

## DOWAGIAC CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, April 25, 2016

A regular meeting of the Dowagiac City Council was called to order by Mayor Donald Lyons at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Donald Lyons led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

PRESENT: Mayor Pro-Tem Leon D. Laylin; Councilmembers Charles K. Burling, James B. Dodd, Lori A. Hunt, Danielle E. Lucas, Bob B. Schuur and City Clerk Jane P. Wilson.

ABSENT: None.

STAFF: City Manager Kevin P. Anderson, Airport Manager Oscar Azevedo.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Councilmember Laylin moved and Councilmember Dodd seconded that the minutes of the April 11, 2016 meeting be approved.

Approved unanimously.

### COMMENTS FROM CITY COUNCIL (AGENDA)

### COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE (AGENDA)

Scott Teter, Candidate for Cass County Circus Judge.

### PROCLAMATIONS

#### 1. Dogwood Fine Arts Festival

WHEREAS, 25 years ago, the Dowagiac Dogwood Fine Arts Festival began with a small group of local citizens with one big idea; and

WHEREAS, that one big idea has blossomed and grown from a single author visiting the City of Dowagiac to a major multi-day cultural event that includes a diverse experience in arts and culture; and

WHEREAS, world-wide renowned authors, speakers, performers and celebrities have visited and performed in our community to expand our own appreciation of the arts; and

WHEREAS, the Dowagiac Dogwood Fine Arts Committees continue to use the Festival to assure that our children and our community are given ample opportunity to experience and embrace the power of artistic expression by being personally engaged with internationally renowned artists and performers; and

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WHEREAS, the Dogwood Fine Arts Festival presents the very best in the fine arts in southwest Michigan each year; and

WHEREAS, the 2016 Dogwood Fine Arts Festival marks its 25th anniversary season with 11 days celebrating Michigan and Michigan artists.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED; that I, Donald D. Lyons, Mayor of the City of Dowagiac, tender this Proclamation to the Dogwood Fine Arts Festival and urge all citizens to join me in congratulating the Festival on its 25 anniversary, this sincere expression of appreciation and our best wishes for a very exciting festival the week of May 5 through May 15, 2016.

### 2. Arbor Day Celebration

Whereas, in 1872, J. Sterling Morton proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special day be set aside for the planting of trees; and

Whereas, this holiday, called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska; and

Whereas, Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nation and the world; and

Whereas, trees reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cut heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce life-giving oxygen, and provide habitat for wildlife; and

Whereas, trees are a renewable resource giving us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our fires, and beautify our community; and

Whereas, trees in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our community; and

Whereas, trees, wherever they are planted, are a source of joy and spiritual renewal; and

Whereas, the City of Dowagiac's Arbor Day originated through the efforts of Mr. Edward Darr, and is celebrated through various festivities and the annual tree planting; and in 2007 Dowagiac received the honor of recognition from the National Arbor Day Foundation as "Dogwood Tree City USA;"

Whereas, the City has been annually designated as a Tree City USA; and

Whereas, the City has forged a commitment to managing our urban forest.

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Now, Therefore, I, Donald D. Lyons, Mayor of the City of Dowagiac, do hereby proclaim the last Friday in April, as Arbor Day in the City of Dowagiac from this date forward, and I urge all citizens to celebrate Arbor Day and to support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands; and

Further, I urge all citizens to plant trees to gladden the heart and promote the well-being of this and future generations.

### RESOLUTIONS

1. Resolution to authorize the purchase of property at 305 Commercial Street.

Councilmember Laylin offered and moved to approve the following resolution; seconded by Councilmember Hunt.

WHEREAS, the City has actively pursued the ongoing redevelopment and economic vitality of downtown, and;

WHEREAS, it is in the long-term best interest of the City and the downtown to acquire properties for future development as they become available and as the City has resources available, and;

WHEREAS, the City negotiated purchase price is consistent with the sales price of other similar properties in downtown, and;

WHEREAS, the City Manager has negotiated a purchase agreement, subject to City Council approval, of \$20,300.00 for purchase of the property located at 305 Commercial Street that would accommodate said development.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Dowagiac, by the affirmative vote of its City Council, does hereby authorize the City Manager to execute the purchase of said property.

APPROVED unanimously.

2. Resolution to authorize the rejection of bids for construction of the airport terminal building.

Councilmember Dodd offered and moved to reject the bids for construction of the airport terminal building; seconded by Councilmember Hunt.

WHEREAS, the City of Dowagiac solicited bids for the construction of a new terminal building at the Dowagiac Municipal Airport, and;

WHEREAS, only one bid was received for this project in the amount of \$640,262.82, and;

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WHEREAS, this bid amount is in excess of the engineers estimate by \$250,000.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Dowagiac, by affirmative vote of its City Council, hereby rejects the bid, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council directs the City Manager to notify the bidder of the rejection and to authorize developing alternatives for the construction of a new terminal building.

APPROVED unanimously.

3. Resolution to approve a bid for replacement of compartment box for electric utility bucket truck.

Councilmember Schuur offered and moved the adoption of the following resolution; seconded by Councilmember Burling.

WHEREAS, Unit #4, the 2003 Freightliner Bucket Truck, has developed serious rust damage to the compartment box that houses the safety equipment for the Electric Division, and;

WHEREAS, the City received two bids for the replacement of the compartment box with a steel replacement box, and;

WHEREAS, after review of the bids, the City recommends the bid from Altec in the amount of \$28,791.49, and;

WHEREAS, Altec has performed most major repairs for this unit and has the shortest lead-time in obtaining the parts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Dowagiac, by affirmative vote of its City Council, hereby approves and accepts the proposal from Altec for purchase and installation of a steel compartment box for the Electric Division Bucket Truck, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council directs the City Manager to be authorized as the signatory for execution of the same.

APPROVED unanimously.

4. Resolution to approve local support funding for the resurfacing of Depot Drive from Park Place to Division Street.

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Councilmember Dodd offered and moved the adoption of the following resolution; seconded by Councilmember Hunt.

WHEREAS, Depot Drive from Park Place to Davison St. is in deteriorating condition; and

WHEREAS, a structural evaluation has been performed for Depot Drive, and the inspection has identified maintenance measures that if implemented in a timely manner will avoid more extensive and costlier repairs in the future; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Cass County Road Commissioners is committing their share of the funding for the 2017 fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, the engineering estimate for the Depot Drive project is as follows:

<u>Total Construction Cost</u>	<u>Fed STP Funding</u>	<u>City of Dowagiac Share</u>
\$140,825.00	\$95,272.00	\$45,553.00

WHEREAS, the Dowagiac Small Urban Program requires documentation of local match for all federal aid requested projects; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Dowagiac City Council hereby certifies its support of the local share of the project's cost that will be included in the 2014-2017 Michigan Statewide Transportation Improvement Program and that failure to provide for the local match will cause the project's allocation of Dowagiac Small Urban local Surface Transportation Funding to be reconsidered by the Dowagiac Small Urban Area Committee.

APPROVED unanimously:

5. Resolution to authorize and direct the City Treasurer to pay the following bills and payroll due:

Councilmember Schuur offered and moved the adoption of the following resolution; seconded by Councilmember Burling.

WHEREAS, the following information has been reviewed by the City Manager and City Treasurer and is being presented to City Council with a recommendation to approve invoices for period ending 04/22/2016 and payroll #15:

BE IT RESOLVED that the City Manager and City Treasurer are hereby authorized and directed to pay the following bills and payroll due:

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<u>BILLS</u>	<u>PAYROLL</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
\$784,131.27	\$113,571.62	\$897,702.89

ADOPTED on a roll call vote.

Ayes: Six (6) Laylin, Burling, Dodd, Hunt, Lucas, Schuur

Nays: None (0)

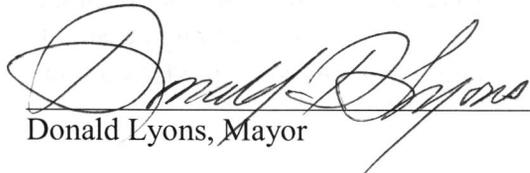
Absent: None (0)

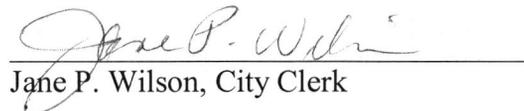
Abstain: None (0)

COMMENTS -

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by Councilmember Schuur and seconded by Councilmember Hunt, the Dowagiac City Council adjourned at 7:21 PM.

  
Donald Lyons, Mayor

  
Jane P. Wilson, City Clerk