

IMLAY CITY COMMISSION  
150 N. MAIN STREET  
IMLAY CITY, MI 48444

REGULAR MEETING  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2022  
7:00 PM

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Joi Kempf called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Kempf led the Pledge of Allegiance

3. **ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Mayor Joi Kempf, Mayor Pro Tem Frank Demske, Commissioner Stu Davis, Commissioner Greg Rowden, Commissioner Ted Sadler, Commissioner Bob Tanis

**Absent:** Commissioner Kelly Villanueva

**Also Present:** City Manager Craig Horton, DDA Director Lorrelei Natke, Clerk/Treasurer Dawn Sawicki-Franz and public.

4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**MOTION** by Davis seconded by Demske to approve the agenda as presented.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

5. **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

**MOTION** by Sadler seconded by Tanis to approve the consent agenda items to include:

A. Approval of Minutes October 04, 2022

B. Other Minutes August 08, 2022 DDA

September 01, 2022 Ruth Hughes Memorial District Library Budget Hearing

September 01, 2022 Ruth Hughes Memorial District Library Regular Meeting

C. Payment of Bills in the amount of:	General Fund Checking	\$	422,374.47
	Tax Account	\$	407,800.36
	HRA Account	\$	561.17
	Total	\$	<u>830,736.00</u>

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

Ayes: Sadler, Tanis, Davis, Demske, Rowden, Kempf

Nays: None

Absent: Villanueva

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

6. **CITIZENS FROM THE FLOOR**

Two residents spoke on their utility billing and the water rates.

7. **DEPARTMENT HEAD**

Department Head-DDA Director Lorrelei Natke, informed that the Farmer's Market has come to a close for this year, which included the benefits of Senior Fresh and Double Up Bucks that are programs reimbursed by the state. Summer Concert Series was wildly popular with 130-150 at all shows and over 200 people at two of the performances. Art-In-The-Rough was held Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup> with beautiful weather and entertained a crowd of over 300. Plans to expand this event for next year are in the works, possibly to host an all-day event with food trucks and music all day and more. Natke shared that the entrepreneurial space known as 150 Pop on Bancroft Street has potential for a new occupant as the previous one has moved out and opened their own

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space in the downtown area. Natke continued that she is speaking with businesspersons regarding the possibility of a Tai restaurant and a Homestyle restaurant moving into the area. The gazebo in Lamb Steele Park has been in the process of a complete overhaul and the Military "Hero" banners with American Flags on the antique lamp posts in the downtown area has gotten wonderful comments so the DDA would like to do this again next year. Landscaping in the downtown area has a new crew this year that was small, but mighty and have reworked and fixed a lot of necessary things with the planted areas as this was a two-year project. Natke continued with information on the Sign Shop, the former DPW Barn and the former Fire Hall then put a plug in for the Merchant Trick-Or-Treat that is sponsored by the Imlay City Chamber of Commerce on Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>. One last item Natke explained is the Winter Playground will be held on Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022 together with the Imlay City Chamber of Commerce.

**8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**A. PROPERTY APPRAISALS**

DDA Director Lorrelei Natke shared the appraisals of the three buildings-the Sign Shop, the former DPW Barn and the former Fire Hall for the City Commission to review and utilize as information to make a decision on what to do with these properties that would best benefit the City of Imlay City.

**NO MOTION, DISCUSSION ONLY**

**9. NEW BUSINESS**

None

**10. CITIZENS FROM THE FLOOR**

None

**11. CLOSED SESSION**

None

**12. OTHER BUSINESS**

Mayor Kempf advised that a City Manager Review Form was distributed to the City Commission members and then consolidated for informational purposes with a consensus result of 4.4 out of a 5-point scale. Kempf informed that City Manager Horton has requested to extend his current contract by two years. Kempf recommended that the contract be aligned with the fiscal year dates beginning July 1<sup>st</sup> and ending June 30<sup>th</sup> with a contract end date of June 30, 2025. Kempf also noted as part of the contract modification request - a 4% annual increase, a 30-day notice by City Manager if he chooses to leave, a required 2/3 majority vote of the governing body to terminate this contract and if terminated a 6-month severance pay of salary.

**MOTION** by Sadler seconded by Tanis to approve the new contract and allow Mayor Kempf to sign such with an extension of City Manager Craig Horton's contract with the City of Imlay City by two years with modifications of this contract to align with the city's fiscal year of July 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup> ending on June 30, 2025, a 4% annual increase, requiring a 30-day notice to resign, necessitating a 2/3 majority vote of the governing body to terminate this contract without cause and if terminated a 6-month severance pay of salary.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

Ayes: Sadler, Tanis, Davis, Demske, Rowden, Kempf

Nays: None

Absent: Villanueva

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

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Clerk/Treasurer Dawn Sawicki-Franz clarified questions regarding the election and the new elected City Commission members date to take office by reading Section 3.5 of the City Charter which states all such terms shall commence at the first regular or special meeting following the certification of the election results.

Commissioner Sadler updated the City Commission on information from the October 12<sup>th</sup> Emergency Management Advisory Council meeting. A recent grant will allow portable scene lighting and AED equipment to be distributed to the local fire departments and EMS. First Responder Life Saving and longevity awards were presented. Sadler commended City Manager Horton on the past two years performance.

Commissioner Rowden stated that DDA Director Lorrelei Natke needs black and white guidance with regards to the desires of the City Commission regarding the City's three vacant buildings and is asking this Commission to make time for this subject and to do our homework regarding these buildings and their possible uses to gain direction.

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION** by Davis seconded by Demske to adjourn at 8:11PM.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Next Regular Commission Meeting Date: Tuesday, November 01, 2022 at 7:00PM.

Respectfully submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dawn Sawicki-Franz, City Clerk

**APPROVED: November 01, 2022**