CITY OF LIVONIA – CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE STUDY MEETING HELD JANUARY 31, 2022

Meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. by President Jim Jolly. Present: Rob Donovic, Scott Morgan, Brandon McCullough, Kathleen McIntyre, Scott Bahr and President Jim Jolly. Absent: Vice President Laura Toy

Elected and appointed officials present: Mark Taormina, Director of Planning and Economic Development; Dave Lear, Assistant City Engineer; Paul Bernier, City Attorney; Susan M. Nash, City Clerk, Dave Heavener, Fire Chief, Casey O'Neil, Information Services Director, and Jacob Rushlow, Assistant Director of Public Works.

AUDIENCE COMMUNICATION: None

NEW BUSINESS

1. REQUEST TO WAIVE THE CITY'S NOISE ORDINANCE: Robert Rais, Knights of Columbus, re: to allow a car show with a DJ at Saint Colette's Catholic Church, 17600 Newburgh Road, on Saturday, June 4, 2022 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

   Robert Rais, member of St. Colette's parish and Knights of Columbus, presented the request to Council. He explained this is their fifth annual car show. They have had the same DJ every year and he knows how to keep the music down.

   Scott Bahr offered an approving resolution for the Consent agenda.

   DIRECTION: APPROVING CONSENT

2. REAPPOINTMENT OF WILLIAM TANCILL TO THE LIVONIA BOARD OF REVIEW: Office of the Mayor, re: for a three-year term, which will expire on February 16, 2025.

   LaShawn Thomas, Director of Governmental Affairs presented the request to Council. William Tancill was present and thanked the mayor for nominating him, as well as the Council for considering his reappointment. He stated the Assessor's Office has a very professional group and treat people very well. He noted the backgrounds of each of the members and how he has enjoyed his time on the Board.

   Rob Donovic offered an approving resolution for the Consent agenda.

   DIRECTION: APPROVING CONSENT

3. WAIVER PETITION: Planning Commission, re: Petition 2021-11-02-24 submitted by R & E Landscaping and Construction, L.L.C. requesting to construct and operate a special trade contractor's yard at 34413 Rosati Avenue, located on the west side

of Stark Road just south of the CSX Railroad in the Southwest ¼ of Section 28.

Mark Taormina, Planning and Economic Director, presented the request to Council. He noted that one item part of the approving resolution is the restriction that the waiver applies to this petitioner and that a transfer will have to be reviewed by Council.

Ronald Emling, 34422 Rosati Avenue, stated that there were dogwood trees on the landscaping of the current drawing. He plans to put up something more permanent that remains green all year long, such as 8- or 10-foot arborvitaes or pine trees to screen off the area for the residents.

Scott Morgan offered an approving resolution for the Consent agenda.

Scott Bahr asked what aspect of the item made it a waiver use. Mark Taormina stated it was because of the form of outside storage, which is predominantly building materials associated with his construction business.

Rob Donovic asked if this property was zoned for this usage, as M-1, Manufacturing. Mark Taormina agreed that it treats as a special land waiver use.

Rob asked if they will be using a typical chain link fence around the perimeter. Mark concurred, adding there is also a decorative gate in the front.

Ronald Emling stated that if the city desired, they would do a black aluminum fence all the way around, unless they want a screen, they would do a chain link with privacy slats. Wood is too much maintenance and want it to look and reflect the best for the neighbors.

Brandon McCullough asked what the specifics of the materials would be stored on site. Ronald stated that they would be hard materials, not liquids. Soft stuff would be stored inside. Bigger, heavier equipment will be stored on a lot designated for heavier stuff.

Brandon asked if he could foresee bringing fill dirt to the site. Ronald stated that he has fill dirt and cleaned, screened topsoil on vacant lots on the site for the developments as they go. No need to bring in and store fill dirt, it will be his office and where they keep small equipment stored.

DIRECTION: APPROVING CONSENT

4. REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE DELL VMWARE HOST SERVERS AND SWITCHES: Information Systems Department, re: for the City Hall Data Center, from budgeted funds.

Casey O’Neil, Information Services Director, presented the request to Council. He stated this is a replacement for some of the hardware used in the VMware server environment that are currently at the end of life.

Brandon McCullough offered an approving resolution for the Consent agenda.

DIRECTION: APPROVING CONSENT

5. REQUEST TO AMEND COUNCIL RESOLUTION 188-19: Information Systems Department, re: to allow 123.Net to provide fiber network connectivity to (16) sixteen City facilities.

Casey O'Neil, Information Services Director, presented the request to Council. He stated this would greatly expand the network connectivity throughout the city. This would expand fiber connections out to several city facilities. This would be a ten (10) year lease agreement. Scott Bahr asked that based on the build cost, if this is essentially free after ten (10) years. Casey stated that it would definitely go down in price having the existing infrastructure. Scott stated that this would net us an additional $2,000 per month additional from what we are paying today for the expanded services. He questioned using the word potentially, when referring to the use in our public parks. Casey replied that he would be working with Parks and Rec on it, but agreed that the capability would be there.

Scott Bahr offered an approving resolution for the Consent agenda.

DIRECTION: APPROVING CONSENT

6. REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION TO WAIVE THE SEALED BID PROCESS AND PURCHASE FROM SOLE SOURCE PROVIDER: Livonia Fire Department, re: for two (2) Zoll Cardiac Monitors to replace outdated or decertified equipment which are a critical piece of life saving equipment, from budgeted funds.

Dave Heavener, Fire Chief, presented the request to Council. He explained the monitors will go on frontline equipment. Both current units are in the excess of twenty (20) years old and beyond life expectancy.

Kathleen McIntyre offered an approving resolution for the Consent agenda. She explained the reason for not using a sealed bid process. They have to use the sole source provider. since there aren't any other options for purchasing it.

DIRECTION: APPROVING CONSENT

7. REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE ONE (1) 2022 LIFE LINE TYPE-1 SUPERLINER AMBULANCE: Livonia Fire Department, re: replace current frontline vehicle as part of our vehicle replacement program, from budgeted funds.

Dave Heavener, Fire Chief, presented the request to Council. He stated this would be consistent with purchases they have made over the last couple of years as part of their ongoing replacement program. This vehicle would go to Station 1, to replace Squad 1 and trickle to a reserve status and ultimately replace a reserve vehicle thorough auction or direct sale.

Rob Donovic offered an approving resolution for the Consent agenda.

DIRECTION: APPROVING CONSENT

8. REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE THREE (3) 2022 FORD F150 RESPONDER SUPER CREW 4X4 PICKUP TRUCKS: Livonia Fire Department, re: replace current frontline vehicles and will add versatility and safety to the fleet, while enhancing response capabilities, from budgeted funds.

   Dave Heavener, Fire Chief, presented the request to Council. He stated that the process was started a couple of years ago, transitioning to pick up trucks for the Inspector and Administrative staff for a clean-cab concept to keep equipment out of the passenger cab of the vehicle. They can also pull trailers when needed to give a safer working capacity and more versatility.

   Scott Morgan offered an approving resolution for the Consent agenda.

   DIRECTION: APPROVING CONSENT

9. AWARD OF CONTRACT: Department of Public Works, re: for the Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) Prevention Treatment, through December 31, 2023, with the option to extend for an additional two years, from budgeted funds.

   Jacob Rushlow, Assistant Director of Public Works, presented the request to Council. He stated that DPW is always looking for better and safer ways for preventative maintenance on buried infrastructure. Biological treatment of sanitary sewers is used to prevent the formation of FOG. He explained the background of the winning bidder, Eganix; their products have proven effective, and their services are professional and reliable. They have worked with them in the past and have been impressed with their capabilities with this product.

   Scott Bahr asked about the reason for the not-to-exceed amount. Jacob Rushlow responded that they have been working with Sean Egan from Eganix, to work out a plan of how to tackle the known area susceptible to build up in the system. They won't know until they start using the treatments of how quickly they are eating up the grease in the system. Until then, they can better dial in the program.

   Rob Donovic asked how we compare to other communities with our FOG buildup. Jacob replied that any municipal sewer system will have buildup of FOG, but Livonia has a well-used industrial corridor, larger sewer users contribute to coagulating and creating the FOB buildup. Schoolcraft will be the main focus point. Rob indicated that he looks at it as preventative maintenance and offered approving on consent.

Jim Jolly asked about waiving the bid process and asked for more detail why they are asking for it. Jacob explained that Southfield went through the competitive bid process for the same bioaugmentation treatment for the sewer. They were able to work with the vendor to hold the same prices for Livonia and hold the same prices, as they were the low bidder in the competitive bidding process. Jim stated that he would like this to be put on the Regular agenda instead.

DIRECTION: APPROVING REGULAR

10. REQUEST TO AUTHORIZE EXPENDITURE: Department of Public Works, Water & Sewer Department, re: to enable payment for the 2022 subscription to the MISS DIG service, from budgeted funds.

Jacob Rushlow, Assistant Director of Public Works, presented the request to Council. He stated that this is a routine annual authorization for payment for subscription dues. As a water utility provided, Livonia is required by State law to participate in the MISS DIG program.

Kathleen McIntyre offered an approving resolution for the Consent agenda.

DIRECTION: APPROVING CONSENT

11. REQUEST TO AUTHORIZE APPROPRIATION AND EXPENDITURE: Department of Public Works, re: emergency water repair of pressure reducing valve near Eight Mile and Grand River, from budgeted funds.

Jacob Rushlow, Assistant Director of Public Works, presented the request to Council. He noted that pressure reducing valve (PRV) was not operating as it should and it was discovered by DPW that it was beyond repair. The replacement PRV was purchased from the sole source supplier and was installed with our own staff, materials and equipment, which gave a cost savings by doing the repair ourselves.\

Brandon McCullough asked to clarify that this repair is not the same as what was done a year or so ago. Jacob agreed, indicating that this is the fifth PRV that was replaced. This one was put in around the 70's.

Brandon McCullough offered an approving resolution for the Consent agenda.

DIRECTION: APPROVING CONSENT

12. AWARD OF CONTRACT: Department of Public Works; re: with Plante Moran Cresa, LLC, to provide professional engineering services for Space Needs Assessments and Capital Planning; from budgeted funds.

Dave Varga, Chief of Staff, presented the request to Council. He explained that this assessment was something that Council and the Community have asked for and was identified in the Livonia 21 Master Plan. They have met with officials from Livonia Public Schools, sharing key role that Plante Moran Cresa (PMC) played in developing their facilities. Brandon McCullough asked if this was procured or if PMC is on a rotating list of companies that offer professional services. Jacob Rushlow, Assistant Director of Public Works, responded that PMC is not currently and will be addressed later in the presentation. Rob Donovic noted the list of different capital planning services, asking if the buildings were in chronological order. Jacob stated the buildings are listed to identify all of the buildings. They are not in chronological order; they will be done at the same time.

Scott Bahr noted this was discussed at length during the budget process last year. He referred to the buildings previously spoken about, noting that each Department Heads at each building will have a handle on what the needs of the buildings are. He asked to differentiate what is being done here from the normal activity. Jacob stated PMC would perform a needs assessment for space in each building, assess how Department Heads and key staff work within their facility and assess the condition of each building. This will create a life cycle analysis of the needs for each building. Jacob stated that recommendations to prioritize improvements will be provided in the report for each building along with budget considerations. Jacob introduced PMC to the podium.

Andrew Fountain, 5938 Oakland Valley Drive, Oakland Township, provided background information on working with the school district, along with neighboring communities. Brandon McCullough referred to the Capital Improvement Plan, asking if it was part of Phase 1 or Phase 2. Andrew responded that the Space Needs Assessment and the Capital Improvement Plan are both in Phase 1. Brandon asked if what was under the due diligence were not included. Andrew stated that after reviewing historical information, if there were services that require any of those items, they would make recommendations to enter a contract to procure those services. Brandon asked if they would be making recommendations on new construction. Andrew responded that recommendations would be provided for each facility. Brandon asked upon approval, they are looking at three months. Andrew clarified with a duration of four months.

Rob Donovic referred to Phase 2 services not having fees and questioned if this was the normal process. Andrew responded that the results from Phase 1 analysis will drive the scope of Phase 2. If the City wanted to activate Phase 2 services, they would create a fee and scope that matches Phase 1. Scott Bahr offered an approve resolution for the Consent agenda. Brandon McCullough asked about the procurement of this project, as he referred to earlier on this item. Jacob Rushlow responded that PMC services are a unique combination of services that they won't be able to find under roof, it would be a combination of different companies. Brandon stated that he is on the fence about not procuring the services and would like this item to be on the Regular agenda.

Jim Jolly stated that PMC provided work for the building of the new courthouse approximately ten (10) years ago and would like to hear about our experience in working with them. He noted that Mike Slater, Finance Director was there and could give detail on that project. Mike Slater agreed that PMC was the advisor on the new district court. He stated they provided excellent service on the project; they were on time and within budget. His experience was very favorable. He spoke that in the Finance ordinance, one of the exceptions for waiving sealed bids is the procurement of professional services. This is an existing exemption that Council has the opportunity to use for the procurement of this type of service.

DIRECTION: APPROVING REGULAR

13. AWARD OF BID: Public Works Division; re: for the preparation and painting of the interior of the Fleet Maintenance Garage, from budgeted funds.

Jacob Rushlow, Assistant Director of Public Works, presented the request to Council. He stated that the project was publicly advertised, and bids were received from six (6) contractors. The lowest qualified bid was received from TN Construction and funding is available from the Capital Projects fund. Kathleen McIntyre stated that this is a needed painting to also improve the lighting in the garage. This will help ensure any asbestos or any dangerous materials will be sealed in and offered an approving resolution for the Consent agenda.

DIRECTION: APPROVING CONSENT

14. REQUEST TO APPROVE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF IMPROVEMENT BONDS: Engineering Division, re: to assure the installation of public improvements at Emerson Oaks Site Condominium; located on the north side of West Chicago Avenue, west of Harrison Avenue (28400 West Chicago Avenue formerly Wilson Elementary School site) in the Northwest 1/4 of Section 36. (CR 136-21)

Dave Lear, Assistant City Engineer, presented the request to Council. He stated this is a housekeeping item. For any new development, they have to establish all of the improvement bonds and fees for it to move forward. Rob Donovic offered an approving resolution for the Consent agenda.

DIRECTION: APPROVING CONSENT

AUDIENCE COMMUNICATION

As there were no further questions or comments, President Jim Jolly adjourned the Study Session at 8:56 p.m. on Monday, January 31, 2022.

DATED: February 1, 2022

SUSAN M. NASH
CITY CLERK