

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Rundborg called the Regular City Council Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. He led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Council Members Present: Sue Erickson, Dave Hunsaker, Sheryl Strouse, Tony Stoker, and Jim Lancaster
Council Members Excused: Tim Kangas

STAFF:

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

AUDIENCE:

Larry Salstrom, Frank Wiggins and County Commissioner Bob Showers

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion by Erickson, seconded by Stoker and carried by unanimous vote of the Council that **the agenda be approved as presented.**

SPECIAL AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Request for Permission to Solicit-Knights of Columbus:

The City has received a request from the Knights of Columbus for permission to solicit downtown as part of their annual Tootsie Roll Drive on April 15 through April 17, 2011 (Friday-Sunday). This is an annual request from the Knights of Columbus as part of their fundraising efforts. As in the past, the Knights will need to comply with Section 62-35 of the City Code entitled charitable solicitations in roadway which establishes certain safety parameters that need to be followed.

Motion by Lancaster, seconded by Hunsaker and carried by unanimous vote of the Council to **grant the request from the DeWitt Knights of Columbus for permission to solicit donations at the downtown four corners on April 15 through April 17, 2011 (Friday-Sunday) as part of its annual Tootsie Roll Program upon compliance with Section 62-35 of the City Code.**

2. Annual Report 2010 – Planning Commission:

Chairman Bob Smith was unable to attend but the annual report has been given to City Council for review. The purpose of the annual report is to highlight the activities listed in the 2010 Planning Commission Annual Report.

Section 2-122 of the City Code requires the Planning Commission file an annual report of the activities with the City Council outlining projects, proposals and requests that the Planning Commission considered throughout the calendar year.

Motion by Lancaster, seconded by Hunsaker and carried by unanimous vote of the Council to **Approve and place on file the 2010 Planning Commission Annual Report.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by Hunsaker, seconded by Stoker and carried by unanimous vote of the Council to **approve the minutes from the January 18, 2011 Regular City Council Meeting as presented.**

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

County Commissioner Bob Showers reported that the Register of Deeds, Carol Wooley, is retiring. Clinton County is considering moving the functions of the Register of Deeds Office to the County Clerks Office at the present time. Bigham Township has repaid Clinton County for the bond payment they made on Bingham Township's behalf.

CITY ADMINISTRATORS REPORT:

DPS:

The snow continues to fall and has been keeping the guys busy as usual. If you have any concerns or complaints please contact me on my cell phone at 517.290.0487.

UNION NEGOTIATIONS:

Some good progress was made at the last negotiations session. Larry Salstrom, labor attorney, will be at the February 1 meeting to update you on the progress and to get further marching orders from the Council. We have another negotiation session scheduled for February 10.

NOTTAGE BUILDING:

Dan Skorich has been given all of the paperwork he asked for and will be getting back with us shortly. Assistant City Attorney, Dan Skorich provided the City Council with a written recommendation regarding the property located at 107 S. Bridge.

Motion by Lancaster, seconded by Hunsaker and carried by unanimous vote of the Council to authorize Assistant City Attorney Dan Skorich to proceed with immediate legal action in regards to the demolition of the building located at 107 S. Bridge Street.

FARMER BUILDING:

The property is listed on the foreclosure list for delinquent property taxes once again. I received a call from the Department of Treasury (Marsha Powers) stating that as soon as the property is in foreclosure the state liens are extinguished. I have contacted the attorney that did the lien search previously and he will be getting back with me as soon as he has some information. I will keep you posted.

THORSEN PROPERTY:

Mr. Thorsen has paid his court fines in full.

ELECTION:

An election for 911 millage has been confirmed for May 3, 2011. We have a City Council meeting scheduled for that night so we will need to decide when the date gets closer if we should reschedule or cancel that meeting.

FEBRUARY DATES TO REMEMBER:

February 9 – Parks and Recreation
February 15 – Council Meeting
February 17 – DAESA
February 21 – City Hall Closed for Presidents Day
February 22 – City Council Meeting (5Year Budget Model)
February 24 – Planning Commission

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Appointment of Frank Wiggins to Planning Commission:

Mayor Rundborg is recommending that Frank Wiggins, 1004 E. Dill Drive be appointed to Planning Commission with a term to expire January 15, 2014.

Motion by Erickson, seconded by Hunsaker and carried by unanimous vote of the Council to **approve the appointment of Frank Wiggins, 1004 E. Dill Drive, to the Planning Commission.**

2. DAESA FY 2011-2012 Budget-Gail Watkins:

Gail Watkins presented the proposed budget for DAESA for fiscal year 2011-12, starting July 1, 2011. This has been presented to the DAESA board and will be adopted at the March 17, 2011 meeting. Gail submitted the budget for City Council review, as well as to inform you of the tentative obligation that the City will need to incorporate into its FY 2011-12 budget.

Motion by Strouse, seconded by Stoker and carried by unanimous vote of the Council **to receive and place on file the FY 2010-11 DAESA budget.**

3. 2010 Annual Report-City of DeWitt Police Department:

Police Chief Larry Jerue was present to discuss his annual report. Some of the items he touched on are as follows:

- 30 % increase in violent crimes. (7 reported in 2009, 10 reported in 2010)
- No change in non-aggravated assaults (17 reported each year)
- 17% decrease in crimes against property (37 reported in 2009, 31 reported in 2010)
- 5% decrease in arrests (86 arrests in 2009, 82 arrests in 2010)
- 4% increase in traffic accidents (64 accidents in 2009, 67 accidents in 2010)

Motion by Erickson, seconded by Stoker and carried by unanimous vote of the Council **to receive and place on file the 2010 City of DeWitt Police Department Annual Report.**

CLOSED SESSION:

Motion by Strouse, seconded by Erickson and carried by roll-call vote of the Council **to enter into closed session per the Open Meeting Act Section 8 (c) for negotiations connected with the negotiations of a collective bargaining agreement at 7:15 pm.**

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Kangas	Absent	Strouse	Yes
Lancaster	Yes	Hunsaker	Yes
Stoker	Yes	Erickson	Yes

Motion by Strouse, seconded by Lancaster and carried by unanimous vote of the Council **to return to the Regular City Council meeting at 7:53 pm.**

COUNCIL/STAFF REPORTS:

Mayor Rundborg mentioned to City Council Daniel Coss was in DeWitt today and the Mayor showed him around. With the blizzard on the way, the Mayor suggested that Daniel not stay for the meeting. Daniel will be at the meeting on February 15, 2011.

Dan Matson and Larry Jerue have been working on the ordinance removal regarding the "Open Carry". The 1st reading of the amendment will be February 15, 2011. The second reading will be March 1, 2011 and will become effective upon publication on March 6, 2011.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Strouse, seconded by Erickson and carried by unanimous vote of the Council that **this meeting be adjourned at 8:30 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa M. Grysen
City Clerk-Treasurer

James Rundborg
Mayor