

City of Bronson
Regular Council Meeting
December 14, 2020

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

Roll Call: Present: McConn, Rinehart, Watkins, Duke

Absent: Johannes

Councilman Duke moved to excuse Councilman Johannes from the meeting. Seconded by Councilman Watkins. Motion carried.

Public Comment – Jim Krontz asked about the cleanup being done on the property located on the end of Douglas Street. He said there was a pile of debris left after the paving was done on the site and was wondering when it might be removed. Mayor McConn said the cleanup has moved along slowly but the site looks better than it has in years. Clerk Smith said the company has told the City the cleanup project should be completed by January 14th.

Consent Agenda – Councilman Duke moved to approve the consent agenda including payment of invoices totaling \$94,657.78. Seconded by Councilman Rinehart. Motion carried.

Old Business – Approve Purchase of Police Vehicle - Manager Mersman told Council the City would not qualify for the USDA Grant because the City can fund its capital expenditures. He requested approval of a 2020 Ford Explorer Interceptor and required equipment for the vehicle at a total cost of \$52,637.87. Councilman Rinehart moved to approve the purchase. Seconded by Councilman Watkins. Motion carried.

New Business- Discuss CDBG Grant Payment Process – Manager Mersman explained that to meet the federal requirements of expending funds invoices for the MEDC grant project payments must be made 3 days after receiving the funds. Manager Mersman asked Council if they would like to preapprove expenses before submitting reimbursement requests to the State. Mayor McConn said he would like to preapprove expenses.

Approve Interlocal Agreement for County Designated Assessor – A requirement of PA 660 of 2018 is that every County must have a designated assessor. Each County must have an interlocal agreement with local units in each county. Branch County is proposing the hiring of Chuck Zemla to serve as Branch County's Designated Assessor. Mr. Zemla is qualified and having the City adopt to the interlocal would satisfy the requirements of the State. Councilman Duke moved to approve the interlocal agreement. Seconded by Councilman Watkins. Motion carried.

Adopt Resolution #20-12-18 911 Service Plan – Manager Mersman and Mayor McConn asked Council to adopt the resolution that would ask the County Commissioners to delay adopting the service plan that would take away any input the users of systems and municipalities have through the 911 board. Adoption of the service plan is set for December 22nd. Delaying the adoption of the service plan would give the users a chance to come up with a more mutual agreement that would take under consideration everyone's best interest in the system as a whole. Councilman Watkins moved to adopt Resolution #20-12-18. Seconded by Councilman Rinehart. Motion carried.

Staff Comments – Police Chief Johnson thanked Council for supporting the department by keeping equipment and vehicles up to date.

City Manager Comments – Manager Mersman told Council there would be no Christmas dinner this year. He said the CDGB project was moving forward.

Council Comments – Council wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Safe and Happy New Year. Councilman Watkins thanked Manager Mersman for checking on the property on Douglas Street. Mayor McConn thanked County Commissioner Kolcz for his work and support of local users of the 911 system. Council thank Karen Smith and Lori Lambright for the decorating the planters downtown and the DPW for doing a great job with the Christmas lights downtown.

Adjourn – Councilman Watkins moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Councilman Rinehart. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Smith, City Clerk/Treas.