

REGULAR MEETING OF THE WEST BRANCH CITY COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER OF CITY HALL, 121 NORTH FOURTH STREET, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2005

Mayor Todd Thompson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Todd Thompson, Council Members Gregory Clark, William Ehinger, Kim Ervans, Paul Frechette, Russell Jackson, Chad Lucas

Absent: None

Other officers present: City Manager William Gascoigne, Clerk/Treasurer Jane Tennant, Police Chief Rodger Williams, Housing Director Stacy Alley, City Attorney Edward Crawford

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

MOTION BY LUCAS, SECOND BY CLARK, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AND SUMMARY OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 7, 2005.

Yes – Clark, Ehinger, Ervans, Frechette, Jackson, Lucas, Thompson

No – None

Motion carried

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MOTION BY JACKSON, SECOND BY ERVANS, TO RECEIVE AND FILE THE MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING HELD JANUARY 25, 2005 AND THE EDC MEETING HELD JANUARY 17, 2005 ALONG WITH THE JANUARY TREASURERS REPORT.

Yes – Clark, Ehinger, Ervans, Frechette, Jackson, Lucas, Thompson

No – None

Motion carried

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Housing Director Alley gave an update on the proposed housing project to be built on S. Valley St. She shared with Council pictures of a similar structure and preliminary sketches for our proposed project. She noted that it will be a two story structure, moving the existing sewer main will be part of the project cost, the project will run through the West Branch Housing Corporation, and construction could start in the fall with about a 1 year completion time. Council Member Jackson asked if there is room for expansion. Housing Director Alley said she could check into this option. Council Member Lucas asked what the income requirements would be to rent an apartment. Housing Director Alley stated that all income levels would be served by this project.

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MOTION BY LUCAS, SECOND BY THOMPSON, TO APPROVE THE BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$81,384.05.

Yes – Clark, Ehinger, Ervans, Frechette, Jackson, Lucas, Thompson

No – None

Motion carried

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Council reviewed a request for funds for the Growth Assessment Plan (GAP) Team to look into drafting Articles of Incorporation for a water/sewer authority. Council Member Lucas and Manager Gascoigne stated that this would allow the City representatives to continue discussion with Ogemaw and West Branch Townships to see what options are available, how the City and Townships would benefit from this, and what hurdles we have to overcome. Council asked for additional information such as a list of existing authorities and whether they are working or not and a copy of the draft Articles of Incorporation.

MOTION BY THOMPSON, SECOND BY ERVANS, TO TABLE THE GAP EXPENDITURE REQUEST.

Yes – Clark, Ehinger, Ervans, Jackson, Lucas, Thompson

No – Frechette

Motion carried.

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MOTION BY FRECHETTE, SECOND BY ERVANS, TO ADJOURN AT 7:40 P.M.