

CITY OF BURTON
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 5, 2009, 7:00 P.M., COUNCIL CHAMBERS
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Councilwoman Laurie Tinnin led the Invocation and the Pledge of the Allegiance.

The Regular Meeting was called to order by President Tom Martinbianco at 7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Conley, Ellenburg, Haskins, Heffner, Martinbianco, Tinnin and Zelenko.

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: G. Kray, DPW Director; Attorney R. Austin and G. Webster, City Clerk.

Haskins moved and Heffner seconded the following motion:

Approve and authorize the minutes of the following meetings: Special Council Meeting on October 19, 2009 at 6:15 p.m., Special Council Meeting on October 19, 2009 at 6:30 p.m., Regular Council Meeting on October 19, 2009 at 7:00 p.m., Special Council Meeting on October 22, 2009 at 5:00 p.m., and Special Council Meeting on October 22, 2009 at 5:15 p.m. Motion carried 7-0.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT:

Mr. Kray indicated that the City purchased the remaining lots in Burton Estates for approximately \$4,700. He said there would be a Veteran's Day service at the Memorial on November 11th at 11:00 a.m. After the ceremony lunch will be served at the VFW Post.

The November 16th Council Meeting will be held at the Senior Center at 7:00 p.m. The Swearing In Ceremony will commence at 8:00 p.m. Mr. Kray congratulated the successful council candidates. He said the Administration looks forward to working with the new members to make Burton a wonderful place to live.

Mr. Martinbianco congratulated all the newly elected council members. He looked forward to working with them to move the City forward.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mr. Heffner said the Parks Commission held the second annual Trick or Treat Trail event at Courtland Center. He said there was a great turn out. He thanked Council members and all the volunteers for their input. Mr. Martinbianco thanked Tucker Enterprises for allowing the City to use the mall area to hold the event. He suggested the Administration send a letter of appreciation to the business.

Mrs. Ellenburg said the Friends of the Library held an \$800.00 book sale. She thanked DPW for transporting the books. The committee was excited to hear the adjacent property was donated. They would like the fence removed to make the property look better.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Gerald D. Snodgrass, 4026 Grand Oaks Trail, urged everyone to support the Old Newsboys. He said the organization supports children at Christmas. The paper sale will be held on December 11th. You can support a child's Christmas with a \$20.00 donation.

Jan Bolen, 1169 Howe Rd., was sorry to see Mrs. Tinnin and Mrs. Conley leave because they have been very helpful to residents. She opposed the viewpoint of other Council members and the Mayor.

John Stapish, PO Box 190134, asked for clarification on the Kellar Thoma billing. Mr. Martinbianco said this was a specialty group that addressed personnel issues.

Bud LeGrande, 2105 E. Buder, felt Mrs. Tinnin lost the election because she was always in opposition to the Mayor's viewpoint. He said Burton was in good shape because the Council and Administration worked together to move the City forward.

Edward Charles Bracken Sr., 1349 Castro, indicated that Ponderosa would host a benefit dinner for veterans next Monday, November 9th.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION:

Mrs. Ellenburg thanked Mr. Snodgrass for his help with the Old Newsboys. She encouraged everyone to participate in this worthwhile cause. She thanked Mr. Brackens for coming to the meeting. She said hopefully, he will get involved and volunteer for City events.

Mrs. Tinnin referenced a letter from the Water and Waste Division dated July 10th in reference to a 9.5% water rate increase from Detroit. The increase would take effect September 2, 2009. She wanted to know where Burton was with this increase.

Mr. Kray said the water rate increase was dictated by resolution. The rates occur automatically when passed on by Genesee County.

Mrs. Tinnin thought it was a vote of four to three to pass automatic rate increases. She wanted to know if the increase took place. Mr. Kray said in accordance with the resolution the rate increase would have been put into effect. Mrs. Tinnin said there should be a public announcement stating the 9.5% increase.

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Mrs. Tinnin thanked Mrs. Bolen for her comments. She planned to attend future meetings. She said more residents should become involved and voice their opinions. This is what government is about. She opposed the purchase of the Burton Estates property. She said special assessments should be paid out of General Fund, not water and sewer funds. There is no concrete way to repay the special assessments, unless those lots sell. Water and Sewer users put extra money into that surplus account. However, we do not receive a benefit from the subdivision lots. This will deplete our surplus account. She felt this process should be reviewed. Mrs. Tinnin thought it was important to set aside money to pave our main roads.

Mr. Martinbianco thanked Mrs. Tinnin for her service. He looked forward to seeing her in the future.

Mrs. Zelenko said thank you to Mrs. Conley and Mrs. Tinnin for their service. She said we haven't always agreed. However, she has learned a lot from them. She looked forward to future communication with them.

Mrs. Ellenburg welcomed new businesses to the community. She discussed a new Barber Shop and food business on Bristol Rd. In addition, there was a Church's Chicken opening on Dort Hwy.

Mrs. Conley said that she would miss being on Council. She planned to be an active participant in future meetings. She said it was fun, even if they didn't always agree. She made reference to a Park and Recreation position.

Mr. Martinbianco said it was a pleasure to serve with Mrs. Conley over the last two years. He thanked her for her input and insight on Burton issues.

Mr. Martinbianco reminded everyone that the next Council meeting would be held at the Senior Center November 16, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. The Swearing In ceremony will commence at 8:00 p.m.

COUNCIL ACTION:

Haskins moved and Conley seconded the following motion:

1. Approve and authorize the Attorney Billing (Richard Austin) from October 14, 2009 through October 28, 2009 in the amount of \$6,037.75.
Motion carried 7-0.

Haskins moved and Heffner seconded the following motion:

2. Approve and authorize the Attorney Billing (Keller Thoma) 440 East Congress, 5th Floor, Detroit, MI 48226, for the month of October in the amount of \$165.00
Motion carried 7-0.

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Haskins moved and Zelenko seconded the following motion:

3. Approve and authorize a Resolution to Manage Floodplain Development for the National Flood Insurance Program.

Motion carried 7-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Gayle K. Webster, CMC
City Clerk