

CITY OF LIVONIA – CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF STUDY MEETING HELD SEPTEMBER 26, 2022

Meeting was called to order at 8:06 p.m. by Council Vice President Jim Jolly. Present: Vice President Laura Toy, Scott Bahr, Rob Donovic, Scott Morgan, Brandon McCullough. Absent: Kathleen McIntyre

Elected and appointed officials present: Maureen Miller Brosnan, Mayor, Susan Nash, City Clerk, Paul Bernier, City Attorney, Todd Zilincik, City Engineer, LaShawn Thomas, Director of Governmental Affairs, Thomas Goralski Police Chief, Brandie Isaacson, Housing Director, Ted Davis, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation, Jacob Rushlow, Assistant Superintendent of Public Works.

Councilmember Scott Bahr led the Pledge of Allegiance.

AUDIENCE COMMUNICATION

Barb Iovan, Deborah Christiansen, Lori Shuk, James Hooper (addresses withheld), Darryl Smith, 14006 Brookfield and Sara Overwater, Westmore Street, each shared their views on the upcoming election in relation to women's healthcare.

President Jim Jolly explained the rules regarding freedom of speech during City Council meetings.

Councilmember Brandon McCullough thanked everyone involved in putting on the Corn Roast event as well as the Tour de Livonia event. He noted that Seedlings will be having an online auction on November 7th-10th and the AM Rotary Spaghetti Dinner will be on October 26, 5p-7p. Livonia Hockey Association will have their Girls Try Hockey for Free Day on October 8th and the Living and Learning Enrichment Center is having a hockey fundraiser with the Red Wings Alumni at USA Hockey Arena. All information can be found on the corresponding websites.

Council Vice President asked Susan Nash, City Clerk, when the absentee ballots are coming out. Susan stated they received the printed ballots and will be going to the post office on Wednesday, September 28th with just shy of 20,000 ballots for the first mailing. She noted the effort her staff has provided for this process and thanked them for their efforts. She stated that as of Thursday, September 29th, ballots can be requested over the counter.

Vice President Toy stated that she understands how hard it is to be President of a local municipality and commends her colleagues for their input.

NEW BUSINESS

1. BLOCK PARTY: Stephanie Estereicher, re: to be held Sunday, October 23, 2022, from 12:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. on Bretton Drive.

Stephanie Estereicher presented the request to Council.

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Councilmember Scott Morgan offered an approving motion for the Consent agenda.

DIRECTION: APPROVAL CONSENT

2. REQUEST TO WAIVE STREETLIGHT REQUIREMENT: Enrico Soave, Belaggio Homes, re: for the Livonia Manor 3 site condominiums.

Enrico Soave, Belaggio Homes, 37771 Seven Mile Road, Livonia, presented the request to Council.

Councilmember Rob Donovic offered an approving motion for the Consent agenda.

Councilmember Scott Bahr asked if this was the neighborhood at Seven and Merriman, Enrico Soave confirmed.

DIRECTION: APPROVAL CONSENT

3. REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE THREE REPLACEMENT VEHICLES AND ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURE: Division of Police, re: in the amount of \$14,091.00, to complete the previously authorized award of bid for twelve vehicles that were unavailable to purchase due to manufacturing issues. (CR 61-22)

Thomas Goralski, Livonia Police Chief, presented the request to Council.

Council Vice President Laura Toy offered an approving motion for the Consent agenda.

Darryl Smith, 14006 Brookfield, asked if the blue lives matter flags would be in the police vehicles.

DIRECTION: APPROVAL CONSENT

4. REQUEST TO APPROVE PROVIDER PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT FOR THE PERIOD FY 2022-2026 BETWEEN THE CITY OF LIVONIA AND MICHIGAN STATE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (MSHDA): Department of Finance, Water Administration, re: with grant resources to be used for qualifying Livonia homeowners with delinquent water utility bills.

Connie Kumpula, Chief Accountant, presented the request to Council.

Council Vice President Laura Toy offered an approving motion for the Consent agenda.

DIRECTION: APPROVAL CONSENT

5. REQUEST TO APPROVE PASS THROUGH AGREEMENT FOR THE 2022-2023 FISCAL YEAR BETWEEN THE CITY OF LIVONIA AND SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (SEMCOG): Housing Department, re: with grant funds to be used for the Livonia Community Transit Program to provide planning assistance to identify future transportation needs within the City.

Brandie Isaacson, Housing Director, presented the request to Council.

Councilmember Scott Morgan offered an approving motion for the Consent agenda.

Council Vice President Laura Toy asked if there will be a survey related to transportation. Brandie Isaacson confirmed they are hoping to evaluate the current Senior Program for ways to improve their services.

DIRECTION: APPROVAL CONSENT

6. REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE ONE (1) 2022 FORD CRUSADER CHALLENGER 12+2 PASSENGER BUS THROUGH THE STATE OF MICHIGAN BID PROCESS: Livonia Housing Commission, re: for use by Livonia Community Transit, from budgeted funds.

Brandie Isaacson, Housing Director, presented the request to Council.

Councilmember Brandon McCullough offered an approving motion for the Consent agenda.

DIRECTION: APPROVAL CONSENT

7. REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE ONE (1) 2023 FORD F150 REGULAR CAB 4X2 8' BED UTILIZING THE STATE OF MICHIGAN BID PRICING: Department of Parks and Recreation, re: to replace outdated vehicle, from budgeted funds.

Ted Davis, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation, presented the request to Council.

Councilmember Scott Morgan asked why someone would buy a 4X2 truck. Ted Davis replied that it was because of price and the vehicle is for hauling materials between locations.

Councilmember Brandon McCullough offered an approving motion for the Consent agenda.

DIRECTION: APPROVAL CONSENT

8. AWARD OF BID: Department of Parks and Recreation, re: for the lease of 11 pieces of equipment in order to maintain the Fox Creek, Whispering Willows and Idyl Wyld golf courses, from budgeted funds.

Ted Davis, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation, presented the request to Council.

Councilmember Rob Donovic asked if the maintenance is the responsibility of the leasing company or the Department and if they would be getting rid of the equipment they have. Ted Davis stated the labor would fall on the TJW, the operator of the golf courses and it would depend on the age and usage of the equipment, most would stay in the fleet.

Councilmember Rob Donovic offered an approving motion for the Consent agenda.

Bob Guzick, Livonia, asked if the golf courses are for profit, asking why the City would pay for the maintenance of the parks. Ted Davis stated the fees for the golf courses pay for their maintenance.

DIRECTION:	APPROVAL	CONSENT
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9. AWARD OF BID: Department of Parks and Recreation, re: to replace the sound equipment at the Jack E. Kirksey Recreation Center, from budgeted funds.

Ted Davis, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation, presented the request to Council.

Councilmember Scott Bahr asked if they had seen issues with the equipment. Ted Davis indicated he has seen issues in the pool areas.

Councilmember Scott Bahr offered an approving motion for the Consent agenda.

DIRECTION:	APPROVAL	CONSENT
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10. AWARD OF BID AND REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION: Department of Parks and Recreation, re: for the Underground Utility Mapping at Greenmead Historical Park, from the unexpended fund balance of the Historical Trust Fund and budget transfer in the amount of \$23,000 to cover all associated expenses.

Ted Davis, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation, presented the request to Council.

Councilmember Scott Bahr offered an approving motion for the Consent agenda.

Darryl Smith, 14006 Brookfield, asked if the grounds would be graded or added drainage. Council President Jim Jolly stated there is an ongoing Master Plan for Greenmead development.

DIRECTION:

APPROVAL

CONSENT

11. REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE ONE 2023 FORD TRANSIT 350 CARGO VAN THROUGH THE STATE OF MICHIGAN AND MACOMB COUNTY BID PROCESS WITH THE UPFITTING THROUGH THE MI-DEAL STATE BID PROCESS; Department of Public Works, re: to replace a vehicle for the primary use by the Water Department, from budgeted funds.

Jacob Rushlow, Assistant Superintendent of Public Works, presented the request to Council.

Councilmember Scott Morgan offered an approving motion for the Consent agenda.

DIRECTION:

APPROVAL

CONSENT

12. REQUEST TO AMEND THE ENGINEERING CONTRACT THROUGH THE QUALIFICATION BASED SELECTION (QBS) PROCESS WITH OHM ADVISORS AND AUTHORIZE EXPENDITURE: Department of Public Works, re: for the Drinking Water Asset Management Grant (DWAM), from budgeted funds, to be reimbursed from the DWAM grant. (CR 365-16)

Jacob Rushlow, Assistant Superintendent of Public Works, presented the request to Council.

Councilmember Rob Donovic stated how important the grant is and felt OHM does a great job, he then offered an approving motion for the Consent agenda.

DIRECTION:

APPROVAL

CONSENT

13. PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO LIVONIA CODE OF ORDINANCE, AS AMENDED: Department of Law, re: to add Chapter 65 (Civil Rights Non-Discrimination) to Title 2, in order to streamline the process for reporting discriminatory behavior in our community, expand protections for those who face discrimination, and make a clear statement about our values as an arms-wide-open community.

Paul Bernier, City Attorney, presented the request to Council.

Councilmember Brandon McCullough stated this item was brought forward by the Mayor's Office last year. He noted the last update was 1982 and would like to study it further. He then offered to put this item in Committee of the Whole. Council President Jim Jolly agreed the item needs to be studied in a committee structure to work through changes.

Council Vice President Toy asked that they are informed of the Civil Rights Act with Elliot Larson and how it relates to local government. Paul Bernier indicated the ordinance was written to comply with both and will answer questions Council may have and how it relates to Elliot Larson, Supreme Court decisions and Livonia ordinances.

Council President Jim Jolly stated that although the item was created some time ago, they have not been able to discuss it as a Council and looks forward to reviewing it in Committee.

Ellen Cane, Livonia, asked to review issues that have occurred in Livonia to see if this amendment would have helped.

Margaret Erle, 31545 Pembroke Street, asked if there is a list of topics of discrimination, what is the proof that someone has been discriminated against, who will be adjudicating alleged discrimination and what would be the punishment.

Council President Jim Jolly encouraged everyone to read the ordinance on the city website.

Richard Glover, 14369 Brentwood Street, Chair of Human Relations Commissions, thanked Council for bringing the item forward.

Darryl Smith, 14006 Brookfield, asked if the residents will be invited to attend the Committee Meeting of the Whole. President Jolly stated all of the meetings are public and they are all welcome to attend.

Sara Overwater, Westmore Street and Barb Iovan (address withheld) each stated they are glad this item has come forward.

Deb Christiansen, Lori Shuk (addresses withheld) each stated they are glad this has come forward and hope the Council reviews the revised draft along with the language prepared by Law.

Matt McClellan, 35155 Leon, stated he does not think the constitution needs to be amended. President Jim Jolly noted this is an amendment, not the constitution.

Karen (address withheld) stated she is opposed to the NDO and is concerned with some of the language that was proposed.

Denise Robison (address withheld) stated she has seen many changes in the city over the years and we need to welcome the changes and keep an open mind.

Councilmember Scott Bhar stated that in response to a resident comment, nothing has been missed, since this is the first time this item has been formally brought forward to Council.

DIRECTION: COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE CONSENT

AUDIENCE COMMUNICATION

As there were no further questions or comments Council President Jim Jolly adjourned the Study Session at 9:13 p.m. on Monday September 26, 2022.

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Dated: September 27, 2022

SUSAN M. NASH, CITY CLERK