

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Council Chambers, 805 St. Clair River Drive**  
**Algonac, MI 48001**  
**AS APPROVED 10/4/16**

A regular meeting of the Algonac City Council was called to order on Tuesday, September 20, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Irene Bird. The meeting was held in City Council Chambers, 805 St. Clair River Drive, Algonac, MI 48001.

**ROLL CALL:**

**Present:** Michael Bembas  
Irene Bird, Mayor  
Ray Martin  
Helen Meldrum  
Joe Nugent  
Mark Thompson, Mayor Pro-Tem

**Absent:** Gary Tuzinowski

**Others:** City Manager Alexander, Diane Strevel, Ada Smith, Joe B., Gale Anthony, Michelle Landry, Jean Bissett, Amanda Gougeon, Christine Crenn(?), Kelly Skarbeck, George LaParl, Nancy LaParl, Jacob Skarbek, Michelle Nahl, Diann DeBoyer, Cheryl Baker, Cathy Jones, Dawn Davies, Eileen Tesch, Cathy Weng, Justin Watson, Fire Chief Joe Doan, City Clerk Greenia

**MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER**

Mayor Bird called for a moment of silent prayer.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Bird led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**

**CO # 09-13-16 Additions to Agenda**

Motion by Martin supported by Thompson to add items 8e – Lions Field Supplemental Contract and 8f – Maintenance on Water Tanks to the agenda for the September 20, 2016 meeting. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Jill Modena, 1809 St. Clair River Drive approached the podium. She explained to the Council that for quite some time she had been trying to get the city staff to act on her complaints about her neighbors blight at their house. She said that the house in question was vacant and there were numerous blight issues, and, in her opinion black mold and wild animal concerns. She told Council she had asked for help from city staff with this and felt the issue was not addressed properly.

Lloyd Sherman, 932 Columbia stated his concern with the amount of off road motorcycles and other vehicles that continually race up and down Columbia and Liberty Streets. He added he had called the Sheriff at least eight (8) times on this but they take between 20 and 30 minutes to get there and by that time often the vehicles are done racing. He was concern with noise and nuisance and asked if there was an ordinance that the city could possibly cite these people on. City Manager Alexander took his number and told him he would look into this tomorrow.

Dawn Davey explained to City Council that she felt that there had been some criminal activity lately in the City. She had started a Facebook Page that encouraged everyone in Algonac to leave their porchlights on at night to help with this problem. She then commented that she was very concerned with the City and the great division that had come since Woodside Bible Church had been introduced to the community. This made her think that leaving the porch lights on would not only help with safety but could also be sign of unity. She was calling this movement "Light Up Our Neighborhoods in Unity and Awareness". She encouraged everyone to participate.

Michelle Noland explained to Council that she had attended the Bible Study for Woodside Bible on September 13, 2016 at the Park. She added that there was a car at the building and she had reported the license plate to make sure the building was secure. City Manager Alexander had investigated this matter. Michelle wanted clarification on anyone being in that building from Woodside Bible prior to the City approving a site plan and occupancy. City Manager Alexander then indicated that we needed to be aware that someone may have to go into the building to check on things, to make sure everything is alright in the building. If it was determined that there was "organized activity" or if someone was holding office hours then the City could investigate that.

Jill Modena was back before the Council to finish explaining her concerns. She said she started her complaint about this property four (4) years ago and was frustrated at what appeared to be the lack of concern on behalf of the city.

City Manager Alexander then spoke to this matter. He said that when he spoke to Jill Modena he assured her he would do two things – get photos from over a fence and meet with the code enforcement officer and the attorney to discuss what they could do about this situation. The pictures had been taken, a meeting was set but the attorney had to cancel and he would be rescheduling the meeting with them again soon.

Dawn Davey wanted to add that she was at the meeting last month and was talking about the DRC. She would like to see this again in Algonac, she feared with all the division that Algonac will soon become one of those City's that has a lot of churches and people simply drive through it to get somewhere else. She added that she wanted to publicly thank Amanda Gougeon for her diligence regarding the Dream Center/Woodside Bible.

Diane DeBoyer said that she was very appreciative to know that our City Manager followed through on their concerns regarding the car at Woodside Bible Church. She thanked our Council for being caring and considerate of the citizen's concerns.

## **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

### **CO # 09-14-16 Approve City Managers Report**

Motion by Thompson supported by Bembas to approve the City Manager's report of September 16, 2016 as presented. Motion carried.

Fire Chief Joe Doan reviewed the Ready Neighborhood Program with City Council.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

The following items were on the consent agenda for the September 20, 2016 Algonac City Council meeting.

- 1) Consent Agenda
  - a) City Council Minutes
    - 1) Regular Minutes September 6, 2016
  - b) Communications and Notices
  - c) Departmental Report

- 1) Building and Zoning Enforcement
- 2) Fire Department
- 3) D.P.W.
- 4) Water Department
- 5) Algonac-Clay Library
- 6) Financials
- 7) Boards and Commissions Roster Update
- 8) Calendar for October 2016

### **CO # 09-15-16 Approve Consent Agenda**

Motion by Thompson supported by Bembas to approve the Consent Agenda for the September 20, 2016 meeting of the Algonac City Council. Motion carried.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

#### **Dream Center Proposal**

City Manager Alexander reviewed the article in “The Times Herald” regarding the plans that Woodside Bible has for the former Algonac Elementary. Nothing has been given to the City yet for review or approval.

Council Member Ray Martin was not sure where the church is getting the positive feedback they referred to in that article. He has not heard any positive feedback himself on this matter.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **CO # 09-16-16 Approval of Bids for Material to Refurbish Skate Park**

Motion by Thompson supported by Martin to accept the bid from Rampage, LLC in the amount of \$4,859.60 for the purchase of 24 deck panels and 1,200 stainless screws required for our skate park restoration project.

#### **ROLL CALL VOTE:**

AYES: Bembas, Bird, Martin, Meldrum, Nugent, Thompson

NAYS: None

Motion Carried

#### **CO # 09-17-16 Acceptance of DHS Port Security Grant for Fire Boat**

Motion by Thompson supported by Bembas to adopt the recommendation of the City Manager to enter into the attached “Port Security” grant agreement with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security for purchase of a new fire/rescue boat and to authorize City Treasurer Linda

Mackie to execute all the necessary paperwork on behalf of the City. Motion carried.

**CO # 09-18-16 Waive Bid Process for Road Salt purchase for 2016/2017 Season**

Motion by Martin supported by Thompson to approve the recommendation of the City Manager to waive the bid process and approve the purchase of 50 ton of road salt at a cost of \$43.02/ton from Detroit Salt Co. through the MiDEAL program for the 2016/17 Winter Season.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Bird, Martin, Meldrum, Nugent, Thompson, Bembas

NAYS: None Motion Carried

**CO # 09-19-16 Approve Payment of Invoice from P.C.E, Inc.**

Motion by Thompson, supported by Nugent to support the recommendation of the City Manager to pay PCE Inc. \$1,711.25 for surveying and title work services in connection with the former Algonac Elementary School location.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Martin, Meldrum, Nugent, Thompson, Bembas, Bird

NAYS: None Motion Carried

**CO # 09-20-16 Lions Field Supplemental Contract**

Motion by Thompson supported by Martin to adopt the recommendation of the City Manager and City engineer to award a contract to Cortis Brothers Trucking and Excavation in the amount of \$15,385 to complete the five work items noted above for the Lions Field Improvement Project.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Meldrum, Nugent, Thompson, Bembas, Bird, Martin

NAYS: None Motion Carried

**CO # 09-21-16 Approve Expenditure for Maintenance on Water Tanks**

Motion by Thompson supported by Martin to adopt the recommendation of the City Manager to approve the low bid of Seven Brothers of Shelby Township in the amount of \$27,600 to perform interior

coating repair on both water tanks and the low bid of Seven Brothers in the amount of \$28,500 to install new cathodic protection systems in both water tanks.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Nugent, Thompson, Bembas, Bird, Martin, Meldrum

NAYS: None Motion Carried

## **ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**

### **CO # 09-22-16 Approve Accounts Payable**

Motion by Thompson supported by Bembas to approve accounts payable and payroll in the amount of \$2,278,048.83 as proposed.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Thompson, Bembas, Bird, Martin, Meldrum, Nugent

NAYS: None

## **ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA**

Council Member Bembas would like to talk about the Dog Park and possible additional dog park funding.

## **CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Mayor Pro-Tem Thompson wanted to thank everyone for being at the meeting.

Council Member Ray Martin again stated his disappointment and concern that Woodside Bible Church/the Dream Center had not come to the City with any plans and we were reading about them in the paper.

Council Member Joe Nugent thanked the members of the Historical Society for being at the meeting. He thanked them as well for all the work they did in making sure that the history of Algonac is shared.

Mayor Bird reminded everyone that the Homecoming Parade is this Friday at 4:30.

Council Member Michael Bembas thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He also thanked Fire Chief Doan for reviewing the Neighborhood Readiness program.

Council Member Helen Meldrum said it was great to see so many people here. She also reminded everyone running for Council that they should not put their signs in the right of way and that they should obtain permission from property owners before they just put signs in the yard.

Mayor Bird echoed everyone's sentiments with the residents at the meeting. She thanked them all for coming.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

#### **CO # 09-23-16 Adjournment**

Motion by Thompson supported by Bembas to adjourn the meeting at 8:06 p.m. Motion carried.

Signed:

Respectfully Submitted:

Irene Bird, Mayor

Cynthia Greenia, City Clerk