

**CITY OF GRAYLING**  
**CITY COUNCIL**  
**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
**Monday, April 22, 2024**

**I. Meeting called to order by Mayor Forbes at 6:30 pm**

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**III. ROLL CALL**

Members Present: Pettyjohn, Moshier, Nelson, Forbes, Sloan

Members Absent: None

Vacant Seats: None

Also in Attendance: Lori McGeorge (City Clerk), Jenny Maples (City Treasurer),  
Michelle Phillips, Mike McNamara, Karl Green

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mike McNamara spoke of upcoming meetings regarding PFAS. There is one at the Grayling Township Hall on 05/14 at 6:00 pm and another at the Ramada Inn on 05/15 from 6-8 pm. He and Podjaske also discussed well #1 & well #2 for the City.

**V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**24-034**

**Moved by Nelson, seconded by Pettyjohn to approve the agenda with the addition of C. Crime Lab lease added to New Business.**

**Roll Call Vote**

**Ayes: 5 Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 0, Vacant: 0**

**Motion Carried**

**VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**A. Heather Nolan Proclamation**

**24-035**

A copy of the proclamation was provided. There was no additional questions or discussion by any council members.

**Moved by Sloan, seconded by Moshier to approve the Heather Nolan Proclamation.**

**Roll Call Vote**

**Ayes: 5 Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 0, Vacant: 0**

**Motion Carried**

**B. Sawmill Lofts Brownfield Plan Termination Resolution**

**24-036**

Podjaske indicated that a resolution is needed both to terminate the old Sawmill Lofts Brownfield Plan as well as to provide a new Brownfield Plan. No additional discussion or questions by council members.

**Moved by Sloan, seconded by Pettyjohn to waive the reading of the resolution and to approve the termination of the Sawmill Lofts Brownfield Plan resolution.**

**Roll Call Vote**

**Ayes: 5 Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 0, Vacant: 0**

**Motion Carried**

**C. Sawmill Lofts new Brownfield Plan Resolution**

**24-037**

No additional discussion or questions by council members.

**Moved by Sloan, seconded by Nelson to waive the reading of the new Sawmill Lofts Brownfield Plan resolution.**

**Roll Call Vote**

**Ayes: 5 Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 0, Vacant: 0**

**Motion Carried**

**24-038**

**Moved by Sloan, seconded by Nelson to approve the new Sawmill Lofts Brownfield Plan resolution.**

**Roll Call Vote**

**Ayes: 5 Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 0, Vacant: 0**

**Motion Carried**

**D. Carmela, LOI for Industrial Land**

**24-039**

Podjaske explained that Carmela has removed the prior closing requests from the original Letter of Intent with the City not responsible for additional closing costs.

**Moved by Nelson, seconded by Pettyjohn to approve the changes to the Letter of Intent.**

**Roll Call Vote**

**Ayes: 5 Nays: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: 0, Vacant: 0**

**Motion Carried**

**E. 24/25 Budget discussion**

Podjaske elaborated on the items in the provided budget with additional questions/comments that included:

Podjaske explained there was not much change to the budget with the exception of the numbers for water/sewer. Also, pages #1 & #6 for the Police Department were adjusted. Moshier had additional questions as he indicated that the numbers weren't adding up. Sloan showed Moshier that the numbers for Public Safety had changed and that's where the differences were.

Podjaske also indicated that the budget for Grants and the Military were not yet complete. Sloan had noted that it was significantly different with further explanation from Podjaske that the revenue numbers as well as the accounts receivables for water/sewer were considerably inflated. He also explained that there is some money left over from Income Tax that he would like to allocate to finding a location for a new well. Rowe is creating a quote to put in a new well and to camera the sewer lines. Moshier noted the sewer back-up on Maple. Different locations for a new well were discussed and the City wants to be ready if something opens up. Moshier also stated that last year's numbers for Income Tax were incorrect. Podjaske stated that it was a typo that he would correct. Also, money was added for training/education for City Council. Moshier noted that there was nothing allocated for sidewalks with Podjaske explaining that is up for millage renewal and not included.

## **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Water Billing discussion**

Council members along with Podjaske and McGeorge discussed water billing concerns. Sloan would like monthly billing to be considered as he stated that it might be easier for residents now that the fee for trash has been added to the bill. Moshier asked if a resident's water would be shut off if their trash bill was unpaid in which McGeorge and Podjaske assured him that they would not. Any unpaid trash bills will be moved to the property taxes. McGeorge explained that switching to monthly billing would be more costly for supplies, wages, etc. and was in favor of a different payment plan. Sloan and Forbes felt that would make for too much confusion and were not in favor. Sloan inquired about having administrative fees each month and if that would be helpful with the additional cost to which McGeorge indicated that she did not think so. Mr. Green was asked his opinion as a resident. He indicated that he would not be in favor of monthly billing if the total cost of 3 months of billing would end up higher than quarterly billing due to additional administrative fees. The consensus was to table the discussion until the beginning of the year in order to evaluate payments being made.

### **B. Sidewalk Snow Removal discussion**

#### **24-040**

All council members were in consensus of not putting the sidewalk snow removal back on the ballot. Pettyjohn had indicated that they aren't well maintained with the school route usually not complete until around 2pm. Podjaske explained that it has been hard to find employees and indicated that if it was taken off the ballot, the school route and downtown would still be done. Sloan agreed that he was in favor of dropping the sidewalk cleaning except for the school route and downtown. Forbes inquired about the equipment that we currently have for snow removal. Podjaske indicated that he would get

with DPW to see what would be kept and also suggested that a public hearing on the topic be held.

**Moved by Sloan, seconded by Pettyjohn to not add the Sidewalk Snow Removal to the ballot for renewal.**

**A Roll Call Vote was called for by Forbes**

**Pettyjohn: Aye**

**Moshier: Aye**

**Sloan: Aye**

**Nelson: Aye**

**Forbes: Aye**

**Ayes: 5 Nays: 0, Abstain 0, Absent: 0, Vacant: 0**

**Motion Carried**

### **C. Crime Lab lease discussion**

Podjaske explained that he had received a lease amendment for the main building and the fire barn. The amendment was to include that the City would no longer be paying the expenses (i.e. utilities, etc.) and would reduce the amount by \$15,000; however, the lease amendment also states that the State could extend the contract another five years without City approval. No one was in favor of this. Podjaske indicated that he would respond with keeping the lease the same as now. Additional discussion was had about potential uses of the property due to its location, etc. and that the building itself requires constant maintenance at this time.

## **VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Karl Green stated that he thought the clean-up at the park looked very nice and it seems to be safer. Mike McNamara reiterated about the upcoming meetings in regards to PFAS.

## **IX. COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTSs**

- Nelson stated that the “Welcome to Grayling” sign needs lighting. Podjaske explained that GPA to have power brought to the sign and lights will be installed.
- Sloan had inquired about the Justin Johnson’s snow fence at 808 Michigan now that winter is over in which Podjaske stated that he would find out.
- Moshier & Pettyjohn had no additional comments.
- Forbes stated that she thought that the Respecki house was off to a great start with their clean-up. Podjaske explained that they extended their deadline in order to give them the opportunity to use the “clean-up” day at the county building on June 8<sup>th</sup>.
- Podjaske stated that Eileen thought the board was great and that everyone seemed to work together well.

## **X. ADJOURNMENT**

**24-041**

**Moved by Pettyjohn, seconded by Sloan that meeting is adjourned.**

**Roll Call Vote**

**Ayes: 5 Nays: 0, Abstain 0, Absent: 0, Vacant: 0**

**Motion Carried**

**Adjourned at 8:00 PM**