

**CITY OF WAYLAND  
COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS  
MONDAY, MARCH 17, 2008**

Mayor Stein opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Ron Kobish led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**INTRODUCTION:** Mayor Stein introduces new City Clerk, Michelle Herman

**ROLL CALL:**

Present: Mayor Stein, Council Members Doug Shafer, Sheryl Hamilton, Greg Maichele, Bruce Patrick, Mark Holloway, Jennifer Antel.

Absent: None.

Also Present: City Manager Deborah Nier, City Clerk Michelle Herman, Deputy City Manager Heath Kaplan, Director of City Services Pierre Brazeau, Police Chief Dan Miller, Diane Smith, Tim Bala, Ron Kobish, Kelle Tobolic, Andy Tobolic, Joseph Miller, Char Weik

**OPEN PUBLIC HEARING**

**RE: Consideration of Utility Rate Study**

**Mayor Stein opened Public Hearing @ 7:02 p.m.**

Discussion: Deputy City Manager Heath Kaplan presented historical information regarding the Utility Rate Study. Data presented reflected the collective efforts of both the administrative staff of the City and the Utility Financial Solution. Mr. Kaplan introduced Mr. Mark Beauchamp from Utility Financial Solutions to present the findings of this study.

Mr. Beauchamp's presentation included requirements to be compliant with Bond Coverage ratios, which need to be met as well as cash reserves and operating income. The cash basis model for setting utility rates collects operating revenue based on:

- Operation & Maintenance Costs
- Depreciation Expenses
- Operating Income

Mr. Beauchamp's presentation also included the wastewater funding. Based on the Cost of Service study, a three-year rate increase plan was designed for utility rates.

Hook-up fees have not been studied at this time.

Council Member Jennifer Antel asked if new rates would cover utility improvements to W. Superior are part of this study. Deputy City Manager Heath Kaplan stated this was factored in this study.

**CITY OF WAYLAND  
COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS  
MONDAY, MARCH 17, 2008  
PAGE TWO**

Mayor Stein indicated we are playing catch-up with rates because rates had not been regularly studied since the late 1990's.

Council Member Doug Shafer questioned if large users have been notified of the proposed rate changes. Deputy City Manager Heath Kaplan stated the Wayland Union School District and Bay Valley Foods have been notified.

Council Members Doug Shafer and Mark Holloway thanked the Sewer Committee for all of their efforts.

**Mayor Stein closed Public Hearing @ 7:37 p.m.**

**Motion to approve Resolution No 2008-01** by Jennifer Antel, supported by Mark Holloway

**Roll Call Vote:**

**Aye: 6**

Holloway, Maichele, Patrick, Shafer, Antel, Hamilton, Stein

**Motion Passed.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Motion made by Council Member Shafer to approve the minutes of the March 3, 2008 Council Meeting. Council Member Holloway seconded the motion.

All ayes. **Motion passed.**

**CITIZENS APPEARING BEFORE COUNCIL:**

None

**COMMITTEE MINUTES:**

- (a) Minutes of the February 12, 2008 Planning Commission were acknowledged for file.
- (b) Minutes of the January 18, 2008 Sewer Commission were acknowledged for file.
- (c) Minutes of the January 23, 2008 Budget/Finance Committee were acknowledged for file.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

None

**CITY OF WAYLAND  
COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS  
MONDAY, MARCH 17, 2008**

**PAGE THREE**

**BILLS AND ACCOUNTS:**

Motion made by Council Member Hamilton to approve the bills and accounts as written. Council Member Maichele seconded the motion.

Discussion:

Council Member Shafer inquired about Bear Swamp payment. Mr. Kaplan explained this is an interest payment item.

Council Member Greg Maichele inquired about WACO Sales invoice. Mr. Kaplan clarified the expense.

All ayes. Motion passed.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**(a) Emerald Ash Borer Treatment**

**Discussion:**

Mike Conner representing Honeytree Nursery detailed the Emerald Ash Borer problem in Michigan. To date, no infestation has been found in the City limits. Approximately 25 million trees in Michigan have been killed by Emerald Ash Borer to date. It is important to make the tree strong enough to survive an infestation.

Mayor Stein inquired if this is a one-time treatment. Mr. Connor explained this is three year in a row treatment to be effective.

Mayor Stein also asked if trees are being saved or taken down. He also asked how forecasts are made projecting the infestation? Mr. Connor explained an assessment would be conducted during the first year application. Mr. Connor went on to explain the injection program should begin one year prior to expected infestation.

Mr. Connor further stated, applications should begin no later than April 15<sup>th</sup>. The insect seems to prefer 4 inch tree or larger. It is important to treat and access all trees, as tree removal is expensive.

Deputy City Manager Heath Kaplan confirmed this program can be funded through the Special Road Fund. Under the Metro Act, this is an allowable expense.

**CITY OF WAYLAND  
COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS  
MONDAY, MARCH 17, 2008**

**PAGE FOUR**

Motion by Council Member Shafer to proceed with the Proposal for Emerald Ash Borer from Honeytree Nursery, motion seconded by Council Member Antel.

Ayes: Council Members Hamilton, Maichele, Patrick, Shafer, Antel, and Mayor Stein.

Nays: None.

Absent: Holloway

**(b) Resolution – Local Approval for Transfer of Liquor License.** The Council reviewed a request to transfer ownership of 2007 Class C Licensed Business, located at 105 E. Superior, Wayland, MI 49348, Allegan County, from Chelsea Ann, LLC to Deemax, LLC. As required by the Michigan Liquor Control Commission.

Motion By Council Member Antel to approve the Transfer of Liquor License, supported by Council Member Patrick.

**ROLL CALL:**

Ayes: Council Members Holloway, Maichele, Patrick, Shafer, Antel, Hamilton, Mayor Stein.

Nays: None.

Abstain: None.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2008-02 DECLARED ADOPTED.**

**CITY MANAGER COMMUNICATIONS:**

The City Manager reported that:

Waiting for comments from MDOT Enhancement Grant Review Committee

Purchase agreements to Chandler Holdings have been submitted.

Contract for the bike path feasibility study had been signed by the township and sent to Williams & Works

**COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

Council Member Doug Shafer commended the Sewer/Water Committee for the fine job on the rate study.

Mayor Stein proclaimed April as Child Abuse Prevention Month in the City of Wayland.

**CITY OF WAYLAND**

**COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS  
MONDAY, MARCH 17, 2008**

**PAGE FIVE**

**CITIZENS COMMENTS:**

Diane Smith stated that the Allegan County Sheriff's Dept. is collecting used cell phones for 911, to be used for Senior Citizens as well as abused women and children.

Char Weik is preparing an article regarding this project and has additional information

Mayor Stein adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Michelle Herman, City Clerk

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Burrell Stein, Mayor