

City of Bronson  
Regular Council Meeting  
July 9, 2018

Mayor Cole called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Present: Cole, McConn, Cox, Kenny, Earl  
Absent: None

Public Comment – Branch County Sheriff Pollack told Council the county hired two new deputies, one part time and one full time. He invited everyone to stay after the meeting for an informational town hall meeting on the proposed jail millage.

Consent Agenda – Vice-Mayor McConn moved to approve the consent agenda including payment of invoices totaling \$22,081.59. Seconded by Councilman Kenny. Motion carried.

New Business - Public Hearing: Rental Housing Ordinance #206 – Councilman Earl moved to recess the meeting to public hearing to hear comments on the proposed rental ordinance. Seconded by Councilwoman Cox. Motion carried. Manager Mersman said the proposed ordinance has been reviewed by the Planning Commission and they recommended adoption of the ordinance by City Council. He said he would have a proposed fee schedule to bring to Council in August. Mayor Cole read a letter from city residents, Mr. & Mrs. Gary Crandall, in support of the ordinance. Fire Chief Scott Wilber said he was in favor of the ordinance mainly to insure rental units had working smoker detectors. He said the fire department have had a couple of incidents where the fire department arrived at a home with no working smoke detectors in it. Alan Jeffery, rental property owner, asked about fees and how long owners would be given to make sure their properties were in compliance with the ordinance. Manager Mersman said he would be suggesting a \$100.00 inspection fee and if the property passed inspection it would be good for two years. He said he would be suggesting the owners be given six months to become compliant if they were found to have issues that needed to be addressed at the first inspection. He said the fees, fines and time frames would be set at the August City Council meeting. Vice-Mayor McConn moved to the close the public hearing. Seconded by Councilman Earl. Motion carried.

Adoption of Rental Ordinance #206 - Councilwoman Cox moved to adopt Ordinance #206 with an adoption date of August 1<sup>st</sup> and effective date of September 1<sup>st</sup>, with the International Property Maintenance Code included and with the City Council being the Board of Appeals. Seconded by Councilman Earl. Motion carried.

Approve Painting Bid for City Hall Exterior – Vice-Mayor McConn moved to approve the low bid of \$1650.00 from Branch County Paint Doctor. Seconded by Councilman Kenny. Motion carried.

Staff Comments – Fire Chief Scott Wilber invited everyone to attend the dedication of the fire departments new training facility on July 20<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 p.m.

City Manager Comments – Manager Mersman invited everyone to stay after the meeting for the town hall meeting on the proposed jail millage.

Council Comments – Council thanked City staff for the work done on the rental ordinance. They said it is important to preserve the City’s housing stock and make sure renters have a safe environment. They thanked the DPW for the preparation work they were doing in advance of the Polish Festival. They said they hoped everyone would attend and enjoy this year’s festival.

Adjourn – Vice- Mayor McConn moved to adjourn. Seconded by Councilman Kenny. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Smith, City Clerk/Treas.