

Bangor City Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
July 17, 2023
257 W. Monroe St.
Bangor, Michigan

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:** Present: Council Members Uplinger, Martinez-Serratos, Mayor Pro Tem Alcaraz Muenzer, Murphy and Mayor Farmer. Absent: None.
4. **Approval of Agenda:** Motion by Council Member Uplinger to accept the agenda with the following amendments: Change under New Business 7c. Abonmarche Presentation to Applefest Presentation. Support by Council Member Martinez-Serratos. **Ayes** by all present. **Nays:** None. Absent: None. Motion Carried.
5. **Approval of Meeting Minutes from July 3, 2023:** Motion by Council Member Murphy to accept the minutes with correction of giving Council Member Muenzer credit for knowing where the first GOP was started in. Support by Council Member Muenzer. **Ayes** by all present. **Nays:** None. Absent: None. Motion Carried.
 - a. **Approval of Closed Meeting Minutes from July 3, 2023:** Motion by Council Member Muenzer to accept the minutes as presented. Support by Council Member Martinez-Serratos. **Ayes** by all present. **Nays:** None. Absent: None. Motion Carried.
 - b. **Approval of Closed Meeting Minutes from July 12, 2023:** Motion by Council Member Murphy to accept the minutes as presented. Support by Council Member Muenzer. Ayes by Council Member Uplinger, Murphy, Muenzer, Mayor Pro Tem Alcaraz and Mayor Farmer. Nays: None. Abstain: Council Member Martinez-Serratos. Absent: None. Motion Carried.
6. **Approval of Payments and Bills:**
 - a. Motion by Mayor Farmer to pay the bills in the **General Checking 2** in the amount of **\$140,430.93**. Support by Council Member Uplinger. **Roll Call Vote: Ayes** by all present. **Nays:** None. Absent: None. Motion Carried.
 - b. Motion by Mayor Farmer to pay the bills for **Roads** in the amount of **\$26,353.42**. Support by Council Member Uplinger. **Roll Call Vote: Ayes** by all present. **Nays:** None. Absent: None. Motion Carried.
 - c. Motion by Mayor Farmer to pay the bills of **EDC** in the amount of **\$2,855.00**. Support by Council Member Uplinger. **Roll Call Vote: Ayes** by all present. **Nays:** None. Absent: None. Motion Carried
7. **New Business:**
 - a. **Housing Commission Water Bill:** After discussion the City Council would like more information about this bill. Motion by Council Member Uplinger to table any action until the next scheduled meeting. Support by Council Member Murphy. **Ayes:** Council Member Uplinger, Martinez-Serratos, Murphy, Mayor Pro Tem Alcaraz and Mayor Farmer. **Nays:** Council Member Muenzer. Absent: None. Motion Carried.
 - b. **Appointment of New Council Member:** Motion by Council Member Muenzer to appoint Carla Gray to the open council seat. Support by Council Member Uplinger. **Roll Call Vote: Ayes:** Council Members Martinez-Serratos, Uplinger, Murphy, Muenzer. **Nays:** Mayor Pro Tem Alcaraz and Mayor Farmer. Absent: None. Motion Carried.

- c. **Applefest Presentation:** Lions Club is requesting the closing of Center Street and Charles Street for the car show during Applefest. City Council is not opposed to the closing of Center and Charles Streets.
 - d. **Appointment of City Clerk:** City Manager Simpson recommended appointing Shelly Umbanhowar as City Clerk. Motion by Council Member Murphy to appoint Shelly Umbanhowar as the City Clerk. Support by Council Member Uplinger. **Roll Call Vote: Ayes** by all present. **Nays:** None. Absent: None. Motion Carried.
 - e. **DPW Director Status Search:** City Manager Simpson updated City Council. He will have recommendation at the next meeting.
 - f. **City Manager Search:** Motion by Council Member Murphy to allow City Manager Simpson to post/advertise that the City of Bangor is currently seeking a City Manager. Support by Council Member Martinez-Serratos. **Roll Call Vote: Ayes** by all present. **Nays:** None. Absent: None. Motion Carried.
 - g. **Department Reports:**
 - i. DPW Liaison: Mayor Farmer gave the DPW report.
 - ii. County: None
 - iii. Fire Department: Chief Babcock gave the Fire Department report
 - iv. Police Department: Chief Weber gave the Police report
 - v. Pride Care: Steve Lowder gave the Pride Care report
8. **Opportunity for Public Comment: Stewart Rissley:** There are a lot of changes going on. I'm disappointed that some things are only half way done.
- Renee Doroh:** Thank you Steve for your report. Wondering what is going on with the mowing at Kiwanis Park. It is the worse that it has ever looked. The park is being used a lot. If I can help let me know. Concerned about the fire hydrant not being fixed there are a lot of business in that area. Sad that Tommy is leaving. He has done amazing things for the City.
- Kathy Sparks:** Thank you Lynne, Jeremy and the police officers for stopping in at my tournament. I always get a lot of complaints on how many police officer stop by. Thank you Paul, the kids loved you to death. It is great to have the support for this tournament in honor of my dad. He played and ump at that field for a lot of years. Tommy going to miss you!
- Butch Murphy:** Whoever did the work out front of City Hall did a great job! I would like to see some benches down the main street.
- Dereck Bobcock:** What is the time frame for the clean up on Division and Arlington? It seems like the project that never ends.
- Stewart Rissley:** Why are the swings not back up on the North Side Park. Isn't there a time frame for clean up on burned out homes? The property owner should have taken care of it already.
- Dail Kuhens:** You have a lot of guys down at DPW that work very hard. Tommy has done an excellent job. Can't hire outside that has as much knowledge.
- Steve Lowder:** Thank you Tommy for all that you have done. I have guys that are very hard working to make thing look good.
- Amber Garcia:** Thank you Tommy. You always looked out for Bangor. You gave my son a chance.
9. **Old Business: VBEMS/Ambulance Update:** City Manager Simpson gave update on the new ambulance coverage.
10. **Opportunity for Public Comment:** None
11. **Board/Commission Appointments and Correspondence:** Motion by Council Member Munezer to remove Carla Gray from the Bangor Housing Commission. Support by Council Member Murphy. **Ayes** by all present. **Nays:** None. Absent: None. Motion Carried.

- a. Motion by Council Member Uplinger to appoint Helen Rivers to the Bangor Housing Commission. Support by Council Member Martinez-Serratos. **Ayes** by all present. **Nays:** None. Absent: None. Motion Carried.

12. **Council Member Comments:**

Council Member Martinez-Serratos: Thank you Tommy for your service. I would not be on the council without you. I am in agreement about the benches and the fire hydrant being important. Thank you for the fireworks they were great. Thank you all who put their name in for the open council seat. Important to get the reduce speed signs. Thank Lions Club for coming in to talk about the road closing.

Mayor Pro Tem Alcaraz: Thank you Tommy for your service. I'm sad to see you go.

Council Member Murphy: Thank you Tommy for all you have done for this City. Thank you all for coming out tonight.

Council Member Muenzer: I need to ask a question. Has the old Slaughter house been torn down? (Should be starting soon) Then why are we paying for it? (It was a down payment) Question for Public Works – What is this 20+ Miss on your report? (MISS DIGS) I'm in agreement the house on Third that burned need to be taken care of. Thank you, Tommy. I wouldn't have run for City Council if it wasn't for you. Tonight's history lesson – In 1870 Bangor had 2 of the largest businesses in the country. They were located over by Mora Park. One was call Bangor Blast Furnace they used iron ore and turned into Pig Iron. They were here because of the lumber that was here in Bangor. The other was Bangor Chemicals.

Council Member Uplinger: Glad that Tommy is moving on to bigger and better. I think he lost all his hair working here. Thank you, Jerry, for the history lesson. Let me know and maybe my motorcycle club can donate a bench downtown.

Mayor Farmer: Thank you Amber, Helen, Darla and the others for their willingness to help. We are working with the DDA to get benches. Congratulations Paul! If you didn't know Chuck Moore passed away. His service will be July 29 from 1pm-4pm at Mooresville (his house). I will contact his wife to see what she might need. Maybe we can do a fundraiser and get a bench in Chuck's name. Thank you to the Lions Club and everyone working on Applefest. Thank you to Steve and the guys at DPW. Thank you all for coming tonight.

13. **Adjournment:** Motion by Council Member Murphy to adjourn the meeting at 8:17 PM. Support by Council Member Uplinger. **Ayes** by all present. **Nays:** None. Absent: None. Motion Carried.