

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

REGULAR MEETING  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 01, 2023  
7:00 PM

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

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

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Joi Kempf led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Mayor Joi Kempf, Mayor Pro Tem Ted Sadler, Commissioner Shane Collison, Commissioner Joe DeLuca, Commissioner Al Ramirez, Commissioner Barbara Yockey

**Absent:** Commissioner, Bob Tanis

**Also Present:** City Manager Craig Horton, City Attorney Robert Seibert, Fire Chief Rick Horton, Police Chief Brett Selby, Police Sergeant Sean Leathers, Clerk/Treasurer Dawn Sawicki-Franz and Public.

4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

- A. **MOTION** by Cillison seconded by Ramirez to approve the agenda as presented.  
**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

5. **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

**MOTION** by Ramirez seconded by Yockey to approve the consent agenda with ZBA Meeting date correction to include:

- |  |  |                      |
|--|--|----------------------|
| A. <b>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</b>                | July 18, 2023 – Regular Meeting                  |                      |
| B. <b>OTHER MINUTES</b>                      | June 27, 2023 – Planning Commission Meeting      |                      |
|  | April 28, 2022 – Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting |                      |
| C. <b>PAYMENT OF BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF:</b> | General Fund Checking                            | \$ 231,055.52        |
|  | Tax Account                                      | \$ 341,534.99        |
|  | HRA Account                                      | \$ 264.85            |
|  | Total  | <u>\$ 572,855.36</u> |

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

Ayes: Ramirez, Yockey, Collison, DeLuca, Sadler, Kempf

Nays: None

Absent: Tanis

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

6. **CITIZENS FROM THE FLOOR**

A resident asked about the fire siren and its necessity to go off so often and directed his question to the Imlay City Fire Chief.

7. **DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORT**

*Fire Chief Rick Horton* stated that he has been on the Imlay City Fire Department for 27 years and have answered a fire call just because of the fire siren. The siren is used to alert residents of a tornado emergency and alerts of an Imlay City Fire Department call. Fire Chief Horton informed that his department responded to 21 runs in June and 23 runs in July and normally the department has 10-12 runs per month, this included 3 tornado sirens. Horton continued his report stating that the Fire Department currently has 16 members and would like to be at 18 or 19 members and in

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addition, will demonstrate the new jaws equipment recently purchased and put into service with a demo located in the parking lot on Bancroft Street during the Imlay City Summer Fest which is Friday, August 11<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, August 12<sup>th</sup>.

**8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**A. 425 AGREEMENT – IMLAY TOWNSHIP UPDATE**

*City Manager Horton* shared that Imlay Township Supervisor Rick Farkas plans to meet with his board and then request a joint meeting with the two entities to explore options and work out the details.

**NO MOTION, DISCUSSION ONLY**

**B. OLD SCHOOL PARK PAVILION BIDS**

*City Manager Horton* pointed out the bid sheet in the Commission packet and the letter from DPW Superintendent Priehs recommending the low bid for the Old School Park Pavilion.

**MOTION** by Yockey seconded by Collison to accept the low bid of \$32,656.00 plus \$750 for OSB on the ceiling submitted by Tanis Building of Imlay City as recommended by DPW Superintendent Priehs.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

Ayes: Yockey, Collison, DeLuca, Ramirez, Sadler, Kempf

Nays: None

Absent: Tanis

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**C. IMLAY CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT SUCCESSION PLAN**

**1. INTRODUCTION OF NEW OFFICER**

*Police Chief Selby* introduced the newest recruit of the Imlay City Police Department as Javier Sanchez. Selby continued stating that Sanchez was influenced by Officer Joe DeLuca while he was the Imlay City Resource Officer and completed an internship program where he was an immense help during the Imlay City Water Crisis. Sanchez will begin Oakland Police Academy on Wednesday, August 02, 2023, attending on a grant. Sanchez was welcomed by the Commission and public. Sanchez spoke regarding the opportunity and thanked the Commission.

**INTRODUCTION, NO MOTION**

**2. PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENT DISCUSSION**

*City Manager Horton* shared a new concept to create a Public Safety Department to include the Police Department and Fire Department as this would allow an administrative person to be writing SOPs, policies and writing grants in addition to handling personnel issues.

*Police Chief Selby* explained that there are a number of higher grants available to a Public Safety Department that the City is not able to take advantage of as it is currently.

*Attorney Robert Seibert* shared examples of existing Public Safety Departments and shared information regarding the process for the City and explained that an ordinance outlining the Imlay City Department of Public Safety would be necessary.

*Fire Chief Horton* stated that he is familiar with a number of fire departments that are part of a Public Safety Department and this seems to work well with them.

*City Manager Horton* explained that a full-time fire chief would be able to perform fire inspections, rental inspections as well as grant writing and other items that are currently needing to be conducted.

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*Police Chief Selby* expressed the public safety needs that will be for the future regarding the additional land from the 425 agreement and additional proposed future housing developments.

**DISCUSSION ONLY, NO MOTION**

**3. SPECIAL ASSESSMENT, MILLAGE DISCUSSION**

*Attorney Seibert* explained that an ordinance would need to be in place outlining the Public Safety Department and this would allow it to be on a ballot as a Public Safety millage or Special Assessment millage. In addition, *Attorney Seibert* explained the difference between a special assessment and a millage election.

**DISCUSSION ONLY, NO MOTION**

**D. CITY OWNED PROPERTIES UPDATE**

*City Manager Horton* stated that all the Commissioners have a copy of the draft Sage Creek Winery agreement in front of them and stated that our *Attorney Seibert* will explain further. *Attorney Seibert* discussed the draft agreement regarding the three parcels with buildings on them that are currently in discussion for sale. *Seibert* explained that LCC and EGLE are involved with this land and this could cause a time delay. Further, two commercial appraisers have been contacted and are in the process of getting a fair market value by a qualified appraiser submitted and the cost for this is to be split between Sage Creek and the City of Imlay City. The agreement will include benchmarks that need to be obtained by certain time frames.

**NO MOTION, DISCUSSION ONLY**

**9. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. TASER REQUEST – CHIEF SELBY AND SERGEANT LEATHERS**

*Chief Selby and Sergeant Leathers* spoke regarding the purchase of the Axon Tasers as requested. *Leather* informed the Commission on the cost of the tasers and the difference between the old technology of the current tasers and the benefits of the new tasers and the ability to download and record usage better as well as the improved batteries that come with the new tasers. In addition, the old taser technology is fast becoming obsolete and is running low on batteries. The new contract with AXON will be \$6,318.00 per year for five years with an increase of \$3,098 a year over the last contract and includes training targets and special training suit for use during training. **MOTION** by *Sadler* seconded by *Collison* approve the purchase and five-year contract with Axon for the amount of \$6,318.00 annually as requested.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

Ayes: *Sadler, Collison, DeLuca, Ramirez, Yockey, Kempf*

Nays: None

Absent: *Tanis*

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**10. CITIZENS FROM THE FLOOR**

*Stu Davis* commented regarding the Sage Creek Winery Agreement.

*Denise Kovacik* spoke as a resident of Imlay City in support of Sage Creek Winery.

*Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Christiana Bishop* spoke as a business owner in town in favor of the fire whistle going off when it is needed. *Bishop* continued in support of the Public Safety Department and in favor of a full time Fire Chief as the rentals in town, both residential and business, are in need of inspections on a regular basis. *Bishop* then spoke regarding the City of

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Imlay City for working so well with the Imlay City Chamber of Commerce and working together for the upcoming Summer Fest.

Intern Sam Howard spoke regarding the Sesquicentennial plaque that he worked to get corrected with the amended date and he thanked the City for such a great learning experience as he had the opportunity to shadow each department head and experience their areas of expertise.

Clerk/Treasurer Dawn Sawicki-Franz thanked Intern Sam Howard for his dedication and expressed how much of an asset Sam is for our office and City while he has been here.

**11. CLOSED SESSION**

None

**12. CITY MANAGER TIME**

*City Manager Horton* shared that two easement agreements that were in process have been received this week from the Lapeer County Register of Deeds and forwarded to the State as one of the final required items for the M-53/4<sup>th</sup> Street Project to move forward. Also, MDOT has put out the cones on M-53 from 2<sup>nd</sup> Street to M-21 for milling and joint repair with asphalt paving to follow.

**13. CITY COMMISSIONER TIME**

*Commissioner Yockey* reminded the Commission and public that the Chamber of Commerce Summer Fest will be Friday, August 11<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, August 12<sup>th</sup> and hopes all will be in attendance at the upcoming celebration.

*Commissioner Sadler* expressed his appreciation to Bishop for her hard work on the upcoming Summer Fest and echoed that everyone should be there.

Mayor Kempf also voiced her appreciation to Bishop.

**14. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION** by Yockey seconded by Collison to adjourn at 9:06PM  
**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Next Regular Commission Meeting Date: Tuesday, August 15, 2023 at 7:00PM

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

**APPROVED: August 15, 2023**