

City of Corunna
Regular Council Meeting
Monday, June 6, 2011

Present: Kerridge, Perdue, Jessen, Sarrazin, Johnson, Haskins, Reichert.

Absent: None.

Guests: Joe Sawyer, City Manager; Merilee Lawson, City Assessor/Planner; Judy Horton; Keith & Diane Johnson; Dennis Johnson; Bill Lulham; Gene Sanderson; Shane Perdue; Don Mehig; Gary Arnold, C2AE; Donna Kerridge; and Helen Granger, The Independent.

The meeting was called to order in the council chambers of Corunna City Hall by Mayor Kerridge at 7:00 p.m.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS REGULAR MEETING: Johnson moved, Jessen seconded to approve the previous regular meeting minutes dated May 16, 2011 as presented.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Jessen, Sarrazin, Johnson, Haskins, Reichert.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

AGENDA APPROVAL: Sarrazin moved, Reichert seconded to approve the agenda by moving Item No. 9 to Item No. 1 and Item No. 1 to 1A and adding Presentation To Don Mehig After Vendor Disbursements, Item No. 9) Consider Building Specs for Olmstead Building, Item No. 10) Consider Appointment of Brad Reichert to the Corunna-Caledonia Fire Board, Item No. 11) Consider Appointment of Dawn Johnson to the Corunna Area Ambulance and Item No. 12) Discussion on City Communication Board.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Sarrazin, Johnson, Haskins, Reichert, Jessen.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

RESOLUTION APPROVING VENDOR DISBURSEMENTS: Johnson moved, Reichert seconded to approve the vendor disbursements for 05-26-11 as presented.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Johnson, Haskins, Reichert, Jessen, Sarrazin.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

PRESENTATION TO DON MEHIGH: City council presented Don Mehig with a plaque and proclamation recognizing the time he served on the city council.

CALL TO AUDIENCE: Keith Johnson stated there is a situation at the dam that needs to be looked at. The top of the dam has a hole in and the cement is eroding away. He is concerned that someone could fall four feet down and get hurt. Ms. Lawson advised Mr. Arnold just came back from looking at the dam and it needs to be looked at immediately because there is a sink hole next to the dam. Ms. Lawson stated there was talk about replacing the picket fence with a chain linked fence to keep people off the dam. Mayor Kerridge advised the dam does not belong to the city and suggested sending them an email stating there is a safety issue. Mr. Sawyer advised there are a lot of people who are fishing there.

CONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF WARD II COUNCILPERSON: Johnson moved, Reichert seconded to appoint Shane E. Perdue to the Corunna City Council to fill the vacant Ward II council seat created by the resignation of Donald Mehig until the November election. Mr. Perdue was issued the Oath of Office by the city clerk and he took his seat on the council.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Haskins, Reichert, Jessen, Sarrazin, Johnson.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF EDWARD ADE TO THE CORUNNA YOUTH SPORTS AND RECREATION COMMISSION: Johnson moved, Sarrazin seconded to appoint Edward Ade to the Corunna Sports and Recreation Commission serving at the pleasure of the council for an indefinite term.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Reichert, Perdue, Jessen, Sarrazin, Johnson, Haskins.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER RESIGNATION OF MATTHEW CHRZAN FROM THE CORUNNA YOUTH SPORTS AND RECREATION COMMISSION: Jessen moved, Johnson seconded to accept the resignation of Matthew Chrzan from the Corunna Youth Sports and Recreation Commission.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Jessen, Johnson, Reichert, Perdue, Sarrazin, Haskins.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF USDA-RD WATER/SEWER INVOICES: Johnson moved, Sarrazin seconded to approve Contractor's Application for Payment No. 1 for the Rural Development Sanitary Sewer and Water System Improvements to Pamar Enterprises in the amount of \$265,631.58.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Reichert, Jessen, Sarrazin, Haskins, Perdue, Johnson.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER 2012 SATA FUNDING REQUEST: Sarrazin moved, Johnson seconded to approve the 2012 SATA funding request in an amount not to exceed \$14,575.89 for fiscal year October 1, 2011 to September 30, 2012.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Johnson, Reichert, Perdue, Jessen, Haskins, Sarrazin.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER ENGINEERING PROPOSAL FOR PARMENTER ROAD – EAST MCNEIL

STREET (M-71) TO THE CITY LIMITS: Mr. Sawyer advised he asked Gary Arnold to submit a design engineering proposal for Parmenter Road in order to determine how it can be turned into an all-weather road. Gary Arnold, C2AE, explained the road would consist of two twelve foot (12') lanes with right-turn tapers for future industrial park development. MDOT requires all railroad crossings to be reviewed by submitting a MDOT Diagnostic Study Team Review (DSTR) request form 1425 to determine whether or not a DSTR is necessary. If it is necessary, the review process will take approximately six to nine months. The design assumes Parmenter Road will be closed to thru-traffic during the construction project. Mr. Sawyer stated the project may be eligible for funding through MDOT. The city has money in the Industrial Park Fund which can be utilized if there are grants available. Sarrazin moved, Reichert seconded to approve the engineering proposal from C2AE for the development of Parmenter Road in an amount not to exceed \$46,900 for Design Engineering Services and \$3,500 for soil investigation.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Haskins, Jessen, Perdue, Sarrazin, Johnson, Reichert.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER AIR CONDITIONER REPAIR/REPLACEMENT AT CORUNNA CITY HALL:

Mr. Sawyer advised the air conditioner compressor has quit working in the unit out back. Maurer Heating & Cooling has given the city two options to consider and monies will come out of the municipal building fund and will not require a budget amendment if it is approved. Councilperson Johnson asked if she should abstain since her husband works for Maurer Heating & Cooling. Mr. Sawyer advised it would be a reasonable request. Councilperson Johnson advised she would like to abstain from a possible motion for that reason. Jessen moved, Haskins seconded to allow Dawn Johnson to abstain from voting on this issue.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Johnson, Haskins, Jessen, Reichert, Perdue.

No: Sarrazin.

Motion CARRIED

Jessen moved, Haskins seconded to approve option two which is the replacement of a new air conditioner with a one-year warranty on parts and labor and a five-year warranty on the compressor and new copper line set in the amount of \$4,445.00.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Sarrazin, Perdue, Jessen, Reichert, Haskins.
No: None.
Abstain: Johnson

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 3: Johnson moved, Jessen seconded to approve the following Budget Amendment No. 3:

RESOLUTION 060611-01
RESOLUTION AMENDING THE 2010/2011 BUDGET

WHEREAS, The City Council of the City of Corunna desires to Amend the 2010/2011 Budget to Adjust Departmental Expenditures and maintain the Adopted General Fund Appropriation;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the budget for the City fiscal year beginning July 1, 2010 after recommendation by the City Manager be amended by the City Council as described as follows:

| <u>Fund. #</u> | <u>Fund. Name</u> | <u>FROM:</u> | <u>TO:</u> |
|----------------|-------------------|--------------|-------------|
| 101 | General Fund | \$1,725,059 | \$1,725,059 |

General Fund Expenditures:

| <u>Dept. #</u> | <u>Dept. Name</u> | <u>FROM:</u> | <u>TO:</u> |
|----------------|--------------------|--------------|------------|
| 265 | Municipal Building | \$48,536 | \$49,536 |
| 967 | City Services | \$408,953 | \$407,953 |

BE IT, the same is hereby adopted, and the amount therein provided as recommended; appropriations are hereby appropriated according to the departmental totals.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, to amend the following fund appropriations:

| <u>Fund. #</u> | <u>Fund. Name</u> | <u>FROM:</u> | <u>TO:</u> |
|----------------|------------------------------|--------------|------------|
| 208 | Parks & Recreation Fund | \$182,900 | \$187,400 |
| 211 | Parks Improvement Fund | \$105,350 | \$118,600 |
| 213 | Municipal Building Fund | \$64,874 | \$76,374 |
| 220 | 4 th of July Fund | \$29,050 | \$55,050 |

Roll call vote:

Yes: Reichert, Perdue, Sarrazin, Haskins, Johnson, Jessen.
No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER ADMINISTRATIVE MANUAL CHANGES: Mr. Sawyer advised the Administrative Manual governs the non-represented and part-time employees as well as other areas that are left silent in a negotiated contract. The changes being proposed were subsequent to the budget work sessions. He reviewed Section 6.5 which eliminates prescription co-pay reimbursement. Effective January 1, 2012, the premium co-pay will

rise to 15 percent, January 1, 2013 it will rise to 17.5 percent and January 1, 2014 it will rise to 20 percent. Effective July 1, 2011, the insurance buyout will freeze at \$4,800, July 1, 2012 it will drop to \$4,200 and July 1, 2013 it will drop to \$3,600. Employees must have alternative coverage to receive the insurance buyout. He further reviewed Section 6.15 Retirement Benefits and advised effective July 1, 2011, the non-represented and new hire employees will be required to contribute 2.5 percent of their gross wages towards MERS. Also, for employees who retire after July 1, 2011, there will be no retiree health care benefits. Current retirees under the age of 65 will be required to pay the same premium co-pay as the active employees pay and retirees over the age of 65 will be required to go on an individual Medicare supplement plan and the city will compensate them for the cost of this plan. Different forms of supplemental insurance will be looked at and will come back to council for approval. Councilperson Reichert stated the \$3,600 buyout in 2013 is still twice the amount that people get elsewhere and he would like to see that amount lowered further. Mr. Sawyer advised the wording on when the buyouts are paid needs to be changed from quarterly to monthly. Councilperson Perdue asked how many employees work for the city. Mr. Sawyer advised 12. Councilperson Haskins stated this only affects the non-represented employees at this time. Mr. Sawyer advised yes. Councilperson Jessen stated so the employees who retire after July 1, 2011 will receive no retirement benefits. Mr. Sawyer advised no health insurance coverage. Councilperson Jessen stated the retirees will not be left out to dry. Mr. Sawyer advised no and any changes would come back to council. Sarrazin moved, Haskins seconded to accept the revisions to the Administrative Manual as presented.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Haskins, Sarrazin, Perdue, Johnson, Reichert, Jessen.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER BUILDING SPECS FOR OLMSTED BUILDING: Mr. Sawyer advised the cost is \$700 for the Olmsted building fire annex and \$350 for the motor pool lean-to. There are firefighters who are willing to do some of the construction work. Sarrazin moved, Reichert seconded to approve the bid spec documents for the motor pool lean to and Olmsted building fire annex improvements from Jed Dingens in the amount of \$1,050.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Sarrazin, Reichert, Perdue, Haskins, Johnson, Jessen.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF BRAD REICHERT TO THE CORUNNA-CALEDONIA FIRE BOARD: Haskins moved, Sarrazin seconded to appoint Brad Reichert to the Corunna-Caledonia Fire Board.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Perdue, Jessen, Sarrazin, Johnson, Reichert, Haskins.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF DAWN JOHNSON TO THE CORUNNA AREA

AMBULANCE BOARD: Jessen moved, Haskins seconded to appoint Dawn Johnson to the Corunna Area Ambulance Board.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Jessen, Johnson, Reichert, Sarrazin, Perdue, Haskins.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

DISCUSSION ON CITY COMMUNICATION BOARD: Councilperson Haskins stated he thought this issue was discussed a couple of years ago. Bill Lulham stated there should be some type of communication for the citizens. If he gets through to city hall, he is told a note will be made of it. He felt there should be better response to some of the problems in the city. The city council should be able to hear the citizen's concerns from the citizens and suggested giving a carbon copy of the concern to the city council. This is an area that supervision and personnel should be judged from to see if they are responding because he does not believe this is being done. Councilperson Haskins stated he felt there were two different issues being presented; talking to a councilperson and talking to city hall. He asked if it was difficult to reach a councilperson. Mr. Lulham advised there is some difficulty. Councilperson Haskins stated the council phone numbers are available at city hall. Mr. Lulham stated the city has good people, but they are only good as their supervision. He thinks the city council can do better and it should have a better line of communication. Councilperson Johnson stated it sounds like he is attacking the supervision person of the department of public works. She will tell him the same thing she told him on the phone that she disagrees with him on that. Mr. Lulham advised there are some areas in the city that need to be repaired and it is not getting done. Councilperson Johnson asked Mr. Lulham if he will come up with ideas on how to get the money to do those repairs. Mr. Lulham advised there is money in the budget. Councilperson Johnson stated she felt he was having personal problems with the city manager on down the line and this is why this is coming about. Councilperson Sarrazin asked if it would be easy to establish an email address to the city that will be monitored. Mr. Sawyer advised email addresses are available and he has done a back search of his email and has not received an email from Mr. Lulham in the past five years. If Mr. Lulham feels an email system would be a great way to lodge a complaint then why has he not done it. Councilperson Sarrazin stated it is easy to get a hold of city hall. Mr. Sawyer advised the city has the most accessible city hall he has ever seen. He spent over three hours of his own time responding to comments and questions that were on the city's Facebook page this past weekend. He personally does not see any issue but people sometimes do not like the answer that they get. Councilperson Sarrazin suggested carbon copying the city council when an answer is given. If council does not like the answer that is given or if they thought it was not handled properly, the council could dig deeper. He asked Mr. Lulham if he was looking for oversight. Mr. Lulham advised yes. Mr. Sawyer stated there is a change of command so if people do not like the answer that they are given they have the right to go to their councilmembers. To have an environment where councilmembers are second guessing staff every day is a ridiculous environment. Councilperson Sarrazin agreed. Mr. Sawyer stated the fact that Mr. Lulham is here tonight and Councilperson Johnson was kind enough to have it added to the agenda is

evidence that the city has the exact system that he is asking for. Councilperson Haskins stated he does not believe Mr. Lulham's concerns are falling on deaf ears and he is being heard. Ms. Lawson stated the communication is more open than people think. She constantly gets emails every day. She suggested emailing Mr. Lulham everyone's email address. Mr. Lulham advised he would appreciate that. Mr. Sawyer advised the specific request here was if something is emailed then the city has 30 days to fix it. There are a lot of things that people ask that the city cannot do. He further advised when he gets a complaint via email it is included in the council packet. If someone wants something on the agenda, they can contact their councilperson but it takes two councilpersons to get it on the agenda. Councilperson Sarrazin encouraged Mr. Lulham to use his email address if he had any concerns. Mayor Kerridge advised he can be reached on his cell phone which is given out by city hall all of the time.

CALL TO AUDIENCE: Gene Sanderson, 609 S. Shiawassee Street, stated he talked to Mr. Sawyer, the Chief of Police, and Councilperson Sarrazin about the traffic on South Shiawassee Street last summer and someone would get back with him, but he has not heard anything from anyone. He has only seen a police car parked on South Shiawassee Street twice in 9 months. Councilperson Sarrazin advised this issue was addressed the same night it was brought up. The police chief explained what was being done. Councilperson Sarrazin further advised he does not know what more can be done. Mr. Sanderson stated he has invited the police chief and Mr. Sawyer to come and sit in his driveway but he keeps getting the same story that people are given a chance to slow down as they come down the hill. He almost got hit by three cars as he was mowing his ditch the other day. The next time he mows his ditch he will park his truck in the road with its blinkers on to see what happens. If someone wants to wreck his truck then fine, but he is not going to get killed by some stupid fool going down the street 50 mph. He cannot sit in his house with the door open because motorcycles and cars are constantly racing each other. He is told the city is doing this and that but it is not true. Mr. Sawyer advised if a car is going 50 mph, it is going below the speed limit. A ticket cannot be written to people while they are accelerating and decelerating their vehicles. This has been explained to Mr. Sanderson several times, and since it is not the answer he wants, he feels he is being ignored. Mr. Sanderson questioned the number of speeding tickets that have been written because he believes most of them are warnings. Councilperson Sarrazin apologized for not being able to satisfy Mr. Sanderson's complaint. It has been addressed several times and the answer has been the same. Mr. Sanderson stated the city does not want to do anything about it. He asked why the people who fly by his house in the morning on the way to work at the courthouse are being protected. He further stated it has been almost a year and he still has not got an answer. Councilperson Sarrazin advised it was addressed at a council meeting two weeks after he was contacted and Mr. Sanderson was at the meeting so do not say he did not address it because he did. Mr. Sanderson stated he did not get an answer that made sense to him. Councilperson Sarrazin stated he was not going to talk about it anymore. Mr. Sanderson stated he feels sorry for the people in the City of Corunna. Judy Horton stated it does not just happen on Shiawassee Street. It happens on Dutcher Street too. People are driving 50 mph and she is surprised no one has gone into the ditch. There is only one officer on duty at a time and they cannot be everywhere. Councilperson Jessen stated people fly by his house too. Councilperson Johnson stated Councilperson Sarrazin has done everything he said he

would do so he should not feel bad about it. Mr. Sawyer advised this is a long standing issue and no one denies there is a problem. At one time, there was a reduced speed ahead sign at Lyons Road. The city, Caledonia Charter Township and the road commission requested that the speed limit be lowered to 35 mph at Lyons Road and if someone is going 50 mph after Lyons Road, a ticket can be written. The state police reviewed the request and removed the 35 mph ahead sign because it was not authorized.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – WRITTEN COMMUNICATION ATTORNEY-CLIENT

PRIVILEGE: Johnson moved, Jessen seconded to leave regular session and enter executive session for written communication attorney-client privilege.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Sarrazin, Johnson, Reichert, Perdue, Jessen, Haskins.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED Time was 9:00 p.m.

No action took place during the executive session. Johnson moved, Jessen seconded to leave executive session and return to regular session.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Johnson, Reichert, Sarrazin, Jessen, Haskins, Perdue.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED Time was 9:26 p.m.

ADJOURN: Jessen moved, Johnson seconded to adjourn.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Reichert, Perdue, Jessen, Haskins, Johnson, Sarrazin.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED Time was 9:32 p.m.

Charles Kerridge, Mayor

Nichole L. Cowdrey, City Clerk/Treasurer