

Minutes of the regular meeting of the City Commission held Monday, November 12, 2018, at 7:00 p.m., in the City Commission Room.

Mayor Lents called the meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Commissioners Present: Mayor Lents and Vice Mayor Madaj; Commissioners Gillis, Joseph, Kulick, LaLonde and Ling

Commissioners Absent: None

Others Present: City Manager Ridley, City Clerk Howard and City Attorney Wood

Proclamations and Presentations

Pete Lorenz, Lorenz Surveying and Engineering and Joe White, Wolverine Engineering and Kory Mindel, Nottawa Township supervisor, gave a presentation on the status of the Nottawa Township Sewer project.

Public Input on Agenda Items

Robert Newby, 816 Beech St.; April Burke, 1018 Sweeny St.; Joyce Hendricks, 1005 Glenn Ave.; Sterling Johnson, 622 S. Arnold; Australyah Coleman, President of NAACP at CMU, 4750 E. Bluegrass Rd.; and Jim Moreno, 316 S. Arnold, spoke in favor of the establishment of a Citizen Advisory Board.

Receipt of Petitions and Communications

Received the following petitions and communications:

1. City Manager report on pending items.
2. Traffic Control Committee Minutes. (June and August)
3. Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes. (September)
4. Zoning Board of Appeals Minutes. (September)
5. Airport Advisory Board Minutes. (September)
6. Tax Increment Finance Authority/Principal Shopping District Board Minutes. (September)
7. Planning Commission Minutes. (September)
8. Resignation of Kash Dhanapal from the Local Development Finance Authority.
9. Resignation of Mickey Claus-Egger from the Cultural and Recreational Commission.
10. Communication received from the Mt. Pleasant Area Diversity Group regarding the establishment of a Citizen Advisory Board.

11. Letters received at the dais from Laura Cochrane, PhD, Professor of Anthropology, CMU; Eric Chercover, 318 E. Cherry St.; Sarah Grandstaff, 706 Garwood; and Kelly Lawson, 5236 Bridle Ln, regarding the establishment of a Citizen Advisory Board.

Moved by Commissioner Joseph and supported by Commissioner LaLonde to bring the matter of establishing a Citizen Advisory Board to the next City Commission meeting for discussion.

AYES: Commissioners Gillis, Joseph, LaLonde, Lents, Ling and Madaj

NAYS: Commissioner Kulick

ABSENT: None

Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Kulick and supported by Commissioner Joseph to approve the following items on the Consent Calendar:

1. Minutes of the special meeting of the City Commission and CMU Student Government Association held October 29, 2018.
2. Bids for 2019 Water Treatment Plant treatment (bulk) chemicals as follows:

Anionic Polymer	Polydyne, Inc.	\$1800.00/ton
Caustic Soda	Univar USA, Inc.	\$ 717.00/ton
Ferric Chloride	PVS Technologies, Inc.	\$ 542.00/ton
Lime	Carmeuse Lime, Inc.	\$ 145.80/ton
Liquid Polyphosphate	Shannon Chemical Corp.	\$ 7.34/gal
Sodium Fluoride	Haviland Products Co.	\$2675.00/ton
Sodium Hypochlorite	JCI Jones Chemicals, Inc.	\$ 0.97/gal
3. Accept the Principal Shopping District Board (PSD) recommendation to utilize the Parks and Public Spaces Department for the downtown grounds care and flower basket watering.
4. Purchase of an unmarked 2018-19 Chevrolet Tahoe to be used by the Youth Services Officer from Berger Chevrolet of Grand Rapids, Michigan, in the amount of \$36,602.
5. Authorize Finance Director Mary Ann Kornexl to sign a contract with Tokio Marine HCC for health insurance stop loss coverage at the rate of \$44.59 per month for single coverage and \$115.34 per month for family coverage with a \$150,000 deductible.
6. Warrants dated October 16, 17, 25, 29 and 30 and November 5 and 7, 2018 and Payrolls dated October 19 and November 2, 2018 all totaling \$1,720,050.40.

Motion unanimously adopted.

A public hearing was held on proposed 2019 Annual Operating Budget. There being no public comments or communications, the Mayor closed the public hearing. No action required by the Commission at this time.

Moved by Commissioner Ling and supported by Commissioner Joseph to postpone action on changes to Section 98.37 of the City Code until after the presentation of the proposed 5 year Capital Improvement Plan in the Spring of 2019 and that a written report be included with the Capital Improvement Plan that includes at least the following information:

1. Any legal or practical considerations of adding all multi-family dwellings, including rooming and boarding houses to the current snow removal ordinance that mandates sidewalk snow removal for commercial and industrial properties.
2. The financial and practical implications of expanding the current snow removal service that covers approximately 15 miles of City sidewalks back to 25 miles within 3 years and then adds 5 miles a year after that with the goal of eventually covering all or most of the sidewalk in residential areas.
3. An analysis of potential funding sources for either in-house or contracted snow removal that would consider among other options:
 - a. Suspending some or all new sidewalk construction for a period of time in order to cover the costs of purchasing new high efficiency snow removal equipment.
 - b. Consolidating the capital improvement expenditures currently used for new sidewalks, maintenance of sidewalks and pedestrian lighting into a new "walkability" fund and include sidewalk snow removal as a part of that fund.
 - c. Explore other options for funding that might include designating a certain portion of the capital improvement millage each year toward walkability, adding a small fee to the water bill to cover sidewalk snow removal, designating any increased revenue from the local portion of the new medical marijuana tax to walkability, using part of the general fund/economic development fund for equipment purchase, an increase in the millage rate or other possible sources of revenue.
4. A summary of potential resources available to property owners who would need assistance in shoveling sidewalks if an ordinance requiring snow removal is adopted and a recommendation on how the City could assist in matching those resources with property owners in need. This might involve providing incentives to neighborhoods or individuals who could assist others in snow removal.

Moved by Commissioner Kulick and supported by Commissioner Joseph to amend the original motion to add:

5. City would only plow sidewalks on streets with speeds more than 25 miles per hour.

AYES: Commissioners Joseph, Kulick, Ling and Madaj
NAYS: Commissioners Gillis, LaLonde and Lents
ABSENT: None

Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Gillis and supported by Commissioner Joseph to amend the original motion as amended by having only two options:

1. Option for the City to do the sidewalk snow removal; and
2. Option for City residents to do sidewalk snow removal.

AYES: Commissioner Gillis
NAYS: Commissioners Joseph, Kulick, LaLonde, Lents, Ling and Madaj
ABSENT: None

Motion failed.

The Commission considered the original motion to postpone as amended.

AYES: Commissioners Gillis, Joseph, LaLonde, Ling and Madaj
NAYS: Commissioners Kulick and Lents
ABSENT: None

Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Kulick and supported by Commissioner Gillis to approve the recommendation from the LOCC to increase the pay for both the City Commissioners and Mayor effective January 1, 2019. The City Commission compensation would increase from \$1,000 to \$1,500 per year and the Mayor's compensation would increase from \$1,250 to \$2,000 per year. Motion unanimously adopted.

Moved by Vice Mayor Madaj and supported by Commissioner LaLonde to sell the GumBuster machine and place funds from the sale into the Principal Shopping District fund.

AYES: Commissioners Gillis, Joseph, LaLonde, Lents, Ling and Madaj
NAYS: Commissioner Kulick
ABSENT: None

Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Kulick and supported by Vice Mayor Madaj to approve resolutions for downtown restructuring as presented.

Moved by Commissioner Gillis and supported by Commissioner Joseph to postpone action on downtown restructuring until the next City Commission meeting on November 26, 2018.

AYES: Commissioners Gillis, Joseph, LaLonde and Ling
NAYS: Commissioners Kulick, Lents and Madaj
ABSENT: None

Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Kulick and supported by Commissioner Joseph to approve a \$5,000 contribution as a local match toward the Phase II Economic Impact Study for the Ann Arbor to Traverse City passenger rail service from the Economic Initiatives Fund. Motion unanimously adopted.

Moved by Commissioner Kulick and supported by Vice Mayor Madaj to approve closed session pursuant to subsection 8(e) of the Open Meetings Act to consult with attorney regarding litigation strategy and settlement negotiations in connection with the case of Western Islands, LLC v. City of Mt. Pleasant, Case No. 18-14862-NZ, pending in the Circuit Court for Isabella County, State of Michigan.

AYES: Commissioners Gillis, Joseph, Kulick, LaLonde, Lents, Ling and Madaj
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None

Motion unanimously adopted.

Moved by Commissioner Kulick and supported by Vice Mayor Madaj to approve closed session pursuant to subsection 8(h) of the Open Meetings Act to consider material exempt from discussion or disclosure by state or federal statute.

AYES: Commissioners Gillis, Joseph, Kulick, LaLonde, Lents, Ling and Madaj
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None

Motion unanimously adopted.

Announcements on City-Related Issues and New Business

Commissioner Kulick reminded residents of the fall leaf pickup schedule:
Week of October 22 - rake leaves into low piles;
Week of October 29 - City-wide sweep;
Week of November 5 - rake leaves into low piles;
Week of November 12 - City-wide sweep;

Week of November 19 - rake leaves into low piles; and
Week of November 26 - FINAL City-wide sweep.

Commissioner Joseph announced that the City branding reveal is happening on Tuesday, November 13th at Art Reach.

Commissioner Gillis asked if laptop replacement insurance is available. She commented that she is disappointed that MMMFLA business in Industrial Park South has withdrawn its purchase agreement and wondered why. She also commented that she would like to see the City leave Maple Street as it is and not narrow it due to its historic prominence.

Public Comment on Agenda and Non-Agenda Items

Doug Collins, Winchester Towers, spoke regarding questions on sidewalk snow removal and train service between Ann Arbor and Traverse City.

Jim Moreno, 316 S. Arnold, would like to see the downtown restructuring plan happen and would like to see the City bring back the City Police Academy.

The Commission recessed at 8:46 p.m. and went into a closed session at 8:56 p.m. Closed session ended at 9:02 p.m. A separate set of minutes was taken for the closed session.

The Commission went into a second closed session at 9:03 p.m. The closed session ended at 9:47 p.m. A separate set of minutes was taken for the closed session.

The Commission recessed at 9:47 p.m. and reconvened at 9:49 p.m.

Staff Recommendations and Reports

Moved by Commissioner Kulick and supported by Commissioner Joseph to accept advice of counsel regarding settlement negotiations in the case of Western Islands, LLC v. City of Mt. Pleasant. Motion unanimously adopted.

WORK SESSION

1) 2019 Operating Budget

The work session was postponed until a future meeting.

2) Establishment of a Citizen Advisory Board

Discussion ensued.

Mayor Lents adjourned the meeting at 10:10 p.m. without objection.

Allison Lents, Mayor

Jeremy Howard, City Clerk