

Bronson City Council
Minutes

Special Meeting

October 26, 2023

City Hall- 141 S. Matteson Street, Bronson MI 49028

4:00 pm

1. Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

Meeting called to order at 4:00 PM

2. Roll Call

Council Members Present: Mayor Matt Watkins, Vice Mayor Bill Earl, Councilmember Larry McConn, and Councilmember Rick Johannes

Council Members Absent: Councilmember Bill Rinehart

Staff Members Present: City Manager Brandon Mersman, Clerk/Treasurer Tricia Rzepka, Motion to excuse Councilmember Bill Rinehart made by Councilmember Larry McConn with support from Vice Mayor Bill Earl.

4 ayes/0 nays Motion Carried

3. Public Comments

Public comments shall be limited to 3 minutes for items not listed on the agenda.

None

4. New Business

A. **Public Hearing-** Approval of Branch Industrial Park, LLC Plant Rehabilitation District Application- Industrial Facilities Exemption

1. Public Hearing

Motion to enter public hearing at 4:07 PM made by Councilmember Larry McConn with support from Councilmember Rick Johannes.

4 ayes/0 nays Motion Carried

City Manager Brandon Mersman stated to the council that the Industrial Park Plant Rehabilitation District was approved on June 12, 2023. Branch Industrial Park LLC is requesting an abatement of taxes on real and personal property for the time frame of twelve years.

Motion to exit public hearing at 4:08 PM made by Councilmember Rick Johannes with support from Councilmember Larry McConn.

4 ayes/0 nays Motion Carried

2. Approval/Denial of Application

Motion to approve the Branch Industrial Park, LLC Plant Rehabilitation District Application- Industrial Facilities Exemption made by Councilmember Rick Johannes with support from Vice Mayor Bill Earl.

4 ayes/0 nays Motion Carried

B. **WWTP Administrative Consent Order Discussion**

City Manager Brandon Mersman informed the council that EGLE had contacted him informing him of an opportunity to borrow money for 30 years at 1%, but no actual grant monies. Considering some of the smaller projects, this might be an option.

Brandon explained that there is an option to move this request back to 2024 and re-apply for funding. There is also question regarding the whether all the points that could have been obtained, were obtained for this project before submitting.

Mayor Matt Watkins agreed that this should be moved back to 2024 and possibly finding a different engineer. Matt recognized that there would be some redundancies, but may be worth it. Matt also mentioned that we should pay back the bond and reset.

Councilmember Larry McConn mentioned that before another rate increase, it should be evaluated, where we are at with the project.

Vice Mayor Bill Earl feels that we should keep moving forward.

City Manager Brandon Mersman stated that he is looking to other engineering firms to review what was submitted to see what points may have been left on the table.

Consensus from council was to proceed in this manner.

5. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn was made by Vice Mayor Bill Earl with support from Councilmember Rick Johannes.

4 ayes/0 nays Motion Carried

Adjourned at 4:28 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Tricia Rzepka
Clerk/Treasurer
City of Bronson