

City of Grand Blanc City Council  
Minutes of April 10, 2019

Present: Mayor Soderstrom      John Creasey      Julie Nielsen      Chris Carr  
Chris Douglas      Paula Nas      Lisa Blondell

Staff: Wendy Jean-Buhrer, Mary Hopkins, Brian Lipe, Matt Wurtz, Megan Mulder, Christina Irwin, Ted Szczepanski, Chris Rhind, Chief Burdette.

Guests: Paula Schmidt, Carl Haiser, Karen Matthews, Mike Blondell, Ed Erdt, Geric Rose, and others.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Soderstrom at 7:00 P.M.

1. Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Approval of Minutes. Motion by Blondell supported by Nielsen to approve the minutes contained in the agenda packet of April 10, 2019. Motion carried.
3. Approval of Bills. Motion by Blondell supported by Douglas to approve bills in amount of \$231,788.90. Motion carried.
4. Public Comment.

There was no public comment.

5. Communication.
  - a) Comcast Channel Updates/Rate Changes – Received and Filed.
  - b) Grand Blanc Parks & Recreation Hard Times Party Thank You – Received and Filed.
6. New Business.
  - a) 2019 Law Day Proclamation.  
The Proclamation was read by Mayor Soderstrom.
  - b) Resolution #19-4001– MDOT Funding.  
Motion by Blondell supported by Creasey to adopt Resolution #19-4001 for the MDOT Funding and request waiving of the reading. Motion carried.
  - c) Genesee County CDBG Cooperative Agreement Extension.  
This item will not need to be addressed until next year.
  - d) Grand Blanc Chamber of Commerce/Taste of Grand Blanc Lamp Post Banner Request.  
Motion by Creasey supported by Carr to approve the request of the use of the lamp post banners on Saginaw St. between Center Rd. and Perry Rd. for the Taste of Grand Blanc from July 1, 2019 through August 1, 2019. Motion carried.

Motion by Creasey supported by Carr to approve the request of the use of the lamp post banners on Saginaw St. between Center Rd. and Perry Rd. for the Ally Challenge from August 1, 2019 through September 15, 2019. Motion carried.

e) Fire Department Discussion

Chief Burdette presented the Grand Blanc Fire Department 2018 Year End Review.

The report was followed by a discussion on how to move forward with the Fire Department issue.

Motion by Creasey supported by Blondell to approve the creation of the City of Grand Blanc Fire Department. Roll call vote: Blondell, yes; Carr, yes; Creasey, yes; Douglas, yes; Nas, yes; Nielsen, yes. Motion carried. 6-0.

f) Committee Reports.

Personnel

Motion by Creasey supported by Blondell to approve Resolution #19-4002 to create a Fire Chief position. Roll call vote: Carr, yes; Creasey, yes; Douglas, yes; Nas, yes; Nielsen, yes. Motion carried 6-0.

Motion by Creasey supported by Blondell to approve the Fire Chief job description. Roll call vote: Creasey, yes; Douglas, yes; Nas, yes; Nielsen, yes; Blondell, yes; Carr, yes. Motion carried 6-0.

Motion by Creasey supported by Blondell to approve the employment contract for a Fire Chief and to authorize the City Manager to present Dennis Smith with the approved employment contract to become the first Fire Chief of the City of Grand Blanc. Roll call vote: Douglas, yes, Nas, yes; Nielsen, yes; Blondell, yes; Carr, yes; Creasey, yes. Motion carried 6-0.

Motion by Blondell supported by Creasey to authorize the City Attorney to send notice to Grand Blanc Fire Department to vacate Fire Station #1 in 90 (ninety) days. Roll call vote: Nas, yes; Nielsen, yes; Blondell, yes; Carr, yes; Creasey, yes; Douglas, yes. Motion carried 6-0.

Motion by Creasey supported by Blondell to recommend approval of the City Council open seat policy. Motion carried.

Motion by Creasey supported by Blondell to recommend to City Council the approval of the changes with the exception of the 457 Deferred Compensation Match being increased only for employees hired after January 1, 2019. Motion carried.

DPW

Motion by Nas supported by Nielsen to recommend approval of Fleis and Vandenbrink as the general contractor of the Grand Chalet Shoppes in the amount to not exceed \$128,000.00. Motion carried.

Motion by Nas supported by Nielsen to recommend approval of M&M Pavement Marking to not exceed \$7,800.00 for the striping within the City on a Sunday. Motion carried.

Public Safety

Motion by Douglas supported by Blondell to approve the Special Event request from the Grand Blanc Chamber of Commerce to host the Family Fun Fest on June 6, 2019 through June 9, 2019 to include a 5k road race on June 8, 2019. Both events will all take place on the grounds of Grand Blanc High School. Motion carried.

Motion by Douglas supported by Blondell to approve the Special Event request from Holy Family Catholic Church to have a beer tent on their grounds on June 7, 2019 through June 9, 2019, and to waive the noise ordinance for this event between the hours of 10:00pm and Midnight on June 7 & 8, 2019. Motion carried.

Motion by Douglas supported by Blondell to approve the Special Event request from the Grand Blanc Community Schools to host the 5k Kolor Run at the High School on May 18, 2019 to allow the closure of Bush St for the duration of this event. Motion carried.

7. Other Business

- a.) Police Chief Lipe – received and filed.
- b.) DPW Director – nothing to report.
- c.) Building Inspector's Report – received and filed.
- d.) Fire Chief Burdette – received and filed.
- e.) City Attorney Mulder. – stated that lawyers for the City, Township, and School will be meeting on April 17, 2019 to talk about Grand Blanc Parks and Recreation.
- f.) City Clerk – nothing to report.
- g.) Finance Director/Treasurer. – not in attendance.
- h.) City Manager's Report. – received and filed.

Motion by Blondell supported by Douglas to authorize Wendy Jean-Buhrer to accept amended response to Grand Blanc Township office to provide fire coverage for a 90-day period beginning April 26, 2019 pursuant to the cost allocated. Motion carried.

Motion by Creasey supported by Blondell to approve the Davis St. purchase agreement. Friendly amendment by Blondell to have the requirement that the building needs to be a two-story mixed use incorporated into the agreement. Motion failed. 1-yes, 5-no.

The Council advised City Manager Wendy Jean-Buhrer to reach back out to Mr. Genord regarding the Davis St. property.

Motion by Blondell supported by Nielsen to approve the purchase of the City Hall vehicle from Al Serra in the amount of \$17, 744.00. Motion carried.

Motion by Creasey supported by Blondell to approve Grand Blanc Library Commission bi-annual distribution in the amount of \$20,250.00. Motion carried.

Motion by Nielsen supported by Blondell to accept the professional services of Fleis and Vandenbrink in the amount of \$13,800 for the Physicians Park bathroom/warming area. Motion carried.

i.) Members of Council

**Councilman Carr**– made a statement regarding his disappointment in the path that has happened with the Fire Department, but believes that City will do a good job forming the new City Fire Department. He included that the City did not ask for this.

**Councilman Creasey** – agreed with Councilman Carr's statement. He stated that he likes the new banners, and that he hopes that everyone will the Grand Blanc Parks Director Kae Eidson's retirement party.

**Councilman Douglas** – also agreed with Councilman Carr's statement. He stated that we agreed to the Townships demands, but it was never enough.

j.) Mayor Soderstrom

Mayor stated that she appreciated everyone's effort. She believes that both communities will be well served, and well protected.

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary B. Hopkins  
City Clerk