

City of Bronson
Regular Council Meeting
March 14, 2016

Mayor Cole called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Present: Cole, McConn, Cox, Earl, Kenny
Absent: None

Public Comment: Terry Kubasiak and Candy Cox from the Bronson Polish Festival Council were present to update Council on the activities being planned for this year's festival. Branch County Sheriff Pollack gave his monthly report on activities at the sheriff's department.

Consent Agenda – Vice-Mayor McConn moved to approve the consent agenda including payment of invoices totaling \$52,389.36. Seconded by Councilman Kenny. Motion carried.

New Business – Downtown Development Authority Development and Tax Increment Financing Plan Public Hearing – Councilman Earl moved to open the public hearing. Seconded by Councilwoman Cox. Motion carried. Several owners of downtown businesses were present to ask questions on how the DDA would work. Manager Mersman explained how the funds were captured. City Attorney Lillis explained what the funds could be used for. After addressing concerns and questions Councilman Earl moved to close the public hearing. Seconded by Councilwoman Cox. Motion carried.

Downtown Development Authority Development and Tax Financing Plan Adoption – Ordinance #200 – Vice-Mayor McConn moved to adopt Ordinance #200. Seconded by Councilman Kenny. Motion carried.

Streetlight Upgrades – Consumers Energy – Manager Mersman explained that Consumers Energy is currently offering an incentive for the City to convert its mercury-vapor lights to LED lights. In 2014 the cost would have been \$1000 per light and now they are offering to do it for \$82.22. He said the City would experience a significant savings over the next two years if the mercury-vapor lights were upgraded. Councilwoman Cox moved to upgrade the mercury-vapor lights to LED lights. Seconded by Councilman Kenny. Motion carried.

City Staff Comments – Supervisor Buckley told Council a bearing has gone out at the treatment plant on the oxidation ditch. He said the bearing had been running for 23 years continuously. He said repairs were underway and would most likely be expensive. He said he would keep them informed as to the progress and costs of the repairs.

Manager Comments – Manager Mersman told Council the City's 5 Year Parks & Recreation Master Plan has been approved by the MDNR. This would make the City's eligible for grant money as it became available. He told Council the updated number on City residents using the curbside trash and recycling was 500 customers.

Council Comments – Vice-Mayor McConn said he attended Bronson's Business Expo and he said he thought it went very well and thanked those who worked to make it a success. He also thanked Manager Mersman for the work he did on the City's park and recreation master plan. Mayor Cole thanked the downtown property owners present for their interest in the DDA.

Adjourn – Councilman Earl moved to adjourn. Seconded by Councilman Kenny. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen A. Smith, City Clerk