

A regular meeting of the Leslie City Council was held at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 5, 2008 at Leslie City Hall, 107 E. Bellevue Street, with Mayor Ron Schmit presiding.

ROLL CALL. PRESENT: Councilmembers Beyer, Wood, Zamora, Beegle, Fox, Motes, Mayor Schmit.

ABSENT: NONE.

ALSO PRESENT: Interim City Manager Cheryl Neu, City Clerk Vyrna Dotte Weideman, Public Works Director Martha Owen, City Attorney Mark Grua, *Jackson Citizen Patriot* writer Larry Hook, Capital Area District Library representatives Pat Taylor and Liz Kudwa, and guests Artie Ostrander and Michael Swope.

Mayor Schmit led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA ITEM I. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.

Clerk Weideman suggested the addition of Item VII-F, to set a Special Council meeting for 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 19, 2008 for the purpose of considering the selection of a City Manager candidate.

Moved by Motes, seconded by Fox, to approve the Agenda with the addition of Item VII-F, to set a Special Council meeting for 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 19, 2008, for the purpose of considering the selection of a City Manager candidate. All yes. Motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM II. CONSENT AGENDA:

A. Approve the minutes of the last regular Council meeting of January 8, 2008.

B. Approve Payment of the Bills as presented.

Moved by Beegle, seconded by Motes, to approve the Consent Agenda. All yes. Motion carried.

**AGENDA ITEM III. PUBLIC COMMENT - Non-Agenda Items that Cannot be Handled
During Regular Business Hours.**

Mike Swope introduced himself to Council as an applicant for the City Manager position, inviting any questions from Council.

AGENDA ITEM IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Appointment to the City EDC, term to end November 7, 2008.

Mayor Schmit recommended the appointment of Stan Williams to fill this vacancy.

Moved by Wood, seconded by Beegle, to appoint Stan Williams to the Leslie City Economic Development Corporation with a term to end November 7, 2008. All yes. Motion carried.

B. Appointment to the City Planning Commission, term to end November 1, 2010.

Discussion of possible candidates; no action at this time.

(NOTE: NEXT ITEMS TAKEN OUT OF SEQUENCE DUE TO TIME REQUIREMENTS)

AGENDA ITEM VI. CAPITAL AREA DISTRICT LIBRARY. Consider adoption of Resolution 2008-02 for participation in the Capital Improvement Plan if the Proposal on the August 2008 Ballot is approved. CADL representatives Finance Dir. Pat Taylor and Liz Kudwa.

Review of the background of this proposed Resolution by Interim Mgr. Neu. Discussion. Councilmember Beegle requested stronger wording on Item 9. Consensus to change wording of proposed Resolution. Discussion with Attorney Grua recommending changes to several other paragraphs. No objection by CADL representatives present.

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-02
Resolution of Participation in CADL Capital Improvement Plan

At a regular meeting of the Leslie City Council for the City of Leslie, Ingham County, State of Michigan, held in the Leslie City Hall, 107 E. Bellevue Street, in Leslie, on the 5th day of February, 2008:

PRESENT: Councilmembers Beyer, Wood, Zamora, Beegle, Fox, Motes, Mayor Schmit.
ABSENT: NONE.

1. The following Resolution was offered by Councilmember Wood and supported by Councilmember Fox:
2. **WHEREAS**, the Capital Area District Library (“CADL”) is a public library operating pursuant to the District Library Establishment Act and serving the citizens of the City of Leslie and the Greater Ingham County area; and
3. **WHEREAS**, CADL has embarked on a Capital Improvement Plan seeking to expand its services by constructing new libraries and renovating and expanding existing libraries throughout the Greater Ingham County area; and
4. **WHEREAS**, CADL’s Capital Improvement Plan will provide additional resources and further enrich the City of Leslie, enhancing its reputation as a great place to live, work, and play; and
5. **WHEREAS**, upon the successful passage by voters of CADL’s Capital Improvement Plan millage, CADL intends to allocate \$1,789,127 (One million, seven hundred eighty-nine thousand one hundred twenty-seven dollars) for the construction of an addition and the remodeling of the existing Leslie Library; and
6. **WHEREAS**, as a necessary prerequisite to CADL’s Capital Improvement Plan, the City of Leslie will lease the existing Leslie Library for \$1.00 per year to CADL for a term of twenty (20) years for use as a public library and for the construction of an addition and for the remodeling of that Library subject to voter approval of the millage request and upon terms acceptable to Council; and
7. **WHEREAS**, CADL will have exclusive control of all library operations, pursuant to the District Library Establishment Act. CADL would then assume responsibility for all operational costs of the Leslie Library including general liability insurance for the loss or damage to the building, interior and exterior maintenance, and maintenance of the grounds.
8. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the City of Leslie, Ingham County, Michigan, agrees to participate in CADL’s Capital Improvement Plan and hereby commits to leasing the existing Leslie Library to CADL for a period of 20 years and to the construction of a new addition and the remodeling of the Leslie Library. The City of Leslie’s commitment is contingent upon voter approval of CADL’s Capital Improvement millage request and Council approval of lease terms. The specific real property and agreement terms will be identified following successful passage of CADL’s Capital Improvement Plan and millage.
9. **RESOLVED, FURTHER**, that the Leslie City Council does not support the CADL millage proposal to be placed before voters on the August 2008 Ballot. If and when such a millage proposal is approved by voters, this Resolution is intended as a commitment to participation in the CADL Capital Improvement Plan.

ROLL CALL VOTE TAKEN

YES: Councilmembers Beyer, Wood, Zamora, Beegle, Fox, Motes, Mayor Schmit.
NOES: NONE.
ABSTAIN: NONE.
ABSENT: NONE.

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

(ITEMS NOW RESUME NUMERIC SEQUENCE)

AGENDA ITEM V. 7:15 PUBLIC HEARING: Accept public comment regarding Special Use Permit Application 2007-2, Michelle Gleed-Carroll, Applicant. After Hearing is closed, consider motion to approve this proposed use for one year.

Mayor Schmit opened the Public Hearing at 7:15 p.m. Applicant Michelle Gleed-Carroll was present; no public present to address this issue.

Clerk Weideman reported for the record that no written or verbal responses were received from the mailings and notices published.

Mayor Schmit announced the Public Hearing closed, 7:18 p.m.

Councilmember Wood asked how many children would be in the home care.

Gleed-Carroll responded 12, per State Law. Discussion.

Moved by Beegle, seconded by Fox, to approve Special Use Permit 2007-2, applicant Michelle Gleed-Carroll, to allow a Group Child Care Home at 507 E. Race Street. This approval for a one-year period. All yes. Motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM VII. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Appointment/Reappointment to the City Board of Review - Kelly King, term expired January 31, 2008.

Interim Mgr. Neu stated Mr. King is a valuable asset to the City Board of Review, and has agreed to accept reappointment.

Moved by Fox, seconded by Motes, to reappoint Kelly King to the Leslie City Board of Review with a term to expire January 31, 2011. All yes. Motion carried.

B. Set two Special Council meetings for the purpose of conducting interviews of City Manager Candidates and discussion of same.

Review with Attorney Grua, who provided written guidelines for the process of hiring a new City Manager. Discussion.

Moved by Beyer, seconded by Fox, to schedule two Special Leslie City Council meetings for 2:45 p.m. on Thursday, February 7, 2008 and 2:45 p.m. on Friday, February 8, 2008. Purpose of these Special Council meetings: Conduct interviews of City Manager Candidates; discussion of same.

All yes. Motion carried.

C. Adopt Resolution 2008-03, Initiating Resolution for 2008 Leslie Street Improvement Project.

Review of background by Interim Mgr. Neu, that the 2007 Street Improvement Project was delayed mainly due to request of numerous property owners that they needed more notice of the special assessment involved. Neu explained that Tom's Advanced Paving, the low bidder for the 2007 project, has indicated they will hold their bid except for the asphalt costs and additional drainage issues that need to be addressed.

Director of Public Works Martha Owen gave some details regarding the location of the drainage issues.

Project estimate at this time reflects an increase of \$23,800 from the 2007 costs, for a total of approximately \$138,500.

Councilmember Motes asked why these streets are being considered; why not the main streets that need work, like North Main Street.

Interim Mgr. Neu responded Council is following a long-term plan for improving and maintaining all City streets. Main Street is going to be a major project costing a large amount of money, and is not fundable under this plan. The current streets under consideration are all local streets. Discussion.

Councilmember Fox noted that last year people objected due to the economy, and nothing has improved there. He feels the City should invest in the streets already improved, to maintain them. Dir. Owen noted that if this project does not proceed, the City would need to reallocate funds to use them elsewhere.

Councilmember Beegle noted that last year Council made it clear that after a one year delay this project would be revisited.

Interim Mgr. Neu asked if the drainage issues could be repaired without the entire street project.

Dir. Owen responded the drainage work is big enough the City would need to hire a contractor. She explained the drain projects and costs.

Councilmember Wood observed not many cities have dirt streets, and we need to come in to this century.

Councilmember Zamora commented these street projects upgrade the whole City, making it more attractive.

Interim Mgr. Neu added the streets being proposed for improvements in 2008 are all Local Streets, and those Local Street Funds cannot be used for Major Street patching. Further Discussion.

Moved by Zamora, seconded by Wood, to adopt Resolution No. 2008-03 as follows.

ROLL CALL VOTE.

Ayes: Councilmembers Wood, Zamora, Beegle, Motes, Mayor Schmit.

Noes: Councilmembers Fox, Beyer.

Abstain: NONE.

Absent: NONE.

Motion carried. RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-03

Initiating Resolution, 2007 Leslie Street Improvement Project

WHEREAS, the City Council has identified as a priority a proposal to do certain street improvements to:

Blair Street from Bellevue Street to Williams Street
Blair Street from Williams Street to Mill Street
Blair Street from Mill Street to Rice Street
Williams Street from Blair Street to Russell Street
Williams Street from Russell Street to Railroad Street
Railroad Street from Williams Street to Mill Street
Maple Street from Church Street to Oak Street

NOW, THEREFORE, Council desires to describe the **2008 Leslie Street Improvement Project** as follows:

Local Street Areas: Blair Street from Bellevue Street to Williams Street
Blair Street from Williams Street to Mill Street
Blair Street from Mill Street to Rice Street
Williams Street from Blair Street to Russell Street
Williams Street from Russell Street to Railroad Street
Railroad Street from Williams Street to Mill Street
Maple Street from Church Street to Oak Street

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED:

1. To identify the proposed project as the 2008 Leslie Local Street Improvement Project, and
2. To instruct the City Engineer to prepare maps, plans, and estimates of the proposed project and its costs including plans and specifications of the improvement to be made, a list or diagram of the property affected by the improvement and a recommendation of what portion, if any, should be a general obligation of the City.

Vyrna Dotte Weideman, Leslie City Clerk

D. Per request of Councilmember Zamora: Non-union employee contribution for medical benefits.

Review of this topic by Councilmember Zamora. Clerk Weideman explained she has draft Resolutions prepared for this item and the following one, if Council wishes to proceed.

Discussion that this only pertains to non-union employees. Effective date discussed.

Councilmember Fox objected, saying this is pitting non-union vs union employees—what if the union doesn't negotiate to follow this, it would be unfair to the non-union employees.

Moved by Zamora, seconded by Wood, to adopt Resolution No. 2008-05 as follows.

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-05

A Resolution to Establish Non-Union Employee Contribution Toward Health Insurance Premiums

WHEREAS, the Leslie City Council wishes to establish a policy regarding Non-Union Employee contribution toward Health Insurance Premiums,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that effective July 1, 2008 all eligible non-union employees of the City of Leslie who benefit from Health Insurance coverage shall pay 10% (ten per cent) of the total cost of Health Insurance Premiums; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the employee contribution of 10% of the annual Health Insurance Premium shall be withheld from the employee's biweekly paycheck in 26 (twenty-six) equal installments.

ROLL CALL VOTE

AYES: Councilmembers Beegle, Fox, Mayor Schmit, Councilmembers Beyer, Wood.

NOES: Councilmembers Motes, Zamora.

ABSTAIN: NONE.

ABSENT: NONE.

Resolution No. 2008-05 declared adopted.

Vyrna Dotte Weideman, Leslie City Clerk

E. Per request of Councilmember Zamora: Reduction of amount paid to non-union employees who opt out of medical coverage.

Discussion of this proposed Resolution, which changes the maximum payment to employees who opt out of City health insurance coverage, from \$5,000 to \$4,000.

Moved by Zamora, seconded by Beegle to adopt Resolution No. 2008-04 as follows.

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-04

A Resolution to Define and Amend the City of Leslie Health Insurance "Opt Out" Policy for Non-Union Employees

WHEREAS, on December 21, 2004 the Leslie City Council did adopt Resolution No. 2004-19 to define and establish a City of Leslie Health Insurance "Opt Out" Policy for Non-Union Employees, and

WHEREAS, the Leslie City Council now wishes to amend the Health Insurance "Opt Out" Policy for Non-Union Employees.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that effective July 1, 2008, all eligible non-union employees of the City of Leslie who elect to decline healthcare coverage through the City of Leslie, shall receive a lump sum payment not to exceed \$4,000 (Four thousand dollars) per calendar year. The exact amount shall be determined by computing one half of the cost of health insurance the employee is entitled to, but not to exceed the \$4,000 (Four thousand dollars) ceiling, based on the annual premium amounts of the then current fiscal year.

RESOLVED, FURTHER, that any such payment to the affected employee shall be made by June 30 of each year through payroll and all applicable federal and state taxes shall apply.

RESOLVED, FURTHER, that this Resolution supersedes, rescinds and renders null and void any practices, resolutions, or policies to the contrary.

ROLL CALL VOTE.

AYES: Councilmembers Zamora, Beegle, Motes, Mayor Schmit, Councilmembers Beyer, Wood.

NOES: Councilmember Fox.

ABSTAINS: NONE. **ABSENT:** NONE.

Resolution No. 2008-04 declared adopted.

Vyrna Dotte Weideman, Leslie City Clerk

Councilmember Wood stated he appreciates the effort of Councilmember Zamora on these issues.

F. Consider Setting a Special Council Meeting for 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 19, 2008, for the purpose of considering the selection of a City Manager candidate.

Moved by Beegle, seconded by Motes, to set a Special Leslie City Council meeting for 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 19, 2008 for the purpose of considering the selection of a City Manager candidate. All yes. Motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM VIII. COUNCIL AGENDA:

A. Committee Reports.

Councilmember Zamora reported a Parks and Recreation meeting was held prior to this Council meeting, with discussion of the needed City Pool upgrade. Discussion of grants and fundraisers with Dir. of Public Works Owen and Don Vickers. Also, Interim Mgr. Neu and he are to meet with Dr. Baruti soon regarding a possible park area.

B. Manager's Report.

Interim Mgr. Neu encouraged everyone to attend a Ribbon-Cutting ceremony at Noon on Wednesday February 6, 2008 at the new Leslie Events Center.

Councilmember Zamora reported the Leslie High School Hall of Fame Banquet will be conducted at the new Event Center on April 19, 2008.

C. Motion to Adjourn the Meeting.

Moved by Fox, seconded by Wood, to adjourn this meeting. All yes. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned, 8:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vyrna Dotte Weideman, Leslie City Clerk

(NOTE: A brief recess was taken prior to the scheduled Council Goal Setting Workshop)

NOTES OF AN INFORMAL "GOAL SETTING WORKSHOP" OF THE LESLIE CITY COUNCIL CONDUCTED FOLLOWING THE REGULAR MEETING OF FEB. 4, 2008

PRESENT: Councilmembers Beyer, Wood, Zamora, Beegle, Fox, Motes, Mayor Schmit.

ABSENT: NONE.

ALSO PRESENT: Interim City Manager Cheryl Neu, City Clerk Vyrna Dotte Weideman, Director of Public Works Martha Owen.

Discussion started with Mayor Schmit asking if the City is on target for installation of water meters. Interim Mgr. Neu responded explaining the numerous needs of the water fund, including a new aerator and media filters at the Iron Removal. These items are needed prior to installation of meters.

Current estimate for water meters is \$160,000.

The meter fund has built at a rate of \$5/qtr. Or \$20/Yr. for the past 3-5 years, at the most accumulating \$100 for each account.

Additionally, the meter cost is estimated at \$165-\$200 PLUS installation....and if meter pits are advisable, that is an additional cost. Bottom line would be possibly \$275,000 for meters.

Discussion of funding.

Councilmember Zamora asked if grant funding might be available.

Interim Mgr. Neu explained she will be meeting with Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and will ask about funding.

Further discussion of general update of Goals for 2008-09.

Councilmember Beyer asked if there would be a way for the City to encourage establishment of a local newspaper. Discussion.

Workshop adjourned, 9:53 p.m.

Vyrna Dotte Weideman, Leslie City Clerk

LESLIE COUNCIL GOALS - FISCAL YEAR 2008-09

FINANCE

Water Meters (continue to reserve funds; rate study has been started)

Continue to Seek non-tax source of Revenues

Property Acquisition for Water Tower (15-20 yrs.)

FACILITIES

Storage/Record Retention Room
(Current Historical Museum Loc.)

New Windows/City Hall

INFRASTRUCTURE

Continue Street Reconstruction/Improvement

(Including corresponding water/sewer main replacement) North Main St.
and one block South Main St.

Continue Street Asphalt Capping

2008 Railroad, Williams, Blair, Maple

Painting of Curbs/no parking (volunteers?)

TECHNOLOGY

Continue upgrading of Equipment/Computers

PERSONNEL & TRAINING

Continue ongoing training - Staff & Council

COMMUNITY PUBLIC RELATIONS

Continue City Newsletter

City Website - on line 2 years, keep updated

Continue Improved Relations - Leslie Township and Leslie Schools

Community Survey

RECREATION

Sidewalks-complete Recreation Sidewalk Loop

Basketball Courts (expand/add)

Pursue idea of Park/Huntoon Creek

Pool Renovation-prior to 2008 Open

(Funding is accumulating in Public Imp. Fund)

Develop Park, City property on East Race Street

Upgrade Church Street Ballfields Skateboard Park

LEGISLATION

Review City Charter Biannually

(Council to review 2009)

