

CITY OF BANGOR
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
February 5, 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, Acting DPW Director Steve Lowder, Treasurer Stephenie Cagle, Clerk Shelly Umbanhowar, Fire Chief Babcock, and approximately 20 members of the public.

4. APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA.

Motion to accept Regular Meeting Agenda with the addition of 10 f. Shelly Umbanhowar, Sturgis Bank & Trust Online Banking Access & ACH Transactions and 10 g. Justin Weber, Sturgis Bank & Trust Online Banking Access & ACH Transactions	
RESULT:	APPROVED (UNANIMOUS)
MOVER:	Jerry Muenzer, 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 January 16, 2024

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

b. Approval of Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on January 25, 2024

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

6. **APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND PAYROLL.**

a. **General Checking Accounts Payable and Payroll.**

Motion to pay bills from General Checking 2 in the amount of \$129,247.13.	
RESULT:	APPROVED (UNANIMOUS)
MOVER:	Jeremy Uplinger, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Darla McCrumb, Councilmember
AYES:	Martinez-Serratos, Rivers, Uplinger, Muenzer, Garcia, McCrumb, Farmer

b. **Roads Checking Accounts Payable**

Motion to pay bills from Roads Checking in the amount of \$1,879.98.	
RESULT:	APPROVED (UNANIMOUS)
MOVER:	Jeremy Uplinger, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Darla McCrumb, Councilmember
AYES:	Martinez-Serratos, Rivers, Uplinger, Muenzer, Garcia, McCrumb, Farmer

c. **T&A2 Checking Accounts Payable**

Motion to pay bills from T&A2 Checking in the amount of \$99,897.41.	
RESULT:	APPROVED (UNANIMOUS)
MOVER:	Jeremy Uplinger, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Darla McCrumb, Councilmember
AYES:	Martinez-Serratos, Rivers, Uplinger, Muenzer, Garcia, McCrumb, Farmer

Discussion: Councilmember Muenzer inquired about the Landscape Forms invoice for the Chuck Moore Memorial Bench. He asked who approved the invoice and amount for this bench. He also would like to know why the cost of the bench was not just the amount of the donations. Stated the bench is nice but it was \$3,250.00. Mayor Farmer explained that this was a decision that was made with the previous City Manager. Donations were collected for a portion of the bench.

Councilmember Muenzer wanted to know why the two (2) new snow blowers from Formula K Equipment were not purchased at Landers Hardware. Acting DPW Director Steve Lowder said that Landers did not have any snow blowers in stock at the time the City needed them. The price was comparable if they had them in stock.

7. **OTHER REGULAR BUSINESS.**

- a. **The Green Door:** Mark Smith, owner of The Green Door gave a brief presentation to the City Council. He would like to suggest to the council that they reduce the number of marijuana licenses in the City to one (1). Mark gave additional information to the council about his history in Bangor, current, and future plans.

Motion to keep Marijuana Ordinance No. 290 as is, no changes are being made.	
RESULT:	APPROVED (UNANIMOUS)
MOVER:	Jeremy Uplinger, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Heléne Rivers, Councilmember
AYES:	Martinez-Serratos, Rivers, Uplinger, Muenzer, Garcia, McCrumb, Farmer

- b. **VB Tech Construction Traders Program:** Code Enforcement Officer, William Murphy, Jr presented information about the Van Buren Construction Traders Program.

Councilmember McCrumb was concerned about potential proposed property and the issues with Phase I and II clean up.

Councilmember Rivers would like to know if there are other potential properties.

Attorney Scott Graham said that a specific request targeted at a specific property needs to be made in writing and presented to the City Council. The City Council would then look at the entire application and approve or deny.

Motion to table item until further information is acquired.

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

8. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT.

Public comments were heard.

William Murphy Jr, Code Enforcement Officer offered an update on 1014 3rd St. The deadline for the grant demolition is August 2024. The project will need to be complete by then. The owner has been in communication with county regarding the grant. The Building Inspector needs to look at and show that it's a dangerous building.

Motion to have the Building Inspector look at and deem 1014 3rd St 'Dangerous under the Dangerous Building Act'.

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

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

a. Bryce Saylor/Total Lawn Care Invoices.

Attorney Scott Graham gave an update that communications are going back and forth with Bryce Saylor. There is no declaration of a refusal to talk and reach an agreement. The agreement is hard to reach when the winter weather is making it difficult to view and evaluate the work that was completed. When the weather starts clearing up there will be communication with Bryce first and then Tony with Engineer of Record/Abonmarche. When there is better weather, should be able to reach an agreement quickly.

10. NEW BUSINESS.

a. Pump at Well #9.

Motion to approve the Peerless Midwest quote presented not to exceed \$5,750.00 to pull pump at Well #9. Once pump is pulled, DPW Director Lowder is to report back to Council with a new quote for repair.

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

Discussion: Councilmember Muenzer voted 'No' because he believed that we should deal with the situation and fix the problem without delay and that we are already voting on having the pump pulled and already know the company and they have given us high and low quotes. DPW Director explained that there are not many commercial well companies and that the City has done business with Peerless since the mid 70's.

b. **City Manager Short Term/Long Term Goals.**

City Manager Weber presented a list of short term and long term goals. One of the short term goals was presented at the meeting: Redevelop the city logo. Weber then displayed the image of the new logo and tag line.

Councilmember Muenzer would like the residents view on the logo change. Councilmember Garcia suggested we put it out front on the board and social media to get feedback.

c. **Lot Split Division Approval / Black River Road.**

Motion to accept the Lot Split Application for Parcel 80-54-651-001-01 submitted by Adam Stegenga on condition that the City Assessor qualifies the split.	
RESULT:	APPROVED (UNANIMOUS)
MOVER:	Jerry Muenzer, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Pati Martinez-Serratos, Mayor Pro Tem
AYES:	Martinez-Serratos, Rivers, Uplinger, Muenzer, Garcia, McCrumb, Farmer

Discussion: The planning commission approved and recommends Council accept the Lot Split Application submitted.

d. **2nd Quarter Budget Amendments.**

City Treasurer Stephenie Cagle presented the 2nd Quarter Budget Amendments.

Motion to accept 2nd Quarter Budget Amendments as presented.	
RESULT:	APPROVED (UNANIMOUS)
MOVER:	Jerry Muenzer, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Amber Garcia, Councilmember
AYES:	Martinez-Serratos, Rivers, Uplinger, Muenzer, Garcia, McCrumb, Farmer

Discussion: There are several questions about the attorney budget line item being over.

Councilmember Garcia - would like to know who has contact with the City Attorney.

Councilmember McCrumb – other cities funnel City Attorney contact thru the City Manager. I'm just looking to see if there is a more manageable amount we should be paying for Attorney's fees.

City Attorney Graham explains that the Charter dictates who can contact the Attorney. In addition, that the Council can decide however it would like if they want a log. The invoices now show the source of the contact, so the council can see that moving forward.

e. **CDBG Block Grant Close Out Public Hearing**

Motion to go in to Public Hearing to Close Out CDBG Block Grant at 8:28 PM.	
RESULT:	APPROVED (UNANIMOUS)
MOVER:	Jeremy Uplinger, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Pati Martinez-Serratos, Mayor Pro Tem
AYES:	Martinez-Serratos, Rivers, Uplinger, Muenzer, Garcia, McCrumb, Farmer

Discussion: Public comments were heard. City Treasurer Cagle explains what the CDBG Block Grant is - Sewer Lining Grant. Attorney Graham asks City Treasurer if there is any reason this Grant should not be closed. City Treasurer explains that there is no reason why the Grant cannot be closed out. DPW Director said the work is complete. Abonmarche also looked at work to confirm it's complete, no money owed by the City as of now other than the final Close Out payment to Kimberly Carter.

Motion to go out of Public Hearing and return to Regular Session at 8:31 PM.	
RESULT:	APPROVED (UNANIMOUS)
MOVER:	Jerry Muenzer, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Amber Garcia, Councilmember
AYES:	Martinez-Serratos, Rivers, Uplinger, Muenzer, Garcia, McCrumb, Farmer

Motion to Close Out CDBG Block Grant.	
RESULT:	APPROVED (UNANIMOUS)
MOVER:	Amber Garcia, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Jeremy Uplinger, Councilmember
AYES:	Martinez-Serratos, Rivers, Uplinger, Muenzer, Garcia, McCrumb, Farmer

f. **Shelly Umbanhowar Sturgis Bank & Trust online banking access and ACH Transactions.**

Motion to add Shelly Umbanhowar to Sturgis Bank & Trust online banking access and ACH Transactions.	
RESULT:	APPROVED (UNANIMOUS)
MOVER:	Jeremy Uplinger, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Darla McCrumb, Councilmember
AYES:	Martinez-Serratos, Rivers, Uplinger, Muenzer, Garcia, McCrumb, Farmer

g. **Justin Weber Sturgis Bank & Trust online banking access and ACH Transactions.**

Motion to add Justin Weber to Sturgis Bank & Trust online banking access and ACH Transactions.	
RESULT:	APPROVED (UNANIMOUS)
MOVER:	Jeremy Uplinger, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Amber Garcia, Councilmember
AYES:	Martinez-Serratos, Rivers, Uplinger, Muenzer, Garcia, McCrumb, Farmer

11. **OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT.**

Public comments were heard: everyone really liked the logo presented.

12. **COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS.**

Martinez-Serratos: Thank you for coming.

Rivers: Thank you for coming. Stephenie and Shelly, I appreciate all your hard work preparing, I know it takes time.

Uplinger: Thanks for coming. Shelly, thanks for your organization and binders. Thanks to the Council for coming together.

McCrumb: Justin, impressive goal list, thank you for your thought and consideration when planning. Shelly, thank you for the binders and Stephenie, thank you for the color-coding on the spreadsheet. William, thank you and good job.

Garcia: Thank you City workers. Your hard work does not go unnoticed. Thank you to the community for coming out.

Muenzer: History Lesson: 1870 - Reps from Chicago came to Bangor looking for seed money; In 1872 the railroad came to Bangor and changed it forever.

Farmer: The City has a flower fund since the City funds cannot be used for items like this. Please send your prayers and condolences to Claude Street, as he is grieving the loss of his wife. Thank you for coming out tonight. Thank you Stephenie for the highlighting on the spreadsheets and thank you Shelly for the binders.

CITY MANAGER WEBER COMMENTS.

Reminder to Council about MML Training on Wednesday, 2/21 from 1-4PM and headshots for website on Thursday, 2/22 from 3-5 PM.

CITY ATTORNEY GRAHAM COMMENTS.

Best practices for Council meeting roll calls is to do a rotating list. That what you do not always start with the same person, rotate the first vote. Mayor is the final vote. I have continued contact with the FBI, no information to provide as of now. I will provide information as necessary.

13. ADJOURNMENT.

Motion to adjourn at 8:44 PM	
RESULT:	APPROVED (UNANIMOUS)
MOVER:	Jeremy Uplinger, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Darla McCrumb, Councilmember
AYES:	Martinez-Serratos, Rivers, Uplinger, Muenzer, Garcia, McCrumb, Farmer

Shelly Umbanhowar, City Clerk

Mayor Lynne Farmer

