

A regular meeting of the City Commission was held in the Commission Room of the City-County building, 325 Court Street, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan on Monday, April 18, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Bosbous

Present: Mayor Bosbous, Commissioner Bauer (arrived at 7:30 p.m.),
Burton, Gerrie, Lynn, and Munsell

Absent: Commissioner Stefanski

Also Present: City Manager Nebel, City Attorney Cannello, City Clerk Robin R. Troyer, and various department heads

Moved by Commissioner Lynn, supported by Commissioner Burton

That the absence of Commissioner Stefanski be excused.

Motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Moved by Commissioner Burton, supported by Commissioner Gerrie

That the following consent agenda items be approved:

Minute Approval:

That the minutes of the regular City Commission meeting held on Monday, April 4, 2011 and Special City Commission meeting of April 11, 2011 be approved as written and circulated and the minutes of the following boards and commissions received and placed on file:

- a. Airport Advisory Board – March 9, 2011
- b. Downtown Development Authority – March 9, 2011
- c. SSM Housing Commission – February 8, 2011
- d. Zoning Board of Appeals – March 17, 2011

Appointments and Resignations:

That the City Commission reappoint Virginia Cymbalist to the Historic Development Commission for a term that will expire December 31, 2017.

That the City Commission reappoint Rick Barck and Don Dagnall to a three year term expiring April 19, 2014 on the Planning and Development Commission and send Jeff Gonyeau a letter of appreciation for his years of service on the Planning and Development Commission and announce a vacancy on this board.

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Communications:

From Planning and Development Commission - Approval a Proposed Lot Split of Lot 5, Block 5, Hall's Addition as Requested, by Sheri L. (Pontus) Poirier:

WHEREAS, a lot split application has been submitted by Sheri L. (Pontus) Poirier to split Lot 5, Block 5, Hall's Addition, including the North half of the adjacent vacated alley; and

WHEREAS, said petitioners submitted a sketch of the proposed lot split, containing the basic requirements as set forth in Chapter 23, Article V of Section 23-69 of the Subdivision Regulations of the City of Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, which was submitted by the City Clerk to the Planning & Development Commission; and

WHEREAS, the Planning & Development Commission on March 31, 2011 considered the request and recommended that the lot split be approved as requested.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Commission of the City of Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan hereby accepts the Planning & Development Commission's recommendation and declares the lot split be approved in accordance with Section 23-74 of the City Subdivision Regulations as follows and shown on the attached survey:

Parcel A: Part of Lot 3, All of Lot 4, and Part of Lot 5, and the North half of the adjacent vacated alley, Block 5, Hall's Addition, containing 13,495 s. f. more or less, as shown and described on the attached Certificate of Survey by Northwoods Land Surveying, Job 4821-00S, dated March 9, 2011; and

Parcel B: Part of Lot 5 and All of Lots 6, 7, and 8, and the North half of the adjacent vacated alley, Block 5, Hall's Addition, containing 17,494 s. f., more or less, as shown and described on the attached Certificate of Survey by Northwoods Land Surveying, Job 4821-00S, dated March 9, 2011.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Clerk be advised to record this resolution in the Register of Deeds Office for the County of Chippewa.

From the Sault Shrine Club - Request to Hold Circus at Pullar Stadium on May 11, 2011:

That the City Commission approve a license for the Sault Shrine Club to operate a circus at the Pullar Stadium in Sault Ste. Marie on May 11, 2011.

Carried: Yeas: Mayor Bosbous, Commissioner Bauer, Burton, Gerrie, Lynn, and Munsell
Nays: None

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

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SUBMISSION OF THE RECOMMENDED BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR
BEGINNING JULY 1, 2011 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2012:

In accordance with the City Charter, it is the responsibility of the City Manager to present a budget to the City Commission on the third Monday in April outlining the recommended revenues and expenditures for the fiscal year that will begin July 1, 2011. A complete summary of this year's budget plan is outlined in the budget message that is part of the submission of this budget to the City Commission. The Commission will meet on Tuesday, April 19th at 5:15 p.m. and April 20th and 21st (if necessary) to review this budget. A meeting to reconcile the budget will be held on Monday, April 25th at 7:00 p.m. and at the end of this meeting, the Commission will formally propose a budget for public hearing and approval for the May 9th City Commission meeting.

This has been a particularly difficult budget to put together with various financial challenges coming primarily from the State of Michigan to the local units of government. City Manager Nebel expressed his appreciation for all the efforts of the department heads and staff that are involved in various aspects of putting this budget together. Specifically, City Manager Nebel thanked Bev Crumley for her efforts at putting a complicated document together to convey the budget message to the Mayor and City Commission and to the general public. Furthermore, City Manager Nebel extend his appreciation to Acting Finance Director Kristin Collins, who did an excellent job in working through the various budget issues in developing a financing plan for the City for this next fiscal year. This was particularly challenging for Kristin since, with John Boger's retirement earlier this year, Kristin was doing both the job of the Finance Director and previous Assistant Finance Director Responsibilities with the department at the same time.

In accordance with Section 8.2 of the City Charter, City Manager Nebel has prepared and hereby submits to the City Commission on the third Monday in April, the recommended budget for the fiscal year that will begin on July 1, 2011 and will end on June 30, 2012 for review, modification and adoption.

Susan Anderson, City of Sault Ste. Marie Employee (Employed in the City Clerks Office and a member of the Steelworkers Union) made reference to the 2003 Guiding Financial Principals Item "C" Avoid Quick Fixes. Mrs. Anderson felt that the 5% pay reduction goes against the 2003 Task Force Guiding Principals as adopted by the City Commission. Mrs. Anderson expressed concern with the proposed capital expenses and proposed projects, and suggested selling the Municipal Golf Course and Airport which currently drain on the City.

APPROVAL OF BIDS FOR SNOWMOBILE CROSSING PAVEMENT
REINFORCEMENT AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS IN THE CITY'S STREET SYSTEM:

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On April 12, 2011, one bid was received for the installation of snowmobile crossing pavement sealers for the preservation of the pavements at these locations. Administration did try to bid this project in 2010 but due to a shortage of materials for doing this work, the City was unable to receive a bid to get this project done in 2010. The completion date is no later than May 31, 2011.

Additional funding will need to be appropriated for this work from the Major Street Fund Balance in the amount of \$7,800 to cover the cost of this project. The remaining funds are in the Traffic Control line item accounts for this purpose.

Moved by Commissioner Lynn, supported by Commissioner Munsell

That the City Commission award the bid for snowmobile crossing pavement markings to PK Contracting of Lake City, Michigan in an amount based on unit prices of \$20,310, being the low bidder and meeting contract specifications for the work with additional funding being appropriated for this work from the Major Street Fund Balance in the amount of \$7,800.00.

Carried: Yeas: Commissioner Bauer, Burton, Gerrie, Lynn, Munsell, and Mayor Bosbous
Nays: None

APPROVAL OF BID FOR PAVEMENT MARKINGS:

On April 12, 2011, two bids were received for various paving markings to properly control traffic primarily on major streets. The City typically does a number of major streets every other year and busier streets are done on an annual basis. This year, the painting is for the entire street system. This work will be completed no later than May 31, 2011.

The City has worked with the low bidder, PK Contracting, in the past and have had satisfactory results.

Moved by Commissioner Gerrie, supported by Commissioner Burton

That the City Commission award the pavement marking contract to PK Contracting of Lake City, Michigan in the amount of \$13,023.56 based on unit prices, being the low bidder and meeting contractual requirements for the pavement marking work as specified.

Carried: Yeas: Commissioner Burton, Gerrie, Lynn, Munsell, Mayor Bosbous, and Commissioner Bauer
Nays: None

AUTHORIZATION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH CLOVERLAND ELECTRIC TO

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REPLACE THE ASHMUN STREET / I-75 BUSINESS SPUR STREET LIGHTS:

The street lights along the I-75 Business Spur are owned by the City of Sault Ste. Marie. Cloverland Electric Cooperative will remove and reinstall the street lights and place the electric service for these lights underground during reinstallation. The cost incurred by the City includes eight new wood poles and conduit for burial of electrical service. This work will be coordinated with the MDOT Reconstruction Project, but is paid for directly by the City of Sault Ste. Marie to Cloverland Electric. The total cost for this work by Cloverland will be \$44,461.

Moved by Commissioner Munsell, supported by Commissioner Lynn

That the City Commission authorize Cloverland Electric to replace electrical lines and conduit on Ashmun Hill as part of the MDOT Reconstruction Project in an amount not to exceed \$44,461.

Carried: Yeas: Commissioner Gerrie, Lynn, Munsell, Mayor Bosbous,
Commissioner Bauer, and Burton
Nays: None

PURCHASE OF A CLOVERLAND ELECTRIC BUCKET TRUCK:

Last year, the City Public Works Department was approached by Edison Sault Electric Company to see if the City had interest in purchasing a used bucket truck from Edison. They were replacing this unit and heard the City might have an interest in adding this unit to their fleet.

The City's current bucket truck has a 32 foot boom. The Cloverland truck has a 52 foot boom. This will certainly facilitate tree removals and other work that the City has to do from time to time with this higher boom. The Cloverland truck has outriggers to stabilize the truck while individuals are working in the bucket.

The City mechanics have reviewed this piece of equipment and the Sign Shop coordinator Bruce Boger has operated this piece of equipment, and it has been determined to be in excellent shape and a significant asset to the City's efforts, particularly considering the price that the City will pay for it. The City will continue using the smaller bucket truck for appropriate jobs for that unit.

Moved by Commissioner Bauer, supported by Commissioner Burton

That the City Commission waive the bidding requirements as provided in Section 12.1 of the City Charter to allow for the purchase of this used bucket truck from Cloverland Electric, since no advantage would be gained by competitive bidding.

Carried: Yeas: Commissioner Lynn, Munsell, Mayor Bosbous,

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Commissioner Bauer, Burton, and Gerrie
Nays: None

Moved by Commissioner Bauer, supported by Commissioner Burton

That the City Commission purchase the bucket truck from Cloverland Electric in an amount of \$13,000.

Carried: Yeas: Commissioner Munsell, Mayor Bosbous, Commissioner Bauer, Burton, Gerrie, and Lynn
Nays: None

AUTHORIZATION OF A MONTHLY FEE FOR AUNE-OSBORN CAMPERS:

The City Commission approved the rates for the Aune-Osborn Campground along with other summer recreational rates in December of last year. The contractual operators of the campground, Jeff and Becky Collia, have made a request for the City Commission to consider offering a monthly fee to the several families that come and stay at the Aune-Osborn Campground for a month at a time. This would both offer incentives as well as provide guaranteed income to the operator and the City for these monthly rentals. This would also offset some of the increases for these long-term campers at this facility that were approved in December. The monthly rate would be based on last year's costs and would require the camper to pay the month's fees in advance. It does seem to make some sense to offer this small accommodation to campers that spend a full month at the Aune-Osborn Campground.

Moved by Commissioner Burton, supported by Commissioner Bauer

That the City Commission approve a rate for campers who pay for a full month in advance based on last year's rates for waterfront sites of \$700 and non-waterfront sites of \$650 for the 2011 camping season.

Carried: Yeas: Mayor Bosbous, Commissioner Bauer, Burton, Gerrie, Lynn, and Munsell
Nays: None

AUTHORIZE MAYOR BOSBOUS TO REPRESENT AND VOTE ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF SAULT STE. MARIE AT THE ANNUAL CLOVERLAND MEMBERSHIP MEETING:

The annual membership meeting for Cloverland Electric will take place on Wednesday, April 27th from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The City of Sault Ste. Marie, as an electrical customer of Cloverland, has the right to participate in the annual meeting. City Manager Nebel recommended that the City Commission designate Mayor Bosbous as its official representative to participate in the meeting and to cast a vote on behalf of

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the City of Sault Ste. Marie.

Moved by Commissioner Gerrie, supported by Commissioner Burton

That the City Commission authorize Mayor Bosbous to represent the City of Sault Ste. Marie and vote at the annual Cloverland Electric meeting that will be held at the Sault High School on Wednesday, April 27th from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Carried: Yeas: Commissioner Bauer, Burton, Gerrie, Lynn, Munsell, and Mayor Bosbous
Nays: None

Status Report:

Public Information Meetings on 2011 Reconstruction Projects (a) I-75 Business Spur (Ashmun Street) from Easterday Avenue to 10th Avenue by MDOT, (b) CSO C by the City of Sault Ste. Marie:

This month there will be two important meetings for property owners and interested citizens to participate in regarding reconstruction projects in 2011. The first is being completed by the Michigan Department of Transportation for the reconstruction of the I-75 Business Spur from Easterday Avenue to 10th Avenue. A public open house is being sponsored by MDOT from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 19th at the Washington Elementary School gymnasium at 1200 Ryan Street. This will give an opportunity for businesses and citizens to learn more about how this project will progress, how the detours will work, and any specific questions that individuals may have regarding how the construction may directly impact them.

A second meeting will be held by the City on April 21st at 3:00 p.m. in the Bayliss Library for citizens and businesses impacted by the remaining combined sewer overflow work. This meeting will be held in the Bayliss Library and will review the contractor's schedule, detour routes, and business signage during the reconstruction efforts on East Portage Avenue, West Spruce Street (100 block west of Ashmun Street), and other adjacent streets.

MATTERS PRESENTED BY THE PUBLIC:

Owen Bell, Water Department/Steelworks Union expressed to the Commission that City Employees take their jobs seriously, employees are concerned about the safety of our residents and care of our streets. Mr. Bell indicated that the Federal Building furniture purchases were done at bad time with lay off notices being given the day following the bid award. Mr. Bell asked the City Commission to reconsider the layoffs.

Mark Meiners a City resident asked why the pavement painting and snowmobile

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crossings previous awarded couldn't be done by the City workers that are being considered for lay offs. City Manager Nebel responded to Mr. Meiners question.

Brad LaCross, Sault Ste. Marie Police Department indicated that they provide a service for the City and that the Police Department and Department of Public Works need a certain number of employees to do the job. Mr. LaCross requested the Commission to consider looking at all budget line items and accessing the cuts fairly across the board.

MATTERS PRESENTED BY THE CITY COMMISSION:

Commissioner Burton indicated that she received a complaint call from Don Smith regarding splitting or shifting of roadway off Foss Hill.

Commissioner Munsell indicated concerns regarding Foss Hill and 4th.

Moved by Commissioner Lynn, supported by Commissioner Burton

That the meeting adjourn at 8:23 p.m.

Motion carried unanimously.

ANTHONY G. BOSBOUS, MAYOR

ROBIN R. TROYER, CITY CLERK