

**ADMINISTER OATH OF OFFICE:** Prior to the start of the City Council Meeting City Clerk-Treasurer Lisa Grysen administered the oath of office to Jim Rundborg (Mayor), Tim Kangas, Jim Lancaster, and Tony Stoker (City Council).

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor Rundborg called the Regular City Council Meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. He led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL:**

Council Members Present: Sue Erickson (arrived at 7:25 pm), Dave Hunsaker, Tim Kangas, Sheryl Strouse, Tony Stoker, and Jim Lancaster  
Council Members Excused: None

**STAFF:**

Lisa Grysen, Rich Miller, Police Chief Larry Jerue, and Dan Matson

**AUDIENCE:**

Ray & Carmen Knick, Mike Lee and Samir Matta

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Motion by Hunsaker, seconded by Strouse and carried by unanimous vote of the Council that **the agenda be approved with Special Agenda Item #1 being deleted, Special Agenda Item #2 being renumbered to #1, and closed session being added at the end of the agenda.**

**SPECIAL AGENDA ITEMS:**

1. Recognition of Councilman, Ray Knick:

The Mayor presented Councilmember Ray Knick with a resolution thanking him for his dedication and service to the City of DeWitt

**RECESS:**

The City Council Meeting took a recess for cake and punch in Ray Knick's honor at 7:14 pm. The Mayor called the meeting back to order at 7:25 pm.

Sue Erickson arrived.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Motion by Strouse, seconded by Stoker and carried by unanimous vote of the Council **to approve the minutes from the December 21, 2010 Regular City Council Meeting as presented.**

Councilmember Kangas abstained since he was not a member of the City Council at that meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

The Mayor asked that DPS extend the Christmas Tree pickup for one additional week.

**CITY ADMINISTRATORS REPORT:**

**(December 21, 2011) DPS-**

We have received the first big snowfall of the season and the plow trucks have been out in force. If you have or receive any complaints (or good comments) feel free to contact me at 517.290.0487 or Rich Miller at 517.819.2917.

**UNION NEGOTIATIONS:**

A negotiations session occurred on December 10<sup>th</sup>, starting at 1:30 pm and concluded at 6:00 pm. I believe we made some progress and we have another session scheduled for December 17<sup>th</sup> and January 7<sup>th</sup>.

**DEWITT PUBLIC SCHOOLS – ATHLETIC COMPLEX:**

Kevin Feuka (C2AE) provided an update via email consisting of the following findings:

The bottom line is that it is the City's responsibility to plan for, and pay for, looping the water main. Remember, however, this is an insurance recommendation, not a State mandated requirement, but I am verifying that point.

It still appears that no immediate action is required by law. However, adding water demand to the system to serve the Team Building raises the importance of planning for the looping. Since the School District is planning work out there anyway, which is raising the urgency in the first place, it makes the most sense to consider addressing it now rather than later, and makes it more reasonable if cost sharing is appropriate.

Considering all this, and by virtue of recent conversations, several other points are worth noting:

1. Being City infrastructure, then the City holds primary responsibility for the system meeting any State requirements as well as deciding what improvements it can and wants to make to meet industry recommendations, such as this loop improving the fire flow capacity.
2. That being said, the LBWL obviously holds some of this responsibility by virtue of the City's contract with them to operate and maintain the system. It doesn't mean they pay for it, but they have responsibility to inform you of these problems and tell the City what it needs to do or what is recommended.
3. All municipal water systems are required every 5 years to submit to the MDNRE a water reliability study to verify how the system meets State requirements, where it is deficient, what it intends to do to meet requirements, and/or what it plans to do to address other concerns short of mandates, such as this issue.
4. I believe completing and submitting the Study is part of the LBWL's contractual responsibilities, hence, likely why Bill Erskine was in the process of identifying this looping in an overall water system Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) he was to present to the City.
5. Since the LBWL was involved when the mains in question were put in 8 or 9 years ago, then it would have been prudent at the time for the LBWL as part of its review of the improvements to raise the concern about the fire flow, which should have driven the School District to evaluate, under Fire Marshall's review/input, whether the building should have been partially

or completely sprinklered. I've asked the architect to verify what, if any or all, parts of the schools are in fact sprinklered; still waiting to here back.

6. After discussing my other review comments, the District's Architect told me this morning they are in the process of cost-estimating all options including, under the Interim Superintendent's direction, the cost for making the complete loop. That tells me they at least respect the recommendation enough to investigate what is involved. I believe this is a good start to approach negotiating some form of cost-sharing.
7. Looping benefits the District with reliable water supply for their bus garage, their Team Building, etc. and eliminates the hassle and expense of maintaining a well with questionable water quality, supply, etc. Looking at cost-sharing a combination serving these improvements by municipal supply along with the looping all at once could save the City money in the long-run depending on how it is done, so at the risk of sounding trite, this really could be a "win-win" for both the City and the District.

It does appear the City can and will be reimbursed for my time on this project. I explained to Rob Atkins, the architect that I wanted to clarify my position in my letter that it is reasonable to expect the District to pay for the costs the City is incurring in this review process, just like the State is compensated for its plan review process, etc. He was well aware and does not believe this to be a problem as with the down-economy, it has become more customary for Districts to have to assume these costs and bury it within their bonding.

**BUILDING INSPECTION SERVICES:**

No new information

**OAKS 2:**

Chris Thelen has submitted a letter asking for the remainder of the deposit held at Summit Bank be returned. I have asked Kevin Feuka (C2AE) to confirm that all of the remaining items on the punch list have been completed to our satisfaction.

**(January 3, 2011) SANTA DELIVERY:**

Santa delivery was a complete success again this year. A special thanks to the following:

- Office Elves (Sue, Teresa, Kellie, and Lisa)
- Sleigh Drivers (Joe Spagnuolo and Walt Grysen)
- Santa's Elves (Barb Spagnuolo and Lisa Grysen)
- Santa (Kevin Feuka and Al Goodrich)

We had a record number of 41 stops!

**DPS-**

Christmas tree curbside pickup occurred on December 28 and there is another pickup scheduled on January 4. Residents may also drop off their trees behind the DPS building until January 7<sup>th</sup>.

**UNION NEGOTIATIONS:**

We have another session scheduled for January 7<sup>th</sup>.

**DEWITT PUBLIC SCHOOLS – DAVID SCOTT SCHOOL IMPROVEMENTS:**

We received on Wednesday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> the plans for the David Scott School Improvements. Kevin Feuka (C2AE) has been notified that they are here and Rich has been notified also. We have a set at City Hall if anyone is interested in looking at them.

**BUILDING INSPECTION SERVICES:**

DeWitt Township has decided to hire a part-time employee for the time being. A joint venture with the three townships is still possible, but this gives us more time to research the idea. Our contract with AGS is good thru the end of this fiscal year.

**NOTTAGE BUILDING:**

I have been informed by Bert Gale (Building Official) that Mr. Nottage has done nothing to his building since taking out the building permit. The permit is valid for six months and approximately 3 months have passed. Mr. Gale has asked to involve Mr. Skorich (Asst. City Attorney) in this matter.

**DECEMBER/JANUARY DATES TO REMEMBER:**

Thursday and Friday, Dec 30 and 31 – City Hall Closed for New Years  
Tuesday, Jan 4 – City Council Meeting and DDA Meeting (7:30 am)  
Monday, Jan 10 and Tuesday, Jan 11 – Special Council Meeting for CA Interviews  
Monday, Jan 17 – City Hall Closed for MLK Holiday  
Tuesday, Jan 18 – City Council Meeting and SCCMUA (5:30 pm)  
Thursday, Jan 20 – Fire Authority Meeting  
Thursday, Jan 27 – Planning Commission

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**1. Approval of Annual Cabaret Licenses for Relli's and Prairie Creek Golf Course:**

The City has received the required fee and completed application from Relli's and Prairie Creek Golf Course for the renewal of their annual cabaret licenses. According to Chapter 6, Article II, of the City Code, an annual cabaret license is required at any place where entertainment or dancing privileges are afforded patrons at least six times per year. Annual cabaret licenses expire on February 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.

The City's Police Department has reviewed the application and has recommended approval of both license renewals.

Motion by Strouse, seconded by Erickson and carried by unanimous vote of the Council **to approve the request from Relli's (202 E. Main Street) and Prairie Creek Golf Course Inc. (800 E. Webb) for renewal of their annual cabaret licenses (expires February 1, 2012).**

**2. Schedule Special Council Meetings on the 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> of January, 2011 for City Administrator Interviews.**

Sandra Rich was present at the meeting to give a City Administrator Search update. Previously the candidate pool had been narrowed to 9 and then 6. Ms. Rich asked the City Council to eliminate candidates #8 and #9. Ms. Rich will set the interviews up as follows:

January 10, 2011 at 7:00 pm

January 11, 2011 at 5 pm and 7 pm

January 14, 2011 at 6 pm

The candidates being interviewed are Michael Burns, Daniel Coss, and Troy Langer. The name is being withheld on the fourth candidate to be interviewed on January 14. Ms. Rich will e-mail the City Council the interview questions on Thursday and prepare the meeting packets. The City staff will send out the packets as soon as possible.

Motion by Lancaster, seconded by Strouse and carried by unanimous vote of the Council **to schedule three Special City Council Meetings for January 10 (7 pm), January 11 (5 pm & 7 pm), and January 14, 2011 (6 pm).**

**CLOSED SESSION**

1) Motion by Stoker, seconded by Strouse and carried by roll call vote of the Council **to enter into closed session for the purpose of considering the purchase of real property per the Open Meeting Act Section 8 (d) at 8:36 pm.**

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

<b>Kangas</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Strouse</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Lancaster</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Hunsaker</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Stoker</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Erickson</b>	<b>Yes</b>

Motion by Stoker, seconded by Strouse and carried by unanimous vote of the Council **to return to the Regular City Council meeting at 8:46 pm.**

**COUNCIL/STAFF REPORTS:**

None

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by Hunsaker, seconded by Erickson and carried by unanimous vote of the Council that **this meeting be adjourned at 8:57 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa M. Grysen  
City Clerk-Treasurer

James Rundborg  
Mayor