

City of Utica
Regular Council Meeting
June 13, 2023

The City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Calandrino at 7:30p.m.

Members present: Sikora, Terenzi, O'Donnell, Dionne, Ryan, Robinson, Calandrino
Absent: None

Brian Barczyk led the pledge of allegiance.

Public Hearing, 7:50 p.m., Temporary Tent and Fireworks, 13277 Hall

Motion by Sikora, seconded by Terenzi, to enter into Public Hearing at 7:50 p.m.

Voting by roll, all ayes, motion **CARRIED**.

Virgil Johnson, owner of ThunderKing Fireworks LLC, was present to ask council to approve a 30' x 60' tent at 12377 Hall Road from 06/22-07/06/2023 for selling fireworks.

Motion by Sikora, seconded by Terenzi, to exit Public Hearing at 7:57 p.m.

Voting by roll, all ayes, motion **CARRIED**.

Public Hearing, 8:00 p.m., FY2024 Budget and Property Tax

Motion by Dionne, seconded by Terenzi, to enter into Public Hearing at 8:06 p.m.

Voting by roll, all ayes, motion **CARRIED**.

Phil Paternoster, Treasurer, explained the city received a Headlee rollback and proposed the department budgets and millage rates for fiscal year 2023/24:

General operating 16.4024

Public Safety 1.6398

Public Library 0.8197

Public Library 0.3894

As there were no other public comments motion by Sikora, seconded by Terenzi, to exit Public Hearing at 8:19 p.m.

Voting by roll, all ayes, motion **CARRIED**.

Swearing in Police Chief Matthew Kaluzny

Mayor Calandrino administered the oath and Chief Kaluzny's wife, Lisa, pinned his badge.

Swearing in Officer Ryan Boos

Mayor Calandrino administered the oath and Officer Boos' fiancé pinned his badge.

Swearing in Officer Michael Davedowski

Mayor Calandrino administered the oath and Officer Davedowski's fiancé pinned his badge.

Public Comments for Items Listed on the Agenda

None.

Unfinished Business

Purple Heart Trail Signs

The proclamation to join the Purple Heart Trail was approved unanimously at the May 9, 2023 council meeting. Mayor pro Tem Sikora offered to pay for and donate 2 large (24"x24") signs and 4 small (18"x12") signs which would be installed along northbound Cass and eastbound Auburn Road between Memorial Park and the American Legion Post 351.

Motion by Terenzi, seconded by Sikora, to approve the design and installation of the signs in the proposed locations.

Voting by roll, all ayes, motion **CARRIED**.

45893 Brownell-Sewer Bill

Paul Licari, owner of 45893 Brownell, asked Council in May to waive sewer fees in the amount of \$2,531.73 from a pipe broke in the crawl space. DPW inspected the property and found there were no problems with the meter and stated it appeared the water drained into the ground and not the sewer.

Motion by Dionne, seconded by Terenzi, to approve waiving sewer fees totaling \$2,531.73 for 45893 Brownell Street.

Voting by roll, all ayes, motion **CARRIED**.

Priority Waste Contract Extension

After much discussion, to choose between entering a new 5-year contract adding a shred day and an Electronic Recycle/Hazardous Waste Day or exercising the 2-year option.

Motion by Robinson, seconded by Sikora, to exercise a 2-year option ending June 30, 2028 at a cost of \$14.38 per month, per house for year 4 and \$14.74 per month, per house for year 5.

Voting by roll, 6 ayes, Dionne no, motion **CARRIED**.

Outdoor Seating Areas

City Council received a request from a downtown business to review the current fees for outdoor seating in public areas. Councilman O'Donnell and Robinson researched and found comparable fees in other municipalities and proposed the new fee structure as follows:

1. \$20 per square foot divided 20 years (useful life of sidewalk); Replacement
2. \$1 per square foot per year; Usage
3. \$75 per year; City Office administrative
4. \$75 per year; Building Inspections

Motion by Robinson, seconded by Terenzi, to approve the new fee structure for outdoor seating in public areas as presented.

Voting by roll, 6 ayes, Sikora no, motion **CARRIED**.

Consent Business

Approval of Agenda

Minutes of 05/09/2023

Bills Payable

FY2024 Administrative Employee Wages

Motion by Dionne, seconded by O'Donnell, to approve Consent Business as presented.

Voting by roll, all ayes, motion **CARRIED**.

Correspondence

None.

New Business

Temporary Tent and Fireworks Sales, 13277 Hall Road

Motion by Dionne, seconded by Ryan, to approve temporary tent and fireworks sales at 13277 Hall Road from June 22-July 6, 2023.

Voting by roll, all ayes, motion **CARRIED**.

2023 Proclamation, United Methodist Church, Councilman O'Donnell

**City of Utica 2023 Proclamation
Honoring Utica United Methodist Church for
200 Years of Service and Dedication**

WHEREAS, the first religious society in Utica were the Methodists, organized in 1823;

WHEREAS, in 1839 the first Utica Methodist Church was built in downtown Utica,

WHEREAS, in 1855 the Utica Methodist Church was cut in half and moved a few blocks over to a location that the young congregation members at the time described as more fashionable;

WHEREAS, ground broke on the church's current location in December 1964;

WHEREAS, the first consecration services were held at the new Utica United Methodist Church in December 1965;

WHEREAS, members of the Utica United Methodist Church are dedicated to serving and enriching both their own members and the Utica community at large;

WHEREAS, Utica United Methodist Church has been a pillar of our community for 200 years;

WHEREAS, the City of Utica has an interest in promoting and celebrating our local institutions;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the City of Utica recognizes, honors, and congratulates the Utica United Methodist Church on their 200 year anniversary.

Motion by O'Donnell, seconded by Robinson, to adopt the 2023 Proclamation Honoring Utica United Methodist Church for 200 Years of Service and Dedication.

Voting by roll, all ayes, motion **CARRIED**.

Department Reports

Mayor Calandrino

Brian Barczyk Proclamation

**2023 PROCLAMATION
PROCLAIMING SUPPORT FOR BRIAN BARCZYK**

WHEREAS, Brian Barczyk, born in Michigan on September 6, 1969, developed an early fascination with the natural world, especially reptiles. As a child, he would spend hours exploring the nearby woods, searching for snakes and other reptilian creatures. This early passion set the foundation for his future endeavors in reptiles; and

WHEREAS, Brian started a reptile company, "BHB Reptiles," in 1989. Brian transformed BHB Reptiles into a successful endeavor serving customers worldwide.; and

WHEREAS, Brian's YouTube channel has amassed a massive following of 4 million subscribers and 6 million followers on TikTok; and

WHEREAS, Brian's remarkable journey in the reptile world has garnered him widespread recognition. He has been featured in acclaimed media outlets such as Animal Planet, Discovery Channel, and National Geographic; and

WHEREAS, Brian opened The Reptarium, in 2018 which quickly became a hub for reptile lovers, hosting over 1,000 reptiles of various species, including snakes, lizards, frogs, and even unique creatures like the Two-toed sloth named "Drogo" and Six-banded Armadillo named "Brillo"; and

WHEREAS, Brian and his family are currently working on their most challenging undertaking, opening an AZA-accredited aquarium across the street from the existing Reptarium. This new Aquarium will allow guests to interact with various wildlife from land and sea and keep their hands wet from when they enter to when they leave; and

WHEREAS, In March 2023, Brian was diagnosed with inoperable Pancreatic Cancer, and because of his health status, funding for the Aquarium expansion became harder to secure. Instead of retreating in defeat, Brian reached out to his community on social media and raised \$227,000 of the \$2.5 million needed to complete the project. Brian has decided to name the new facility "Legacy Aquarium" so that through his legacy, he can continue to inspire a passion for wildlife for generations to come; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council proclaims the City of Utica supports Brian Barczyk, his family, and his followers. The City of Utica wishes him the best of luck as he battles his recent health challenge.

Motion by Sikora, seconded by Terenzi, to approve the Brian Barczyk Proclamation.

Voting by roll, all ayes, motion **CARRIED**.

DPW Superintendent Contract

Motion by Ryan, seconded by Sikora, to approve the contract and hiring of William Diamond for the position of DPW Superintendent.

Voting by roll, all ayes, motion **CARRIED**.

Council Reports

Councilman Dionne thanked the Lions Club for a successful pancake breakfast event held at Grant Park on June 11th.

Councilwoman Terenzi shared that Parks and Recreation donated a swing in Grant Park to the Prough Family for their many years of service to the City of Utica and the Utica Lions. The dedication was on June 11th.

Councilman O'Donnell thanked Eliseo Hernandez and Woodside Bible Church for painting the tunnels on the trail. He also thanked Chief Wilseck for giving him a tour of the new fire engine.

Planning Commission/ Planner

None.

Assessing- Thomas Agrusa, Assessor

None.

Building- Jerry Hicks

None.

Library- Katherine Francis, Director

Lori Cooke, on behalf of Katherine Francis, thanked the Heckman family for repairing and replacing the Little Library in Grant Park.

Fire- Kevin Wilseck, Chief

TNT Combi Tool Purchase

Motion by Ryan, seconded by Terenzi, to approve the purchase of a TNT Combi Tool from R&R Fire Truck Repair in the sum of \$10,775.00, to be paid from GL 101-336-691-000-372118, Equipment Purchase, subject to the MEDC Enhancement Grant No. 372118.

Voting by roll, all ayes, motion **CARRIED**.

Ambulance Rate Increase

Chief Wilseck presented the following rate increases:

ALS Emergency	resident \$700, non-resident \$850
ALS II Emergency	resident \$1,000, non-resident \$1,200
BLS Emergency	resident \$600, non- resident \$700
Mileage	\$17.50

Motion by Ryan, seconded by Sikora, to approve Ambulance Service Rates submitted, as suggested by the Accumed Group.

Voting by roll, all ayes, motion **CARRIED**.

Police- Matthew Kaluzny, Chief

Oakland Advanced Police Training

Motion by Dionne, seconded by Terenzi, to approve entering into an agreement with Oakland County advance police training to become a member of their small department group discount program for FY23-24.

Voting by roll, all ayes, motion **CARRIED**.

2021 HMGP Generator Grant Program-Update

No action required.

Treasurer- Philip Paternoster

FY2024 Budget, Appropriation Ordinance & Millage Rates

Motion by Terenzi, seconded by Sikora, to adopt the Annual Budget as presented for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2024.

Voting by roll, all ayes, motion **CARRIED**.

Motion by Sikora, seconded by Terenzi, to adopt the 2024 Annual Appropriation Ordinance as presented.

Voting by roll, all ayes, motion **CARRIED**.

Motion by Sikora, seconded by Terenzi, to adopt the 2023 Millage rates as presented.

Voting by roll, all ayes, motion **CARRIED**.

FY2024 Water & Sewer Rates

Water		Sewer		Combined	
FY2024 Proposed	FY2023	FY2024 Proposed	FY2023	FY 2024 Proposed	FY2023

Ready-to-Serve Charge
(\$)

Meter Size	REU Factor						
5/8"	1	2.95	2.97	9.26	9.31	12.21	12.28
3/4"	1.5	4.43	4.46	13.89	13.97	18.32	18.43
1"	2.5	7.38	7.43	23.15	23.28	30.53	30.71
1 1/2"	5.5	16.23	16.34	50.93	51.21	67.16	67.55
2"	8	23.60	23.76	74.08	74.48	97.68	98.24
3"	14.5	42.78	43.07	134.27	135.00	177.05	178.07
4"	20	59.00	59.40	185.20	186.20	244.20	245.6
6"	30	88.50	89.10	277.80	279.30	366.30	368.4
Consumption Charge (\$ per 1000 gallons)		6.65		11.59		18.24	

Motion by Dionne, seconded by Sikora, to adopt the sewer and water rates for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2024, effective for billing periods beginning in July 2023.

Voting by roll, all ayes, motion **CARRIED**.

Motion by Sikora, seconded by Terenzi, to adopt the Sewer and Water Fund Budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024.

Voting by roll, all ayes, motion **CARRIED**.

2023 FYE Budget Amendments

In review of the projected revenues and expenditures, Treasurer is asking for the following amendments: Fire Department-\$10,620; Ambulance Department-\$14,010. Building Department-\$36,000. Retiree Healthcare Fund (OPEB)-\$4,500.

Motion by Sikora, seconded by Terenzi, to amend the FY2023 Budgets of the General Fund, Building Code Enforcement Fund, and Retiree Healthcare Fund (OPEB Trust Fund), as presented by the Treasurer.

Voting by roll, all ayes, motion **CARRIED**.

2023 Audit Engagement

Motion by Terenzi, seconded by Sikora, to approve the engagement of Yeo & Yeo for the audit of the FY2023 financial statements and to authorize Mayor Calandrino to sign the Audit Engagement Letter on behalf of the City of Utica.

Voting by roll, all ayes, motion **CARRIED**.

DPW- Bill Lang, Superintendent

Falcon Asphalt Recycler Purchase

Motion by Sikora, seconded by Dionne, to approve the purchase the Asphalt Recycler from Falcon in the amount of \$24,967.

Voting by roll, all ayes, motion **CARRIED**.

Administration- Lori Cooke, City Clerk

CDBG Renewal Proclamation

2024-2026 Macomb County Urban County Renewal

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has been delegated the responsibility of administering the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, which provides Federal funds to assist community development activities in urban areas; and

WHEREAS, the County of Macomb, as an eligible Urban County, applies and receives CDBG funds to administer within the County's unincorporated areas and local governments that participate in Macomb County's Urban County CDBG Program; and

WHEREAS, the City of Utica does not qualify to receive CDBG funds directly. As a non-entitlement jurisdiction, the City of Utica must partner with the County of Macomb in order to receive CDBG funds; and

WHEREAS, the City of Utica must renew the Cooperation Agreement (Exhibit 1) to participate in the Macomb County's Urban County CDBG Program during the next three years from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027 in order to be eligible to receive CDBG funds as well as be eligible to participate in the HOME Investment Partnership Program (Home); and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Utica Michigan, hereby:

1. Approves the City of Utica's participation in the Macomb County Urban County CDBG Program for the Fiscal Years 2024 - 2026) and the Cooperative Agreement including automatic renewal provisions; and
2. Authorizes the Mayor or designee to sign the Cooperative Agreement

Motion by Sikora, seconded by Terenzi, to approve renewal of CDBG Program through 2026 and adopt the 2024-2026 Macomb County Renewal Resolution.

Voting by roll, all ayes, motion **CARRIED**.

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Parks and Recreation Commission

Laurie Schmidt updated the Reptarium event at Grant Park now scheduled for July 14th at 1:00p.m. This event is free and all are welcome.

Historic District Commission

None.

City Attorney- Linda McGrail

Canoe Contract

Motion by Sikora, seconded by Terenzi, to approve a 3-year contract with Outdoor Escorts, LLC dba Clinton River Canoe & Kayak Rentals, subject to vendor paying for all periods prior to execution of agreement to the extent not already paid.

Voting by roll, all ayes, motion **CARRIED**.

Communication from the Public

Jim Stone, 45280 Klingkammer, congratulated Council on following parliamentary procedure.

William Diamond, Sterling Heights resident, thanked Councilman Ryan, Mayor Calandrino and Bill Lang for their time in the interview process. He is excited for the opportunity with the city as DPW Superintendent.

Adjournment

As there were no further comments from the public, motion by Dionne, seconded by O'Donnell, to adjourn the meeting. Voting by roll, all ayes, motion **CARRIED**.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45P.M.

Lori Cooke

CITY OF UTICA

City Clerk