

REGULAR MEETING OF THE WEST BRANCH CITY COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER OF CITY HALL, 121 NORTH FOURTH STREET, MONDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2004

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

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

Absent: Council Member William Ehinger

Other officers present: City Manager William Gascoigne, Clerk/Treasurer Jane Tennant, Police Chief Rodger Williams, and City Attorney Christine Juarez

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MOTION BY THOMPSON, SECOND BY LUCAS, TO ADOPT THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION:**

**RESOLUTION #04-15**

**WHEREAS, the City of West Branch prepares a budget each year for the Industrial Park Fund, and**

**WHEREAS, the budget for the Industrial Park Fund did not include the painting of the Smiley water tower and the opportunity arose to repaint the Smiley water tower at a considerable savings to the City,**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council amends the budget to reflect the expenditure for the painting of the Smiley water tower as follows:**

**Fund 251 – Industrial Park Fund**

	<b>Budgeted</b>	<b>Amended</b>
<b>Carry Over</b>	<b>208,900</b>	<b>175,900</b>
<b>Expenditures:</b>		
<b>801-700 Contractual Service</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>33,000</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>33,000</b>

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

**No – None**

**Absent – Ehinger**

**Motion carried**

\* \* \* \* \*

Council reviewed the Peddlers and Solicitors application from Mark White to draw caricatures for donations. Mr. White was present and stated that he would like to be able to provide this service from his 2' x 4' cart on the sidewalks in the downtown area during special events. Council Member Frechette noted that the application was for one year and asked if Mr. White would agree to change the request to special events. Mr. White was agreeable to the requested change.

**MOTION BY FRECHETTE, SECOND BY CLARK, TO APPROVE THE PEDDLERS AND SOLICITORS REQUEST FROM MARK WHITE TO SET UP HIS STAND ON THE DOWNTOWN SIDEWALKS TO DRAW CARICATURES DURING SPECIAL EVENTS.**

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

No – None

Absent – Ehinger

Motion carried

\* \* \* \* \*

**MOTION BY CLARK, SECOND BY JACKSON, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AND SUMMARY OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD SEPTEMBER 20, 2004.**

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

No – None

Absent – Ehinger

Motion carried

\* \* \* \* \*

**MOTION BY CLARK, SECOND BY LUCAS, TO RECEIVE AND FILE THE MINUTES OF THE EDC MEETING HELD AUGUST 16, 2004, PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING HELD AUGUST 24, 2004, HOSPITAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING HELD AUGUST 30, 2004, AND ZBA MEETING HELD SEPTEMBER 16, 2004.**

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

No – None

Absent – Ehinger

Motion carried

\* \* \* \* \*

Council reviewed a letter from Jerry Mueller, 619 Lindsay St., regarding a US District judge ruling on political signs in a southeastern Michigan City. Manager Gascoigne stated that although this ruling does not pertain to West Branch our Ordinance has some of the same criteria that the judge ruled against. Mr. Gascoigne stated that this is something we should look at and he is meeting with the City’s attorney to address this issue. Council Member Lucas asked if the decision is being appealed. Attorney Juarez stated that the 30-day time limit has not elapsed for the filing of an appeal and she will be following this case.

\* \* \* \* \*

Mayor Thompson informed the Council that Patrol Officer Chris Laurion’s daughter was crowned Miss Teen Michigan.

\* \* \* \* \*

Council Member Lucas stated that there is an abandoned house on N. Second St. with the door open and windows broken. He stated that a neighbor complained to him about this being a habitat for skunks. Manager Gascoigne stated he would check into this complaint.

\* \* \* \* \*

Mayor Thompson stated that Trick of Treat would be on October 31 during the normal hours.

\* \* \* \* \*

Police Chief Williams reported on a recent STING operation where 12 individuals were arrested. He noted that 75% of the dealings happened within the City limits.

\* \* \* \* \*

**MOTION BY THOMPSON, SECOND BY LUCAS, TO ADOPT THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION:**

**RESOLUTION #04-14**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Municipal Trunkline Maintenance contract between the MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION and the CITY OF WEST BRANCH for the period 10/1/04 to 9/30/09, is hereby accepted and William Gascoigne is designated as Maintenance Superintendent on sections of State Trunkline Highways as shown on the Municipal Route Section Map and Budget Sheets, and**

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the following official William Gascoigne, City Manager, is authorized to sign the said maintenance contract.**

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

**No – None**

**Absent – Ehinger**

**Motion carried**

\* \* \* \* \*

**MOTION BY LUCAS, SECOND BY THOMPSON, TO APPROVE THE BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$54,935.00.**

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

**No – None**

**Absent – Ehinger**

**Motion carried**

\* \* \* \* \*

**MOTION BY FRECHETTE, SECOND BY CLARK, TO ADJOURN AT 7:20 P.M.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Todd Thompson, Mayor**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Jane Tennant, Clerk**

**Approved: October 18, 2004**