

**Meeting Minutes  
City Commission Meeting  
Three Rivers, Michigan  
July 6, 2010**

**1. Call to Order**

Mayor Balog called the regular meeting of the Three Rivers City Commission to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Commission Chambers of City Hall.

**2. Roll Call**

The following members were present at roll call:

Elbert Foster	George Ramsey
Daryl Griffith	Wendy Shank
Carolyn McNary	Earl Stark
	Allen Balog, Mayor

**3. Invocation**

Pastor Moore of Bethany Chapel gave the invocation.

**4. Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor Balog led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**5. Approval of Agenda**

Mayor Balog asked that a canine presentation and a report for clean water plant director be added to the agenda. He asked that 10A-5 be removed from the agenda.

It was moved by Commissioner Foster and seconded by Commissioner Stark to approve the agenda as amended.

The motion passed 7-0.

**6. Presentations and Recognitions**

a. Review of First Initial Aid Repsonse

Chief Tomlinson reviewed the first two aid responses, one in a township and one in the City. He noted that both went well and that the aid in the City allowed resources to respond to a second call 8 minutes later.

b. White Pigeon Canine Unit

Chief Bringman introduced White Pigeon Sergeant Bill Burgoyne and Canine Officer Nero.

**7. Approval of Minutes**

a. Minutes of the Regular Meeting held June 15, 2010

It was moved by Commissioner Griffith and seconded by Commissioner Foster to approve the minutes as presented.

The motion passed 7-0.

**8. Public Hearings**

a. Five Year Parks and Recreation Plan

Mayor Balog opened the floor to public comment at 6:11 p.m. Hearing no comments, he closed the floor to public comment at 6:11 p.m.

**9. General Comments**

Richard Price of 623 Erie Street commented on damage to the bridge in Scidmore Park, broken sidewalk, and lack of sidewalk on 131.

**10. Business**

a. Communications

1. Emergency Repair of Major Street Storm Water Outfall

By consent, the Commission placed the report on file.

2. Neighborhood Cleanup

Discussion included:

- Questioned the amount of cleanup at Essex for the money;
- Wanted to make the decision with the biggest impact;
- Dump passes were in exchange for cleanup at one time;
- Questioned the number of dump passes issued annually;
- Wanted more information regarding Essex impact before deciding.

3. Channel 13

Discussion included:

- Questioned use of a \$300 camera with YouTube;
- Discussed difference of equipment needs between Channel 13 and Internet viewing;
- Current problem had unknown cause;
- Troubleshooting required an onsite technician.

Blaine Edgell of 309 North Main Street commented on the poor broadcast for years and the good quality of YouTube. He suggested using high school students and not spending the \$12,000.

Jean Black of 933 West Street felt that the \$12,000 did not need to be spent. She liked the idea of using high school students.

City Manager Bippus noted that the high school and Glen Oaks had been given the opportunity to take over the system. He would try again.

Commissioner Shank suggested that staff try a camera and upload to YouTube.

Commissioner Griffith supported the school idea as a cheaper alternative. He wanted to experiment before spending money to get it fixed.

City Manager Bippus noted that similar discussions about not spending money have occurred in the past, and the current system was what the City ended up with.

Mayor Balog felt the issue should be addressed as a priority.

4. Chemical Bid Report for Fiscal Year 2011 and 2012

It was moved by Commissioner Griffith and seconded by Commissioner Foster to award chemical bids to PVS for ferric chloride and Brenntag Great Lakes for calcium nitrate for FY 2011 and 2012; and Alexander Chemical Corp for chlorine and sulfur dioxide gases for FY 2011.

The motion passed 7-0.

5. Lighting Improvement Project

The item was removed from the agenda.

6. Clean Water Plant Director

It was moved by Commissioner Foster and seconded by Commissioner Stark to appoint James Baker as Clean Water Plant Director.

Discussion included that Mr. Baker was a strong candidate and excellent choice.

The motion passed 7-0.

**b. Consent Agenda**

It was moved by Commissioner Foster and seconded by Commissioner Griffith to approve the consent agenda as presented.

The motion passed 7-0.

1. Invoices Payable

The Commission authorized payment of the invoices.

2. Parks Board Minutes of May 17, 2010

The Commission placed the minutes on file.

3. Airport Board Minutes of June 14, 2010

The Commission placed the minutes on file.

4. Revenue / Expenditure Report through May 2010

The Commission placed the report on file.

**11. Appointments**

a. Appointments to Advisory Boards and Commissions

No appointments were made.

**12. City Commission and City Manager's Communications**

Commissioner Foster thanked Lowry's group covering the DDA millage and noted that one had already been paid.

Commissioner Griffith complimented staff on the storm cleanup. He noted the Bowman Park sign had been damaged. He also noted that the fireworks display had been cut short because of high winds.

Commissioner Ramsey like that the Water Festival fireworks had some different fireworks. He noted that the bathrooms at Scidmore Park were in bad shape during the festival.

Commissioner Foster asked about celebrating the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the City.

Mayor Balog reported that State officials would be meeting with Eaton to discuss reversing the decision to close the Three Rivers plant.

City Manager Bippus reported that the bank with 420 8<sup>th</sup> Street had offered the property for \$8,000. He suggested the property be rolled into the NSP grant for demolition and rebuilding.

Chief Tomlinson noted that the work to rehab the building would exceed the value of the home once completed.

City Attorney O'Malley said if the City purchased the property, it would have total control.

Commissioner Griffith suggested just demolishing the property.

Mayor Balog noted it would then possibly go to tax sale.

Commissioner Ramsey noted the demolition cost would become a lien on the property.

City Manager Bippus reported that liens were not always recovered.

City Attorney O'Malley asked if the City would accept if the bank gave it to the City.

Commissioners Griffith and Ramsey agreed.

By consent, the Commission directed staff to demolish the building.

City Attorney O'Malley noted that the sign at Bowman Park would be corrected to Bowman Memorial Park if replacement was required. He also noted that the Friends of Riverside Cemetery was now a 501(c)3 group.

City Attorney O'Malley encouraged the celebration of 175 years.

**13. Adjournment**

It was moved by Commissioner Foster and seconded by Commissioner McNary to adjourn the meeting.

The motion passed 7-0.

Mayor Balog adjourned the meeting at 7:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lindsay Howes  
City Clerk