

City of Bronson
Regular Council Meeting
November 14, 2022

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

Roll Call: Present: McConn, Earl, Rinehart, Johannes, Watkins
Absent: none

Clerk Smith administered the oath of office to the newly elected councilmembers.

Clerk Smith asked for nominations for the position of Mayor. Councilman Earl nominated Matt Watkins for the position of Mayor. Seconded by Councilman McConn. There were no other nominations, Matt Watkins was unanimously elected as Mayor. Mayor Watkins asked for nominations for the position of Vice-Mayor. Councilman Johannes nominated Councilman McConn for the position of Vice-Mayor. There was not a second for the nomination. Councilman Rinehart nominated Councilman Earl for the position of Vice-Mayor. It was seconded by Mayor Watkins and Councilman Earl was unanimously elected as Vice-Mayor.

Public Comment - None

Consent Agenda – Vice-Mayor Earl moved to approve the consent agenda including payment of invoices totaling \$137,211.01. Seconded by Councilman Rinehart. Motion carried.

New Business – Approve IT Right Proposal for Email Server Migration – Manager Mersman said during a recent audit of the police department’s law enforcement network it was determined the City’s current email host does not meet the encryption required for the network. He said the city needs to migrate to Microsoft 365 with GovCloud. The City’s current IT contractor, IT Right, provided a proposal to do this work at a cost of \$2,960. There then would be annual expense of approximately \$1,000.00 to maintain the emails based on the number of users the city has at the time. Councilman Johannes moved to approve the proposal from IT Right. Seconded by Councilman Rinehart. Motion carried.

Approve Resolution of Support to Apply for MTPP Risk Management Grant – Resolution No. 22-11-15 – Manager Mersman said the Michigan Township Participating Risk Management Grant is open again for applications. He said he would like to apply for a grant of \$5,000.00 to put toward a purchase of a backup generator for City Hall. He asked for approval of the resolution of support so he may apply for the grant. Vice-Mayor Earl moved to adopt Resolution No. 22-11-15. Seconded by Councilman Johannes. Motion carried.

Approve Plummers Environmental Pay Request #3 - Manager Mersman said Plummer’s Environmental submitted their third pay request for the work they have done to date under the Drinking Water Asset Management System Materials Grant. The engineer has reviewed the pay request and recommends payment of \$4,360.10. Councilman Johannes moved to approve the pay request. Seconded by Councilman Rinehart. Motion carried.

Approve Traffic Control Order #39 – Police Chief Johnson is requesting that the intersection of Compton and South Douglas be made a four way stop to make it safer for pedestrian and vehicle traffic. Vice-Mayor Earl moved to approve Traffic Control Order #39. Seconded by Councilman Johannes. Motion carried.

Administrative Consent Order (Sanitary Sewer) Update – Mike Schwartz, from Prien & Newhof, gave Council an update on the Administrative Consent Order and what steps will be made in future. He said the intent to apply for funding is being made to the State and the USDA. He said a financial plan is being made and he has hopes the City will be eligible for a sizable grant for the work. He said construction plans are also being started now. He reminded Council that the deadline for the steps in the ACO were outlined when it was signed and it is important to stay on the time line outlined in it.

City Staff Comments – Police Chief Johnson said Halloween was safe and uneventful. He said please watch out for kids with the time change. Fire Chief Wilber said the department was awarded a grant from the State to train medical first responders and EMTs. He said he is still waiting for an ambulance from LifeCare and it currently talking with Gilead and Noble townships about a possible satellite station.

Manager Comments – Manager Mersman said work on the water tower was complete and said he appreciated the community’s patience and the fire departments help during the process.

Council Comments – Council thanked Councilman McConn for the time he served as Mayor. They congratulated and thanked Mayor Watkins for taking on the position of Mayor. Council also welcomed back Vice-Mayor Earl back to Council. Mayor Watkins thanked Mike Schwartz for the update on the ACO and Fire Chief Wilber for the update on the fire department projects.

Closed Session – Councilman Johannes moved to recess the meeting to closed session for the Managers Evaluation and Contract Negotiations. Seconded by Councilman Rinehart. Motion carried.

Council returned to Open Session for Action on the Manager’s Contract – Vice-Mayor Earl moved to approve City Manager’s Mersman contract. Seconded by Councilman Rinehart. Motion carried.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Smith, City Clerk/Treas.