

CITY OF BANGOR
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
 December 18, 2023 @ 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 | Absent |
| 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, Fire Chief Babcock, Office Kendegran, Treasurer Stephenie Cagle, and approximately 25 members of the public.

4. APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA.

Motion to accept Regular Meeting Agenda with the following changes:

Add 10 d. Closed Session, Attorney/Client Privilege.

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

5. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES.

a. Approval of Minutes of the Council Meeting held on December 4, 2023

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

6. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND PAYROLL.

a. Motion to pay bills from General Checking 2 in the amount of \$148,395.92

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

b. **Motion to pay bills from Roads Checking in the amount of \$5,772.82**

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

c. **Motion to pay bills from T&A2 Checking in the amount of \$82,867.73**

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

7. **OTHER REGULAR BUSINESS.**

a. Department Head Reports

- i. Chief Babcock presented a report for Fire Department for Nov 2023.
 - 1. CPR classes will be one per month starting January 2024.
- ii. Office Kendegran presented a report for the Police Department for Nov 2023.
- iii. Acting DPW Director Lowder presented a report for the DPW for current projects.

8. **OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT.**

Public comments were heard.

9. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

a. **Amended Purchasing Policy.**

Motion to table adopting the presented Amended Purchasing Policy until Councilmembers are able to review.

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| RESULT: | APPROVED (5 to 1) |
| MOVER: | Darla McCrumb, Councilmember |
| SECONDER: | Jerry Muenzer, Councilmember |
| AYES: | Rivers, Uplinger, Muenzer, McCrumb, Farmer |
| NAYES: | Martinez-Serratos |
| ABSENT: | Garcia |

b. **New Website Launch.**

Interim City Manager Weber explained that new website is live. Encouraged Councilmembers to check City emails, as they are published on the website and available for residents to communicate with them.

c. **Bryce Saylor/Total Lawn Care Invoices**

- i. Abonmarche
Tony McGhee was not able to attend due to illness
- ii. Attorney Update
Scott Graham, City Attorney: The Abonmarche report is complete. There are three (3) separate issues: 1) questions on whether the City paid appropriate prices for work that was done, 2) was certain work performed at all, and 3) was work performed satisfactorily, if not what is the cost estimate to repair.

The council will need to decide what to do next. Attorney opinion and other specific things will be discussed in closed session. Now that you have the report, you can move forward. There are few spots that Abonmarche cannot be precise on. Outstanding invoices should not be paid at this time because of the existing dispute.

10. NEW BUSINESS.

a. City Assessor 2024 Resolutions.

i. Resolution 2023-22

Motion to accept Resolution 2023-22, Letters of Protest From City Residents.

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

ii. Resolution 2023-23

Motion to accept Resolution 2023-23, State Poverty Level Income Standards.

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

iii. Resolution 2023-24

Motion to accept Resolution 2023-24, Alternate Starting Dates.

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

b. Accept Re-Appointment of Board of Review.

i. Re-Appoint Renee Doroh, Board of Review

Motion to re-appoint Renee Doroh to the Board of Review Term 01/01/24-12/31/26.

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

ii. Re-Appoint Dave Markel, Board of Review

Motion to re-appoint Dave Markel to the Board of Review Term 01/01/24-12/31/26.

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

c. Interim City Manager Update.

Interim City Manager Justin Weber gave an update on the skid steer it has been backordered until the end of January. Looking into getting headshots for everyone to place on website. Paul Leonard graduated 12/18/23 and will test 12/19/23. He will start in the office and FTO 12/20/23. Letter of thanks was sent to the Christmas Parade committee.

11. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT.

Public comments were heard.

CLOSED SESSION FOR ATTORNEY/CLIENT PRIVILEGE.

Motion to go into closed session for attorney client privilege at 7:43 PM.

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

CLOSED SESSION FOR ATTORNEY/CLIENT PRIVILEGE.

Motion to return to regular session at 8:59 PM.

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

Motion to allow City Manager Scott Graham to send Bryce Saylor/Total Lawn Care a 14 Day Formal Demand Letter.

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

12. COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS.

Martinez-Serratos: The Christmas Parade was very nice. Justin we hope you will put in your resume for the City Manager position. You have my vote.

Rivers: The City Hall looks great. I feel like we are making progress. Justin we hope you will put in your resume.

Uplinger: Everyone needs to know this has been hard and a dark spot. It has been discouraging but humbling. I enjoy being part of the City Council and the people involved.

McCrumb: Thank you for letting me state everyone I needed to. This is big and I am just trying to understand it. I will ask questions, it is my responsibility.

Garcia: Absent.

Muenzer: Things are going to work out. We will look back after the fact and realize that.

Farmer: I want us to be together and work together. I trust Justin and the work he is doing. If we cannot move forward, we are moving backwards. We will come through stronger. We are a team.

INTERIM CITY MANAGER WEBER COMMENTS.

The Wreaths Across America was a good outcome. The council is so divisive right now I have not made my decision to put my resume in for the City Manager position. I need to speak with Scott about it.

ADJOURNMENT.

Motion to adjourn at 9:13 PM

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

Shelly Umbanhowar, City Clerk

Mayor Lynne Farmer

