

City of Grand Blanc City Council  
Minutes of January 8, 2020

Present: Mayor Soderstrom      John Creasey      Julie Nielsen      Chris Carr  
Paula Nas      Chris Douglas      Lisa Blondell

Staff: Wendy Jean-Buhrer, Mary Hopkins, Brian Lipe, Walt Griffin, Dennis Smith, Dianne Waterworth, Steve Hill, Ted Szczepanski, Mike Mead.

Guests: Geric Rose, Gary Gould, Elena Rendon-Owens, Pat Oakes, and others.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Soderstrom at 7:02 P.M.

1. Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Approval of Minutes  
Motion by Blondell supported by Creasey to approve the minutes contained in the agenda packet of January 8, 2020. Motion carried.
3. Approval of Bills  
Motion by Blondell supported by Nielsen to approve bills in amount of \$265,657.60. Motion carried.
4. Public Comment  
Yvonne Wagner - 11819 Terrace Dr.
5. Communication  
None
6. New Business
  - a) Grand Blanc Parks and Recreation: Township, City, Schools Memorandum of Understanding  
City Attorney Walt Griffin discussed the Memorandum and noted a change in the original Memorandum of one sentence. He did recommend the approval of the Memorandum.  
  
Motion by Douglas supported by Blondell to approve the Memorandum of Understanding as amended in the agenda. Motion carried 4 – 2.
  - b) Physicians Park Parcel/Lot Combination  
Motion by Blondell supported by Nielsen to approve the parcel/lot combination for : 56-16-200-017, 56-16-526-030, 56-16-526-031, 56-16-526-029, 56-16-526-028, 56-16-526-059 into one lot as Physicians Park. Motion carried.
  - c) Committee Reports  
  
Public Works  
Motion by Creasey supported by Nielsen to incorporate the Perry Road diet study recommendations received from Fleis and Vandenbrink and approve the Perry Road diet expenditures not to exceed \$6,000. Motion carried 5-1.  
  
Motion by Creasey supported by Nielsen to approve the Fleis and Vandenbrink preliminary and construction design engineering services contracts in the total amount of \$19,400 for 2020 Local Streets Improvement Project. Motion carried.

Motion by Creasey supported by Nielsen to approve the 2020 Local Streets improvement projects as submitted by the Public Works Committee and to expend approximately \$1,360,000 of Local Streets funds in FY 2020 and 2021. Motion carried.

Motion by Creasey supported by Nielsen to approve \$9,500 to Fleis and Vandenbrink for professional services for the library roof project. Motion carried.

13. Other Business

- a.) Police Chief Lipe – received and filed
- b.) DPW Director – not in attendance
- c.) Building Inspector’s Report – received and filed
- d.) Fire Chief Smith – received and filed  
Chief Smith stated that graduation for 10 new fire fighters would be held on Saturday, January 11, 2020. Chief Smith also presented the Grand Blanc City Fire Department Annual Report for 2019.
- e.) City Attorney Griffin – nothing to report
- f.) City Clerk – nothing to report
- g.) Finance Director/Treasurer – nothing to report
- h.) City Manager’s Report  
City Manager Jean-Buhrer highlighted a few items from her City Manager’s Report.
  - Beautification Master Plan Committee
  - Grant for Grand Blanc Road Railroad Crossing of \$300,000
  - Strategic Planning for Council and Department Heads will be held January 24 & 25, 2020.
  - Stated that Committee’s do not meet when there are no agenda items. She asked the Council if they still wanted to meet even if there are no agenda items, and the consensus of the Council was that they did not want to meet if there are no agenda items.
- i.) Members of Council  
**Councilwoman Nielsen** – mentioned that City Manager Jean-Buhrer was doing a great job with writing grants.  
**Councilman Douglas** – also agreed that City Manager Jean-Buhrer was doing a great job with writing grants.  
**Councilman Carr** – inquired regarding what he thought was two different City websites that were both being maintained. City Manager Jean-Buhrer explained that we were transitioning to the new website.  
**Councilman Creasey** – Happy New Year. Congratulations to the Fire Chief on the new Fire Fighters. Congratulations to City Manager Jean-Buhrer on her grand writing. He stated that he hated to see the loss of a community Parks and Recreation Department.
- j.) Mayor Soderstrom  
Mayor Soderstrom stated that it breaks her heart that we couldn’t work things out to maintain what we had with Parks and Recreation.

The meeting adjourned at 7:56 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary B. Hopkins  
City Clerk