

**MINUTES OF THE EAST JORDAN CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING HELD
TUESDAY, APRIL 17, 2007 AT 7:39 P.M. IN CITY HALL**

Present: Mayor Postma
Commissioners McNitt, Bennett, Timmons, Vollbach and Klooster

Absent: Commissioners Symonds

Mayor Postma called the meeting to order at 7:39 p.m.

ITEM #3 Inquiry of Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts of interest were voiced.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion offered by McNitt, second by Klooster, to approve the minutes of the Regular Commission Meeting dated March 27 2007, as submitted.

MOTION CARRIED ALL AYES
BY ROLL CALL VOTE

Motion offered by McNitt, second by Klooster, to acknowledge receipt of the Paid Bill List dated March 29, 2007, totaling \$144,948.07.

MOTION CARRIED ALL AYES
BY ROLL CALL VOTE

Motion offered by McNitt, second by Klooster, to acknowledge receipt of the Paid Bill List dated April 12, 2007, totaling \$299,558.63.

MOTION CARRIED ALL AYES
BY ROLL CALL VOTE

Motion offered by McNitt, second by Klooster, to acknowledge receipt of the Funds on Hand Report, March 2007.

MOTION CARRIED ALL AYES
BY ROLL CALL VOTE

Motion offered by McNitt, second by Klooster, to acknowledge receipt of the Monthly Zoning Activity Report, March 2007.

MOTION CARRIED ALL AYES
BY ROLL CALL VOTE

Motion offered by McNitt, second by Klooster, to acknowledge receipt of the Police Department Monthly Public Safety Report, March 2007.

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MOTION CARRIED ALL AYES
BY ROLL CALL VOTE

Motion offered by McNitt, second by Klooster, to acknowledge receipt of minutes from the following Boards and Commissions:

- A. Housing Commission, March 13, 2007
- B. ZBA Public Hearing, February 26, 2007
- C. ZBA, February 26, 2007
- D. DDA, March 5, 2007
- E. Board of Review Organizational, March 6, 2007

MOTION CARRIED ALL AYES
BY ROLL CALL VOTE

Motion offered by McNitt, second by Klooster, to acknowledge receipt of a Letter of Resignation from the Board of Review received from Amanda Combest.

MOTION CARRIED ALL AYES
BY ROLL CALL VOTE

REGULAR AGENDA

ITEM #14 Resolution 113-2007, Resolution to Place Delinquent Bills on 2007 Summer Tax Roll for Collection

The following resolution was offered for adoption by Bennett, second by Vollbach

**RESOLUTION 113-2007
RESOLUTION TO PLACE DELINQUENT BILLS ON 2007
SUMMER TAX ROLL FOR COLLECTION**

WHEREAS, on March 6, 2006, at a Regular City Commission meeting, the City Commission for the City of East Jordan publicly made known its intent to place delinquent bills on the 2007 summer tax roll by scheduling a Public Hearing to receive objections on the City's intent, and

WHEREAS, the City Clerk has notified the delinquent property owners of the City's intent by certified mail, and

WHEREAS, on April 17, 2007 at 7:30 p.m. a Public Hearing on the City's intent to place delinquent bills on the 2007 summer tax roll was held, with no objections received.

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THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City Clerk is hereby directed to certify to the City's Tax Assessor to enter the following delinquent accounts, plus a 10% collection fee, upon the 2007 summer tax roll for collection:

1. 1002 Mill Street (water services) 15-053-024-060-15

95SP 1293 FRM 024-060-00 COM AT PT 33 RDS 9FT E OF NW COR OF
NE ¼ OF SW1/4 SEC 24-32-7 TH S 135FT FOR POB TH CONT S 265FT
TH E 200FT TH N 265 FT TH W 200 FT TO POB

Owner of Record: ARVITA C WALCZAK
1002 MILL STREET
EAST JORDAN MI 49727

CITIFINANCIAL INC.
7467 NEW RIDGE ROAD
HANOVER MD 21076

Amount: \$493.14

2. 410 Dickens Drive (water/sewer services) 15-053-023-063-00

DDA COM AT NE COR OF NW1/4 OF SW1/4 SEC 23 T32N R7W TH W 18 RDS
TH N 24 RDS TH W 211FT FOR POB TH CONT W 65FT TH N TO SH LK CX
TH ELY AL SD SH TO A PT N OF POB TH S TO POB BEING PT OF GOV LOT
7 SEC 23T32N R7W

Owner of Record: ANNA M GIPPERICH TRUST
1319 SOUTH ADVANCE ROAD
EAST JORDAN MI 49727

Amount: \$228.07

3. 113 McKenzie Street (water/sewer services) 15-053-023-056-00

COM 16 FT W OF NW COR LOT 3 BLK D, SG ISAMAN'S ADD W 124FT S
100FT E 124FT N 100FT TO POB PT GOV LOT 7 SEC 23 T32NR7W

Amount: \$171.66

4. 616 State Street (water/sewer services) 15-053-024-048-00

COM WHERE W1/8 LI OF SEC 24 T32N R7W INTERS S LIMITS OF BF-STATE
RD TH NWLY AL LI SD RD 82 1/2 FT TO S1/8 LI SEC 24 TH S 132FT TH E & S
82 1/2FT TO SD W 1/8LI TH N 132FT TO POB PART SW 1/4 OF SW 1/4 SEC
24 T32N R7W

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Amount: \$450.73

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: McNitt, Bennett, Timmons, Vollbach, Klooster and Postma

Nays: None

Absent: Symonds

Resolution declared adopted April 17, 2007

ITEM #15 Acknowledge Receipt of an Introduction to Ordinance #201, Fiscal Year
2007/2008 Budget

Motion offered by McNitt, second by Klooster, to acknowledge receipt of an Introduction to Ordinance #201, Fiscal Year 2007/2008 budget.

MOTION CARRIED ALL AYES
BY ROLL CALL VOTE

Motion offered by Klooster, second by Vollbach, to amend Ordinance #201, request staff to review personnel options and require a quarterly review of the budget.

MOTION CARRIED ALL AYES
BY ROLL CALL VOTE

ITEM #16 East Jordan Garden Club, Elm Pointe Rental Request

Motion offered by Bennett, second by Klooster, to approve the East Jordan Garden Club's Elm Pointe Rental request and to waive the rental fee.

MOTION CARRIED ALL AYES
BY ROLL CALL VOTE

ITEM #17 DDA Update

Mayor Postma stated the DDA adopted the Resolution for the motel project.

ITEM #18 Administrator's Report

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT
APRIL 17, 2007

1. The hotel project continues to move forward and on March 31st the City acquired half of the proposed site for the parking lot. As the City now holds the title to the

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property the MSHDA grant has also been submitted. No work can begin on either the parking lot or hotel sites until approval is received from MSHDA.

2. Plans have been submitted to the DEQ for the proposed sewer extension on M-66. Agreements between the city and township and developer are being finalized so they can be presented to all parties for approval. The plan submitted to DEQ does not encumber the City in any way to build or incur any cost related to the project. The plan submittal allows the developers engineer to work with the DEQ to have any questions or problems addressed. I will keep the Commission up to date as the plans progress.
3. The land contract holder for the Four Corners Market has agreed to let the City buy out the existing land contract. This will allow the city to refinance the debt at a tax-free rate thus lowering the overall interest paid. Should the Commission agree, I would like to size the new debt to allow for funds to remove the old building from the site. As always should any Commissioner have any questions I would be happy to address them.

Motion offered by Bennett, second by McNitt, to authorize the refinancing of 102 Water Street and to include the amount for the demolition of the building.

MOTION CARRIED ALL AYES
BY ROLL CALL VOTE

Administrator White presented a letter from Larry Huckle regarding one of his rental units' water bills regarding an unknown leak.

Commissioner Bennett stated he would like to see the bill presented to the homeowner's insurance company prior to request for a reduction.

Motion offered by Bennett, second by Vollbach, to deny the request for an adjustment to the water/sewer bill at 201 North Lake Street and to ask them to file a claim with their homeowners insurance. After review by the insurance company, they may submit a letter to the Commission for reconsideration.

MOTION CARRIED ALL AYES
BY ROLL CALL VOTE

ITEM #19 Mayor's Report

Mayor Postma presented a Resolution from the Michigan Municipal League regarding the State Budget Crisis. He asked that the City of East Jordan adopt this resolution of support as submitted.

The following resolution was offered for adoption by Klooster, second by Bennett:

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**RESOLUTION #112/2007
THE STATE BUDGET CRISIS**

WHEREAS, after seven straight years of state budget deficits and four years of budget cuts, we are facing yet another \$3 billion shortfall in state revenue for the current and 2007-08 fiscal years: and

WHEREAS, the Governor has already cut over \$3.6 billion from the state's budget over the past four years, has cut more from the state's budget than any previous governor and is operating the state with fewer state employees than we had in 1970; and

WHEREAS, we have cut major taxes over 32 times in the past decade, our unemployment rate remains one of the highest in the country, and our auto industry continues to struggle; and

WHEREAS, the Single Business Tax (SBT), the primary tax paid by businesses in Michigan, will be entirely phased out by the end of the year with no replacement for the \$1.2 billion in revenue generated from this tax; and

WHEREAS, higher education in Michigan has already been cut by \$250 million which has resulted in college students and their families having to pay double digit tuition increases and a college education moving further out of reach for the state's middle class; and

WHEREAS, funding for local governments has been cut by \$2 billion in the last five years resulting in a loss of over 1,600 police officers and 2,000 fire fighters statewide thereby compromising the safety of our local communities; and

WHEREAS, further cuts to state safety net programs for food assistance, childcare and health care will only result in a shift of demand to already overburdened county and municipal programs.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the County of Charlevoix, City of East Jordan cannot sustain further cuts in essential state services and that further funding cuts will result in a loss of quality of life for the citizens of this state and an inability to attract new business to our communities; and

BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED, that the Michigan Legislature must demonstrate bipartisan leadership by 1) identifying a full replacement for the SBT and, 2) affirming their commitment to finding funding solutions to address the budget deficit in a manner that will move Michigan into a sound economic future and ensure a high quality of life for our residents.

Roll Call Vote:

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Ayes: McNitt, Bennett, Timmons, Vollbach, Klooster and Postma

Nays: None

Absent: Symonds

Resolution declared adopted April 17, 2007

Postma informed the Commission of a State of the Community Breakfast Meeting.

ITEM #20 Attorney's Report

No items to report.

ITEM #21 Commissioners

Commissioner McNitt questioned the turn around time for a zoning permit from the time of submittal to the time it is approved as he was contacted by a citizen who felt it took too long.

Administrator White stated that personnel had been out of the office for personal reasons and staff has been working on the budget.

McNitt also questioned the time limit for people who file for a Hardship Exemption.

Clerk Campbell stated that the federal government sets the guidelines and if the person filing qualifies they can file every year.

Commissioner Bennett thanked the visiting students for the interest they are taking in the community and for attending the meeting.

Commissioner Timmons thanked the City for sending flowers to Don Timmons funeral.

Commissioner Vollbach stated he visited Main Street Hair Cottage to compliment them on their remodeling.

Vollbach also stated that he and the East Jordan Garden Club met with Professor Woods of Michigan State University and Friends of the Jordan regarding different issues affecting the harbor and river. It was very informational and any historical information we can pass on to Professor Woods would be very helpful to their study.

Commissioner Klooster questioned if we were going to have a spring clean up this year and if so when it would be.

Administrator White stated that we had the spring clean up last year and the Commission requested this be done every other year.

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ITEM #21 Speaker Requests

No speaker request slips were received.

Mayor Postma adjourned the meeting at 8:04 p.m.

Respectfully,

Mark Postma
Mayor

Lori M. Campbell, CMC
City Clerk