elementary School. Congratulations to Justin Weber for being appointed new City Manager. There is a question presented about why the City Council chose to go with the lowest of the tree cutting bids when they just discussed that the other two bids were higher qualified and had references vs. one we did not have information regarding.

12. COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS.

Martinez-Serratos: Good point about the lowest bid on the tree cutting. We did go with the cheaper bid. Congrats Justin, thanks for joining us. Thanks everyone for coming out. Congrats to the winning South Walnut Elementary School teachers. Thanks to DPW for saving the library and fixing the leak and light. Thank you Darla McCrumb for catching paperwork corrections.

Rivers: Thank you everyone for coming. Thank you Scott Graham for working on resolving so many things. Justin we are glad you are with us. Darla, thank you for going between the lines. Happy New Year all.

Uplinger: Thanks for coming out and Happy New Year. To clarify, the two tree cutting bids were the same detail and scope, the one the City Council chose was as detailed as the highest bid..

McCrumb: Congratulations Justin.

Garcia: When I took on the City Council role, I take it seriously. I'm happy Justin took the job and happy you chose to stay. Looking forward to a Happy 2024.

Muenzer: History Lesson: Park Resort use to be in Bangor. After the resort closed it was used for a campground.

Farmer: Steve, thank you for taking care of the library. Lenny, thank you for school collaborating with the City. Thank you everyone for coming. Justin, thank you and welcome.

INTERIM CITY MANAGER WEBER COMMENTS.

Thank you. Recruit is now Office Leonard.

ADJOURNMENT.

Motion to adjourn at 8:14 PM

RESULT:	APPROVED (UNANIMOUS)
MOVER:	Jeremy Uplinger, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Heléne Rivers, Councilmember
AYES:	Martinez-Serratos, Rivers, Uplinger, Muenzer, Garcia, McCrumb, Farmer

Shelly Umbanhowar, City Clerk

Mayor Lynne Farmer

FINAL