

City of Bronson  
Regular Council Meeting  
January 9, 2017

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

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

Public Comment: None

Presentations – Proclamation of the Mayor of Bronson to Deputy Fire Chief Kenneth Stutzman. Manager Mersman read the proclamation honoring Deputy Fire Chief Stutzman honoring him for 50 years of service with the Bronson Fire Department.

Consent Agenda – Councilman Earl moved to approve the consent agenda including payment of invoices totaling \$256,307.83. Seconded by Councilwoman Cox. Motion carried.

New Business – Michigan Gas Utilities Easement Request – Railroad Property – Manager Mersman said Michigan Gas Utilities was requesting a utility easement for the placement of a gas line regulator in the area of Matteson Street and the old rail line. He said they have offered the City \$2,400 for the easement rights. He said the City's plans to develop the old rail line into a walking trail raise some safety concerns about the placement of the regulator. Jim Broadway representing Michigan Gas was present to address the concerns. He said he felt Michigan Gas would fence and landscape the area around the area to address safety and aesthetics. Vice-Mayor McConn said he was not necessarily interested in giving Michigan Gas an easement on City property because in the past Michigan Gas has not been helpful when the City asked for their assistance in helping new business with hookups in the City. Mr. Broadway said he was certain Michigan Gas has not ever offered any assistance for new customer hookups. Vice-Mayor McConn said the whole situation left a bad impression with him. After further discussion Attorney Lillis suggested Council authorize Manager Mersman to negotiate the easement with Michigan Gas and to make the easement approval contingent on the placement of fencing and landscaping. Councilwoman Cox moved to approve the easement with the conditions of fencing and landscaping being agreed on by the City and Michigan Gas. Seconded by Councilman Kenny. Motion passed with Vice-Mayor McConn voting nay.

Ordinance #202 – Tree Policy and Ordinance Adoption – Vice-Mayor McConn moved to adopt Ordinance #202. Seconded by Councilman Kenny. Motion carried.

Staff Comments – Utilities Supervisor Buckley introduced new DPW employee Mike Waltke. Council welcomed Mr. Waltke to the City.

City Manager Comments – Manager Mersman told Council the Memorial Park grant/fundraising website would be going live on January 23<sup>rd</sup>. It would be open until March 10<sup>th</sup>.

Council Comments – Council congratulated and expressed their sincere thanks for his 50 years of service and dedication to the fire department and Bronson Community to Deputy Fire Chief Stutzman. Fire Chief Scott Wilber was present and invited everyone to attend an open house on January 28<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. with a special presentation at 4:00 at the Bronson Fire Department honoring Deputy Fire Chief

Stutzman. Vice-Mayor McConn also expressed thanks to Mrs. Stutzman and their entire family for their support to community saying he knew sometimes the family had to make sacrifices to allow Mr. Stutzman to do the work he has done for the community over the last 50 years.

Adjourn – Vice-Mayor McConn moved to adjourn. Seconded by Councilman Kenny. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen A. Smith, City Clerk