



City Manager
Elaine Leven
CITY CLERK
Cynthia Greenia

City of Fraser

CENTENNIAL COMMUNITY

MAYOR
Michael Carnegie
MAYOR PRO-TEM
Patrice M. Schornak
COUNCIL
Amy Baranski
Kathy Blanke
Suzanne Kalka
Patrick O'Dell
Dana Sutherland

**FRASER CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
33000 GARFIELD, FRASER, MI 48026
THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 2023 – 6:30 P.M.
AS APPROVED**

A regular meeting of the City of Fraser City Council was held on Thursday, February 9, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. in City Council Chambers, City Hall, 33000 Garfield, Fraser, MI 48026.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Carnegie called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Carnegie led the Pledge of Allegiance

3. ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Present: Baranski, Blanke, Carnegie, O'Dell, Schornak, Sutherland
Absent: Kalka

Others: Assistant City Manager Mistretta, City Attorney DeNault, City Clerk Greenia

Motion by Carnegie supported by Sutherland to excuse Council Member Kalka.

AYES: Baranski, Blanke, Carnegie, O'Dell, Schornak, Sutherland
NAYS: None

Motion Carried

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Baranski supported by Sutherland to approve the Agenda for the March 9, 2023 Fraser City Council Meeting as submitted.

AYES: Baranski, Blanke, Carnegie, O'Dell, Schornak, Sutherland
NAYS: None

Motion Carried

5. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

There was no public comment at this time.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

The following items were on the Consent Agenda for the March 9, 2023 City Council Meeting:

- a. City Council Regular Meeting Minutes February 9, 2023
- b. Historical Commission Meeting Minutes December 5, 2022
- c. Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes January 3, 2023
- d. Planning Commission Meeting Minutes January 4, 2023
- e. Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting Minutes January 5, 2023
- f. Planning/Zoning 2022 Annual Report
- g. Historic Commission March Report
- h. Adopt FY 2023/2024 Budget Timeline
- i. Check Disbursements
- j. Revenue and Expenditure Report

Motion by Blanke supported by Baranski to approve the Consent Agenda for the March 9, 2023 Fraser City Council Meeting as presented.

AYES: Baranski, Blanke Carnagie, O'Dell, Schornak, Sutherland

NAYS: None

Motion Carried

7. NEW BUSINESS

a. Fraser Public Schools Bond Proposal Presentation

Superintendent Wozniak of the Fraser Public Schools was present to review the upcoming Bond Proposal to be decided at the May 2, 2023 Special Election. With her were the Board President Mr. Scott Wallace and one of the Board Members, Ms. Abigail Wasil. She stated that this was a no tax increase bond. She was proud of the Fraser Community Schools and the school community.

She reviewed with City Council what the Bond Proposal looked like for the upcoming May 2, 2023 Election. They were asking voters for approval to sell \$59,000,000 in bonds. She noted that this money would be going into four (4) main baskets – security at all schools and school facilities, update building infrastructure.

Council had questions on what types of money they received from ARPA funding. Ms. Wozniak reviewed the money they received and what they decided to spend the funding on.

b. Car Port Pavement Replacement

City Engineer Mike Vigneron reviewed that back in September of 2022 he brought two projects to City Council for parking lot paving – both at City Hall and the Senior Citizens Complex. During discussion of those projects questions as to how much it would cost to have the areas under the carports paved as well.

AEW contacted four (4) local companies to see if they would be interested in performing this work for the City. They received a cost estimate from all of them. The low cost was L. Anthony Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$126,290.00. The cost for the City Hall car port paving would be \$50,516.00 and the cost for the Senior Housing car port paving would be

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\$75,744.00. They would both be over budget for the amount allocated in the FY 22/23 budget for these projects. The price would hold for most likely sixty (60) to ninety (90) days. The work should be done early spring if the weather holds.

Discussion of the timeline was had. Mr. Vigneron noted that the City Hall parking lot paving was on hold until the HVAC work was completed.

He was recommending that City Council approve these projects to move forward. If awarded they should begin prior to the start of paving of the parking lots.

Motion by O'Dell supported by Sutherland to award a contract for the Car Port Pavement Replacement work to L. Anthony Construction, Inc. in the amount Of \$126,290.00.

AYES: Baranski, Blanke, Carnagie, O'Dell, Schornak, Sutherland

NAYS: None

Motion Carried

c. DPW Yard Automated Gates

Assistant City Manager Mistretta reviewed the request by D.P.W. Superintendent to approve Mr. Fence to install new automated entrance and exit security gates at the D.P.W. yard in the amount of \$31,469.00. It was noted that \$100,000.00 was budgeted for this project.

Motion by Baranski supported by Blanke to approve Mr. Fence to perform the installation of new automated gates at the D.P.W. yard at the cost of \$31,469.00.

Council Member Sutherland asked if she get a review of what other actions were taken to help with this issue. Further discussion was had on the concerns.

AYES: Baranski, Blanke, Carnagie, O'Dell, Schornak, Sutherland

NAYS: None

Motion Carried

d. DPW Supervisor Vacancy

Assistant City Manager Mistretta reviewed this item with City Council. The DPW Supervisor, Melissa Frierson, had resigned effective March 6, 2023 to take another opportunity at GLWA. This request was to fill her position which was D.P.W. Supervisor which is a salary, on call, non-union position. D.P.W. Superintendent Ragsdale also included in his request approval of having a union employee fill the position until a permanent Supervisor is hired.

Motion by Baranski supported by Sutherland to refill the D.P.W. Superintendent position as soon as possible and advertise the position on the Michigan Municipal League and American Public Works websites and have a union employee do the job on a temporary basis until a permanent Supervisor has been hired.

AYES: Baranski, Blanke, Carnagie, O'Dell, Schornak, Sutherland

NAYS: None

Motion Carried

A brief discussion was had on the interim personnel filling in for this position.

Council Member Baranski wished Melissa Frierson well in her new position.

e. ACM/Finance Director Vacancy

Motion by Baranski supported by Carnagie to replace the Finance Director position.

Mike Lesich, 15201 Fairview approached City Council with his thoughts on replacing the Finance Director. He indicated that at the proposed salary range it would be difficult, in his opinion, to find quality candidates to apply for the job. He also shared his concern that the person that is hired should have BS&A experience. He wished current Finance Director Mistretta the best of luck.

Council Member Blanke stated that she felt Council always did the best they could. She was very happy that Ms. Mistretta had hired on and she thanked her for everything she did for the City.

AYES: Baranski, Blanke, Carnagie, O'Dell, Schornak, Sutherland

NAYS: None

Motion Carried

Motion by Baranski supported by Sutherland to approve the hiring of a Human Resource Administrator with a salary range between \$60,000 and \$70,000 annually with job duties as described in the job description as presented to City Council.

AYES: Baranski, Blanke, Carnagie, O'Dell, Schornak, Sutherland

NAYS: None

Motion Carried

Council Member Baranski thanked Ms. Mistretta for all of her efforts on behalf of the City.

f. Finance Clerk Vacancy

Review of this item was given by Assistant City Manager Mistretta.

Motion by Schornak supported by Baranski to allow the City Manager to proceed with hiring an applicant to fill the vacant full-time finance clerk position.

AYES: Baranski, Blanke, Carnagie, O'Dell, Schornak, Sutherland

NAYS: None

Motion Carried

g. Library Building Future Plan

Council Member Baranski indicated that she had asked for this item to be on the agenda tonight. She asked Attorney DeNault to bring everyone up to the current status of the Library Board using our building.

Mr. DeNault indicated that the Library had been in the same building for many years. The City owned the building free and clear and the Library is and always had been using that building

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rent free. In 2019 the City realized that the Library had it's own funding and that they should be funding their own operations from those monies. After many discussions there was a question as to how the relationship between the Library and the City would be moving forward. Would it be that the Library takes over the building from the City or would it be a lease. It was felt that they would take it over from the City for many reasons.

They were moving forward with the process of having the Library take over the building and it was put on hold due to COVID and the fallout from that. We were working with the Library's attorney from Foster, Swift on a purchase agreement. He then reviewed the path City Council took to get to a place where they were satisfied they had covered all the issues that may go along with this transaction. They were going to sell it to the Library for \$1.00. When they were very close to finalizing the agreement the Library Board then came up with a plan to purchase the PNC Building.

It was after that the Library approached the City about perhaps getting them to help with selling bonds to provide money to pay for the building. They approached City Council on this and were given some direction by City Council as to what they would need prior to approving a bond issue at all. That is where we are currently with this situation.

Council Member Baranski stated that she knew the funding of the Library was costing the City money and at budget time this would need to be addressed. She discussed whether or not the Library wanted to buy it or not – she wasn't sure. City Council further discussed what the options were with this building. Discussion was had on the possibility having Attorney DeNault present the final offer to the Library again.

Motion by Baranski supported by Sutherland to present to the Library Board the purchase agreement that City Attorney DeNault had forwarded to City Council that had been previously approved by their attorney that sets forth the terms and give them until the next City Council meeting to let us know if they would like to exercise that option; if not it is on the agenda as a continuing item and we then discuss which direction we take as a City on this matter.

AYES: Baranski, Blanke, Carnagie, O'Dell, Schornak, Sutherland

NAYS: None

Motion Carried

8. RETURNING BUSINESS

9. REPORT OF CITY ADMINISTRATION

Assistant City Manager stated they were planning an Eggstravaganza for April 1 for the City. WE also have on March 25 the Road Rally. There was a Special Bingo at the Fraser Senior Center next Wednesday. There were many other activities going on at the Senior Activity Center.

10. REPORT OF MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

Council Member Baranski discussed the Road Committee meeting. There would be a very important review of the proposed bond issue for the roads. The City Council would need to not only decide how much they would be bonding and the millage that would be required to pay for this but also when they would like to go out to the residents for the vote. She asked Assistant City Manager Mistretta regarding the waivers for the upcoming Road Rally.

Council Member Sutherland had nothing at this time.

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Council Member O'Dell had nothing at this time.

Mayor Pro-Tem Schornak noted the museum would be holding an Open House on April 2, 2023 at the depot. There will be a lot of Easter items and jewelry.

Council Member Blanke wished everyone to have a nice month and God love you all.

Mayor Carnagie stated that they celebrated the 23rd Anniversary of Fire Fighter Sutton's death and they still had an excellent crowd.

11. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Laura Lesich, 15201 Fairview, stated she was concerned with the job descriptions for the Finance Director and Human Resources positions. Fraser First Booster Club was having their next meeting on March 14, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at the Tim Horton's at 15 Mile and Utica Road. Everyone was welcome to attend. She would like to see security cameras at McKinley Park. Don't forget to Spring forward. Thanks and good luck to Assistant City Manager Mistretta.

12. CLOSED SESSION

a. Strategy session connected with the negotiation of a collective bargaining agreement: POAM

Motion by Carnagie supported by Blanke to enter into closed session for a strategy session connected with the negotiation of a collective bargaining agreement POAM.

AYES: Baranski, Blanke, Carnagie, O'Dell, Schornak, Sutherland

NAYS: None

Motion Carried

Council entered closed session at 7:45 p.m.

Council returned from closed session at 8:30 p.m.

b. Strategy session connected with the negotiation of a collective bargaining agreement: COAM.

Motion by Sutherland supported by Baranski to enter into closed session for a strategy session connected with the negotiation of a collective bargaining agreement: COAM

AYES: Baranski, Blanke, Carnagie, O'Dell, Schornak, Sutherland

NAYS: None

Motion Carried

Council entered closed session at 8:31 p.m.

Council returned from closed session at 8:58 p.m.

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13. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Baranski supported by Sutherland to adjourn the meeting at 8:58 p.m.

AYES: Baranski, Blanke, Carnagie, O'Dell, Schornak, Sutherland

NAYS: None

Motion Carried

Cindi Greenia, Clerk
City of Fraser

Michael Carnagie, Mayor
City of Fraser