

CITY OF BURTON
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 7, 1991, 7:30 P.M., COUNCIL CHAMBERS

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE WAS LED BY COUNCILMAN ABBEY.

This Regular Meeting was called to order by Council President Cross at 7:30 P.M.

Members Present: Abbey, Card, Cross, Hammon, Martinbianco, Smiley and Walls.

Members Absent: None.

Others Present: Mayor, Jane L. Nimcheski; K. Collard, City Administrator; H. Clark, Police Chief and W. Walworth, City Clerk.

Walls moved and Martinbianco supported the following motion:

Approve and authorize the minutes of the following meetings: Regular Meeting of December 17, 1990 at 7:00 P.M., as printed. Motion carried 7-0.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT:

Mayor Nimcheski informed the Council that the City will receive the Exemplary State and Local Award at Rutgers University on February 11, 1991 for the Computers at the Polls project. The award is given by the National Center for Public Productivity and The Norris Institute. The City will receive one of 25 awards out of a total of 350 applicants. She said she hopes that she and the Clerk will be able to attend.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Bob Walls, 2400 Meadowcroft, said he thought monies had been allocated in the budget for the playground at Belsay and Lapeer. He said the playground had some painting and minor repairs last year and he would like the City to improve the playground.

Mr. Walls asked what would happen on unemployment if the Police Officer is laid off.

Chief Clark said that would be looked at in the agreement. Mr. Walls also asked if the officer could be called out of the mall in an emergency. Mr. Clark said the officer would respond to emergencies that occur in close proximity to the mall.

Fred Perkins, 4349 Woodrow, wanted to be sure that the Council reviewed the Courtland/Police project contract before they gave final approval.

John Stapish, 5160 E. Atherton, complained about snowmobiles in his area. Chief Clark said there was no age restriction on driving snowmobiles, but they are not allowed on the roadways. The Chief said he would look into the matter.

Mr. Stapish spoke against Mr. McDougal's proposed raise and also expressed concern about the Courtland Center/Police project.

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Jim Townsend, 2051 Covert Rd., indicated he supported Mr. McDougal's proposed raise and also the proposed project at the Courtland Center.

Jerry Thick of Flint, praised the Burton Police on their quick response to his clients needs and said that as a businessman, he saw merit in the proposed Courtland/Police project.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION:

Mr. Martinbianco reported the Finance Committee had met on January 3rd and it was the consensus of the committee that the Criminal Diversion Director's raise would be considered, after Mr. McDougal brought back some necessary changes to his contract, including a raise in the client fee.

Mr. Martinbianco said the committee also agreed in concept to a contract with Forrest Cities and the City on stationing an officer at the mall. He said the station could also serve as a community information center. He explained the committee deferred the request by Chief Clark for an additional \$5000 until after the contract has been negotiated. He also wants the size of the police force to return to the January 1, 1991 level if the program terminates.

Mr. Kephart, manager of the mall, said he was enthusiastic and excited about entering this program.

Chief Clark said he felt everyone would benefit from the project.

Mr. Smiley asked how soon after Council approval the program would begin.

Chief Clark replied about 8 weeks after the agreement is finalized, which should be in 2 weeks.

Mrs. Walls asked about the additional \$5000. Chief Clark replied it was designed to cover the 10 hours of overtime being proposed for the contract. Mrs. Walls also inquired about the police car at the mall. Chief Clark said Forrest Cities will pay us to refurbish one of the older vehicles and a marked car would be a deterrent and also available for patrolling.

Mr. Hammon noted he had read an article in the Nation's Cities Weekly about officers taking vehicles home and finding the crime rate in the area virtually eliminated. He said he could see similar thing happening by placing a police car at the mall.

Mr. Smiley asked about a sewer man hole settling at Center Rd. in front of Meijers. Mr. Collard replied he would have the county look into the matter.

Mr. Smiley asked about the light suggested at Bristol and Fern. Mr. Collard said it would probably be installed in the next 6 to 8 weeks.

Mr. Smiley asked if the Mayor had sent a written notice out to those who would have their water rates raised.

Mayor Nimcheski said after reviewing revenues, she could not justify spending additional monies to send out special notices. She said the change in her original recommendation cost the City a potential \$31,000. The Mayor further stated, it was not fair for the other citizens in the community, who are on the water loop, to continue to subsidize the water project. She said she would be happy to put a notice on the water bills when they are sent out in March.

Mr. Smiley asked the Mayor if she had vetoed the motion. She said no.

Mr. Abbey asked the Attorney if the Mayor was in violation of the Charter. Mr. Autin said the Mayor, as CEO, could not be given this type of directive by the Council and the mailing of a notice may be outside the authority of the Council. He said he would like to research the matter further.

Mrs. Walls asked if the rate was effective March 1st. The Mayor replied the rate is effective January 1st and the bills will go out in March.

Mr. Smiley thought many calls will come in about the rate change if a letter is not sent.

Mr. Smiley asked if any monies had been allocated in the budget for the park.

Mr. Martinbianco said he thought about \$1600 to \$2000 was placed in the budget for restoration of the park. He said if that was not what Mrs. Walls had in mind it should be looked at again for next year's budget considerations. He said he would be happy to share that information with Mr. Smiley or any other materials he gets from Mr. Becker if he so wished.

Mrs. Walls asked if information could be provided to the Council.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION ACTION:

Martinbianco moved and Card supported the following motion:

- A. Approve and authorize the administration to pursue a contract with Forrest Cities Enterprises, to station an officer at the Courtland Center and the Courtyard and to bring the contract back to the Council for approval.
Motion carried 7-0.

COUNCIL ACTION:

Card moved and Abbey supported the following motion:

1. Approve and authorize the Attorney Billing from December 11, 1990 to January 2, 1991 in the amount of \$652.55.
Motion carried 7-0.

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Martinbianco moved and Abbey supported the following motion:

2. Approve and authorize the setting of the 2nd Public Hearing for Zoning Case #187 for Monday, February 4, 1991 at 7:00 P.M. to rezone properties in Holland Heights Subdivision "Assorted Lots". (Burton City Planning Commission).

Motion carried 7-0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

William R. Walworth
Burton City Clerk

WRW/cml