

Minutes
Fraser City Council
Monday, December 26th, 2016 @ 11:00am

A Special Emergency meeting of the Fraser City Council was conducted on the above date at the City Municipal Building, located at 33000 Garfield Road, Fraser, County of Macomb.

Present: Mayor Nichols and Council Members Blanke, Carnagie, Foster, Hemelberg, Lesich and Schornak

Absent:

Also Present: City Manager, Richard Haberman
City Clerk, Kelly Dolland
City Attorney, Tim Tomlinson

1. Call Meeting to Order – Mayor Nichols called the special meeting to order at 11:03am

Pastor Kevin Harvin led the meeting in prayer

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Approval of Agenda

Mayor NICHOLS moved, seconded by Member LESICH, TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED.

motion carried 7-0.

4. Presentation of Information Regarding State of Emergency Affecting Residents of Eberlien Drive.

City of Fraser Engineers Mr. Scott Lockwood and Mr. Scott Urban representing A.E.W. provided back ground of the interceptor failure on Christmas Eve. The interceptor runs along the south side of 15 Mile Rd, it is a 45foot deep sewer that is eleven foot in diameter. We are uncertain what has happened to it at this time, but it appears to have collapsed. In regard to Eberlien, it has affected the approach to 15 Mile Rd; the utilities are cut off, we had to vacate that street. Currently we are working on getting all the utilities back up, the water main, the gas main, etc. We are working on potentially putting a road way to access Eberlien. We hope the residents will be back in their Eberlien homes in two weeks. The three homes seriously affected, cannot be occupied, but will be allowed access to retrieve their personnel affects.

Bi-pass pumping is being installed to eliminate basement backup, currently there has not been any discharge to open waters, we are hopeful there will not, it will only be done to avoid basement backups.

The panel of engineers introduced themselves:

Mr. Lockwood with AEW is the city of Fraser Engineering firm as well as employed by Macomb County to oversee this project he also stated the sewer is a county sewer.

Tom Stockel, Macomb County Public Works

Steve Mancini, Rick Mann Construction

Lou Urban, A.E.W.

Fritz Klingler, F.K. Engineering

Vince Astorino, Macomb County Public Works

Evans Bantios, Macomb County Public Works

Brian Baker, Representing Candace Miller, Macomb County Public Works Commissioner

Wayne Oehmke, A.E.W.

Mr. Lewis Urban, A.E.W. engineer provide a long term scope of the project. Currently Mr. Urban spoke of bi-pass pumping for the Eberlien homes, the Fraser D.P. W. has winterized the homes to avoid future damage, all utilities are currently off.

A.E.W. will provide a topographical survey via drone to show where properties lie in regard to the sinkhole.

Mr. Urban spoke of the parties hired by Macomb County to oversea this project and that we are in an emergency condition with the collapse there is no place for the sewage to go. Macomb County Water authority was made aware they may receive debris form the collapse. Currently there is flow through the interceptor. They have set up emergency pumping systems in the area and an intermediate pumping station that is being constructed right now. Unless there is a critical emergency situation, they will not turn on the pump to discharge into neighboring waters. There will also be a perminant bi-pass system until we can get the work done.

Mr. Fritz Klingster stated FK Engineering is working on the underground engineering aspect of the site; the goal is to stabilize the site. The sinkhole appears to be 250 feet long and about 100 wide. The area affects the 34890 Eberlien. Mr. Klinger stated it is bigger than the sinkhole from 2004. They are working very closely with the D.E.Q.; they are fully engaged with the project and are currently working with them with the potential of surface waters.

Mr. Lockwood stated 15 Mile Rd will be closed for several months.

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Mr. Urban also stated there will be a fence erected in the perimeter of the area, they will monitor the ability of access to the area, asked the public to stay away, and this is a dangerous area. He also stated there will be noise, dust etc.

Mr. Dolan addressed the public, please honor all safety measures that are place in the area, do not get close to the project.

The County has hired a private security company to secure the area.

Mayor Nichols explained on Christmas Eve he signed a State of Emergency for the city which transfers the rights to Macomb County to insert an emergency response team.

Mr. Dolan explained it was a state law that was inacted back in the 1970's; it establishes the different levels of government, including at the state level and moving down to the county and then municipal level. Because Fraser is not a large community, Fraser contracted with Macomb County to preform those functions. Ms. Vicky Wolber is the Emergency Managment Coordinate at the County. We can now use those services and apply to the state, assistance in which we are in the process of doing.

Mayor Nichols stated he and Members Hemelberg and Foster have been on the scene and participated in meetings.

Mayor Nichols introduced Clinton Township's Supervisor Cannon, Representative Sowerby and Senator Beida.

Mr. Dolan also mention Corporation Council John Schapka, Chief Attorney on behalf of the county, Deputy County Executive Al Lorenzo is present. The county is well represented at this meeting.

Mayor Nichols stated Member Hemelberg has been in contact with County Commissioner Kathy Tocco.

Member Schornak asked on behalf the residents want to know how far this extends should residents be concerned with basement backups. ~ Mr. Lockwood stated there is no significant threat to basement backup to the residents in the City of Fraser. Secondly, is this a direct result from the 2004 collapse? ~ Mr. Lockwood responded is no.

Mr. Dolan stated the 2004 collapse happened while it was under the jurisdiction of the Detroit Water and Sewer Department. Dolan stated they were advised the sewer is under the jurisdiction of the Macomb County waste water district, and that agency is operated und the Macomb County Works Department. And that is why there is signatificate representation from Macomb County at this meeting.

Member Lesich asked Mr. Lockwood when he anticipates the utilities to come back up and have families back in their homes. ~ Two or fewer weeks, with the exception of the three homes.

Member Foster asked Mr. Lockwood what is happening to the three homes where the residents cannot move back into. ~ Working with the residents to remove their person belongings.

Member Blanke spoke of the Activity Center as temporary housing.

Member Carnagie inquired as to the length of the project ~ anticipate 10 months for completion.

Member Hemelberg asked for the residents on Hayes, if there cable services will be activated soon. ~

Mr. Lockwood stated they will not reroute right away because it is not essential to life.

Member Lesich spoke to City I.T. Director and she will set up a City Web page to provide updates and links. Mr. Lesich also asked if there is a single point of contact with the county and spoke of affected residents with homeowner insurance and claims.

Mayor Nichols stated the contact person is Mr. Lou Urban, with A.E.W. And regard to insurance claims, submit the claim to your home owner's insurance company, let process follow out and then contact the county with what you have been told from your insurance company.

Clinton Township Supervisor Cannon spoke of the concerns of Clinton Township residents and businesses. He expressed concern of Clinton Township road closures of 15 Mile Rd, Garfield and possibility Utica Rd.

Clinton Township resident spoke of access to Clinton Township Senior Housing.

Clinton Township resident spoke on water safety.

Fraser Eberlien resident questioned the 2004 connection to the 2016 collapse.

Clinton Township business owner requested straight answers to the collapse.

Member Schornak was excused from the meeting – 12:15pm.

Fraser Eberlien resident thanked Public Safety and asked the panel to think outside the box.

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Attorney Guido, Redford, MI representing Fraser Eberlien resident mostly affected by sink hole. Spoke at length on the topic.

Clinton Township resident spoke on topic.

Fraser Deepwood Court resident asked what the city is doing to assist the Eberlien residents.

Macomb County Emergency Manager Vicky Wolber addressed the affected residents need or request for temporary housing etc.

Fraser Eberlien resident spoke of his home affected by the collapse.

Clinton Township resident concerned with car access to the Clinton Township Senior Housing.

Fraser resident asked about mail delivery.

Fraser Eberlien resident inquired to funding for temporary housing.

Fraser Eberlien resident asked to have pumps into basements to avoid flooding.

Fraser Eberlien resident thanked Public Safety and asked for temporary mail boxes.

Clinton Township resident spoke of future sink holes.

Fraser Wildwood Ct. resident requested a proper investigation from the state, stated he is looking forward to his next water bill.

Senator Steve Beida spoke on behave of Lansing and what Lansing can do.

Brian Baker, representing Candace Miller, Macomb County Public Works spoke on behalf of Candice Miller's Office.

Fraser Eberlien resident asked about Fraser Public School bus stop. ~ Mayor Nichols contacted Fraser Schools Supervisor and stated this will be addressed.

Mr. Lou Urban stated the panel is currently working on traffic control and detour plans for this project.

Fraser Eberlien resident asked the panel to address sump pump issues, garbage concerns, city services and access to their homes.

Fraser Eberlien resident directed affected by sinkhole.

Conversation ensued.

Mayor Nichols acknowledged Fraser Public Safety and Fraser Department of Public Works employees.

6. Adjournment

Mayor NICHOLS moved, seconded by CARNAGIE, TO ADJOURN THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING OF DECEMBER 26TH, 2016 @ 1:30PM.

The motion carried unanimously,

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Dolland, City Clerk

Joe Nichols, Mayor

/KD