

**CITY OF LIVONIA – CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF STUDY MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 22, 2021**

Meeting was called to order via Zoom remote technology at 8:41 p.m. by President Kathleen McIntyre. Present: Laura Toy (Livonia, Michigan); Scott Bahr (Livonia, Michigan); Cathy White (Livonia, Michigan); Brandon McCullough (Livonia, Michigan); Rob Donovic (Deployed); Jim Jolly (Livonia, Michigan); and President Kathleen McIntyre (Livonia, Michigan). Absent: None.

Councilmember Toy led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Elected and appointed officials present: Mark Taormina, Director of Planning and Economic Development; Todd Zilincik, City Engineer; Paul Bernier, City Attorney; Susan Nash, City Clerk; Ted Davis, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation; Denise Maier, Director of Human Resources; Brandie Isaacson, Director of Housing; Don Rohraff, Director of Public Works; and Casey O'Neil, Director of Information Systems.

AUDIENCE COMMUNICATION None heard.

NEW BUSINESS

1) REQUEST TO WAIVE THE SIDEWALK REQUIREMENT: Stephen and Catherine Simon, re: for the newly constructed home located at 18250 Laurel, in the N.W. 1/4 of Section 9.

Steve and Cathy Simon presented this request to Council. Steve Simon stated they are currently living in a new home at 18250 Laurel and there are no sidewalks on the whole street and they are requesting a sidewalk waiver.

Vice President Bahr congratulated the Simons on the purchase of their new home on one of the most beautiful lots in the City. He then offered an approving resolution for the Consent Agenda.

DIRECTION:	APPROVING	CONSENT
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2) REAPPOINTMENT OF JACOB GHANNAM TO THE LIVONIA BOARD OF ETHICS: Office of the Mayor, re: for a three year term which will expire on March 1, 2024.

Paul Bernier, City Attorney, presented this request to Council. He stated Mr. Ghannam is a principal attorney with the County of Wayne in the Tax Division for the last eighteen years and that is why he is recommending him, that he has worked with him on the Board of Ethics previously and he does a tremendous job for the City and he then asked Council to reappoint him to this position.

Councilmember Jolly offered an approving resolution for the Consent Agenda.

DIRECTION:

APPROVING

CONSENT

3) REAPPOINTMENT OF SUZETTE SAMUELS TO THE LIVONIA BOARD OF ETHICS: Office of the Mayor, re: for a three year term which will expire on March 1, 2024.

Councilmember Toy presented this request to Council. She stated she has known Suzette for a long time, she is an attorney as well in Wayne County and does fabulous work and is a very fair minded person and she would once again be an asset on our Ethics Committee and offered an approving resolution for the Consent Agenda.

City Attorney Bernier stated that he and Suzette worked together at the Prosecutor's Office for many years and he knows the quality of the work she does because he knows the cases he's dumped on her over the years. She is an excellent top notch person and quite frankly a top notch lawyer. He then asked Council to accept the nomination of Suzette Samuels and that she is present at the meeting.

President McIntyre stated she has gotten to know Ms. Samuels well and she knows she is a person of great integrity, very, very well respected within the law community and in the Livonia community.

Suzette Samuels stated what a pleasure it is to see everyone and thanked everyone for their comments. She stated she wants to let everyone know what an honor and a privilege it is to serve the people of the City of Livonia, that she's a true public servant and she couldn't be more honored than to serve the people of her City.

DIRECTION:

APPROVING

CONSENT

4) REAPPOINTMENT OF ANDREW LENDRUM TO THE LIVONIA BOARD OF REVIEW: Office of the Mayor, re: for a three year term which will expire on February 16, 2024.

Jacob Liberati, Assistant City Assessor, presented this request to Council. He stated they are asking that Andy be reappointed to the Livonia Board of Review. He was originally appointed in 2016 and he's been a long time resident of the community. He brings a wealth of knowledge and experience in the real estate market due to his career as a real estate agent and broker for over thirty years in the local area.

Councilmember Toy offered an approving resolution for the Consent Agenda.

Andrew Lendrum thanked Council and the Mayor for the opportunity to give back to the community and that he enjoys serving on this Board.

DIRECTION:

APPROVING

CONSENT

5) REQUEST TO APPROVE AMENDMENT TO LEASE AGREEMENT WITH THE MICHIGAN WOLVES AND HAWKS SOCCER CLUB: Department of Parks and Recreation, re: to allow Michigan Hawks Soccer Club to assume the current lease for the continued use of Jaycee Park soccer fields.

Ted Davis, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation, presented this request to Council. He stated they are asking that there be a lease amendment to the current agreement that allows the current Michigan Hawks and Wolves Soccer Club to maintain and utilize Jaycee Parks. The current agreement is up, this would be good through April 30, 2025, with a five-year extension which would give them an option to have the park until April 30, 2030. The Michigan Hawks and the Michigan Wolves are both equal partners with us, this is a split of this organization, they're separating out into a boys and a girls group. So they are asking that this go to Michigan Hawks Soccer Club.

Councilmember Donovic said this is an awesome program and hats off to those that are making it possible and offered an approving resolution for the Consent Agenda.

Councilmember Jolly stated in reading the information provided by the attorneys, that they should think about submitting this as a Bar Exam question, a great way to test contract law here, especially with the fact scenario. He stated his children have utilized these youth programs before, good organizations, and glad to do business with them.

DIRECTION: APPROVING CONSENT

6) REQUEST PERMISSION FROM WAYNE COUNTY TO CLOSE A PORTION OF FARMINGTON ROAD TO HOST LIVONIA'S ANNUAL MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY: Department of Parks & Recreation, re: to close Farmington Road north and southbound from Five Mile Road to Roycroft, on Saturday, May 29, 2021, from 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

Ted Davis, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation, presented this request to Council. He stated they are being optimistic here hoping that we will have a Memorial Day Ceremony on May 29th. This request would go into Wayne County to authorize us to close Farmington Road from Five Mile to Roycroft.

Councilmember Toy stated this is quite a nice event and that she would like to offer an approving resolution for the Consent Agenda.

DIRECTION: APPROVING CONSENT

7) REQUEST TO APPROVE THE LIVONIA COMMAND OFFICER SALARY AND BENEFIT CHANGES: Civil Service Department, re: for the period of December 1, 2020 through November 30, 2023.

Denise Maier, Director of Human Resources, presented this request to Council. She stated she is very happy to be before Council with another Collective Bargaining Agreement that they have settled with our Livonia Command Officers Union. It's in two sections and it includes all of the changes that will happen to the contract, that will be

made to the contract, including operations, salaries, salary increases for the next three years as well as benefit changes.

Councilmember Jolly asked if the Command Officers Association was formerly known as Livonia Sergeants Association and Maier replied that's correct, it was the Livonia Lieutenants and Sergeants Association, the captains requested they be included and once Council approved that, Council also approved changing the name to the Livonia Command Officers Association.

Jolly then asked if the only people that are not represented at the Police Station are the Chief and Deputy Chief, is that correct?

Maier replied that's correct and the Public Service Aides are a sub-unit of the LPOA contract.

Vice President asked if the particulars of this contract are consistent with what Council approved previously for the Police Officers Contract and Maier replied yes, they are, including the 12-hour shift. Bahr asked if the insurance changes are consistent as well and Maier replied yes, those are Item No. 9 on the Agenda because the Union had requested that we separate them because they didn't want the insurance changes to affect the ratification of the contract for the Union. They weren't sure exactly how the Union was going to respond to the insurance offering, but they did vote for that as well, so that will be Item No. 9 on the Agenda.

Councilmember Jolly offered an approving resolution for the Consent Agenda.

DIRECTION:	APPROVING	CONSENT
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8) REQUEST TO APPROVE THE LIVONIA POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF MICHIGAN (POAM) ON BEHALF OF ITS AFFILIATE, THE LIVONIA POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION, POLICE SERVICE AIDE UNIT - UNIT B TENTATIVE AGREEMENT: Civil Service Department, for the period of December 1, 2020 through November 30, 2023.

Denise Maier, Director of Human Resources, presented this request to Council. She stated this is the contract for the Police Service Aide Unit, as mentioned earlier they are a sub-unit of the LPOA contract and while the changes to their contract don't completely mirror LPOA, there are several sections that are the same as LPOA and then others that traditionally mirror 192, the AFSCME Union.

Councilmember Toy stated everything appears to be in order and offered an approving resolution for the Consent Agenda.

Councilmember Jolly stated this is a good opportunity to thank the Police Service Aides in Livonia. He had a great opportunity to work with them as a Court Officer and as Magistrate, and these are, generally speaking, people who have a desire to become a police officer and are either going through their early college education or they are

awaiting a place at a Police Academy. There have been some really great PSAs over the years who have turned out to be really great officers, it's a great recruitment tool for us and it's oftentimes I've got to think a thankless job when our police officers are bringing into the station, the PSAs are oftentimes dealing with them in a way that none of us could really even imagine, in terms of booking them, processing them. I'm not even sure that they have the ability to make phone calls and things of that nature, all while ensuring that their safety is taken care of as well. So let's thank them all and be appreciative of them.

Councilmember Donovic said he would like to echo Councilman Jolly's words on PSAs. A lot of departments do not have this asset, a police service aide, someone that's inside of the station that is able to assist the police officers with booking procedures, with taking care of phone calls and other things that can maybe alleviate stress for our officers so they can handle calls for service on the road. A lot of times the residents don't know who they're talking to, but it is maybe someone in their early 20's that want to become a police officer. What a great way to recruit potential people to become police officers and really show them what a law enforcement career is like. So hats off to Chief Caid and the Police Department for recognizing this program and utilizing it to its maximum potential.

President McIntyre stated she wants to put in a plus for the PSA program. If anyone knows any young people who are contemplating a career in law enforcement, they could not do better than applying for a police service aide position. It's a way to get to know the department, get to know law enforcement and put yourself on a track to having the City pay for your Police Academy training and also for your education.

DIRECTION:

APPROVING

CONSENT

9) REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE CITY OF LIVONIA AND THE LIVONIA COMMAND OFFICERS ASSOCIATION: Civil Service Department, re: to implement a New Dental and Optical Plan.

Denise Maier, Director of Human Resources, presented this request to Council. She stated they're very excited about this new dental insurance program and as mentioned earlier, the LCOA has requested that we put this separate from the actual TA itself. They're excited about it as well, they're impressed with the amount of the benefits for the cost, so we're looking for approval to implement this dental program for LCOA. It was part of the LPOA-TA, so it's part and parcel for LPOA, and it's also a part of the PSA-TA, so this is a benefit that will be offered to these three unions in front of the rest of the City but we are working to bring that to the rest of the groups as well.

Vice President Bahr offered an approving resolution for the Consent Agenda.

DIRECTION:

APPROVING

CONSENT

10) AWARD OF BID: Livonia Housing Commission, re: for the installation of an accessible pathway at Greenwood Park under the 2020-2021 Community Development Block Grant Program.

Brandie Isaacson, Director of Housing, presented this request to Council. She stated she is here to request the approval to award the bid to Best Asphalt, Inc. On February 2nd, the Parks and Rec Department received four quotes or four bids for the paving for a pedestrian accessible pathway to the play structure at Greenwood Park. This activity has already been approved and budgeted through the 2020/2021 Community Development Park Grant and therefore we would just like to move forward to award the contract to Best Asphalt.

Councilmember McCullough stated this item is another way to look at the commitment for our parks and in general, trying to make things more accessible for our citizens. And hats off to putting to good use of the Community Development Block Grant and applauds the efforts, between this item and the next item, are wonderful. He then offered an approving resolution for the Consent Agenda.

DIRECTION: APPROVING CONSENT

11) AWARD OF BID: Livonia Housing Commission, re: for the installation of accessible pathways at Dover Park under the 2020-2021 Community Development Block Grant Program.

Brandie Isaacson, Director of Housing, presented this request to Council. She stated on February 2nd they received eleven bids to install three pathways in Dover Park. Again, this was just creating an accessible pathway for individuals who might be physically disabled to use the play structure. They are asking Council for approval to award the contract to KD Cement in the amount of \$33,435.50.

Councilmember McCullough stated again this is a great opportunity to make our parks more accessible and it's a great step forward. It's crazy the amount of bidders in these times, I think there was eleven, so that is obviously showing what the market looks like. He then offered an approving resolution for the Consent Agenda.

DIRECTION: APPROVING CONSENT

12) REQUEST TO APPROVE SPECIALIZED SERVICES TRANSPORTATION OPERATING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM THIRD PARTY CONTRACT FOR THE PERIOD OCTOBER 1, 2020 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2021 BETWEEN THE CITY OF LIVONIA AND SMART: Livonia Housing Commission, re: with grant funds to be used for the Livonia Community Transit Program to provide lift-equipped transportation to the senior and disabled residents of the City.

Brandie Isaacson, Director of Housing, presented this request to Council. She stated they are requesting approval of the contract with SMART to be able to receive an operating lift assistance in the amount of \$22,103.00. This funding was actually used to provide lift equipment on the transportation vehicles so that we can transport those that are physically disabled.

Councilmember Toy stated this is very worthwhile and offered an approving resolution for the Consent Agenda.

DIRECTION:

APPROVING

CONSENT

13) REQUEST TO AUTHORIZE APPROPRIATION AND EXPENDITURE: Public Works Division, re: to send out for repair of 2014 Freightliner to Wolverine Truck Sales, Inc., to have engine rebuilt to long the usefulness of said vehicle, from budgeted funds.

Don Rohraff, Director of Public Works, presented this request to Council. He stated fortunately his Department is not before Council too often with engine repairs or breakdowns in the equipment that we buy, but this particular vehicle is a 2014 as you mentioned. It's a frontline vehicle for our snow and ice program. We started to notice some problems with this during the leaf program that the operator had to continually put some coolant and different fluids into this truck and we never really did find a reason for this. And when we had the leaf program come to a close, we were at the end of the season, we took it into the dealer to have them look at it and it is kind of like a perfect storm type of situation that happens and so what we're looking to do is have the engine replaced. Again, on these vehicles the normal life expectancy for these trucks are twelve to fifteen years, this one is six years old and we're expecting a good seven to eight more years out of this truck after the repairs. We're looking to authorize payment to Wolverine Truck Sales in the amount of \$28,241.05, with an additional \$3,000.00 contingent amount to cover any unforeseen costs that may be coming along with this engine replacement for a total of \$31,241.05.

Vice President Bahr stated he has no questions, that the information provided was thorough, and he wants to compliment Don and his team, we've seen this before and we're seeing it again where the efforts you go to get what you need at the most cost efficient way that you can and I applaud you for that. He then offered an approving resolution for the Consent Agenda.

DIRECTION:

APPROVING

CONSENT

14) REQUEST TO RELEASE GENERAL IMPROVEMENT BOND: Engineering Division, re: for Heritage Square Site Condominiums, located at the east side of Newburgh Road between Five Mile and Six Mile Roads (36900 and 36910 Mallory Drive; former Clay Elementary School site, and 16600 Newburgh Road and a portion of 16700 Newburgh Road) in the Northwest ¼ of Section 17. (CR 403-18)

Todd Zilincik, City Engineer, presented this request to Council. He stated as you're aware, this is just a housekeeping issue. We're releasing the General Improvement Bond back to the developer, Leo Soave. As you know this development started over two and a half years ago over there off of Newburgh Road and there were some repairs on the road last fall to allow us to release the bond money that's being held. Again, looking for Council's approval in the amount of \$104,472.00
Councilmember White offered an approving resolution for the Consent Agenda.

DIRECTION:

APPROVING

CONSENT

15) REQUEST TO RELEASE SIDEWALK BOND, ENTRANCE MARKERS/ LANDSCAPING BOND AND MONUMENTS AND MARKERS BOND: Engineering Division, re: for Arbor Trail Estates Site Condominium, located on the south side of Ann Arbor Trail between Newburgh Road and Dowling Avenue, in the Southeast 1/4 of Section 32 (CR 149-16 and CR 335-16).

Todd Zilincik, City Engineer, presented this request to Council. He stated this is the same thing as the last item, just a housekeeping issue for Ann Arbor Trail Estates Development. We're asking for release in the amount of \$13,650.00 for sidewalk, entrance and landscape markers along with monuments bond that were held. Now that the items have been completed to our satisfaction we're looking to release those funds.

Councilmember Jolly offered an approving resolution for the Consent Agenda.

DIRECTION:

APPROVING

CONSENT

16) PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE LIVONIA CODE OF ORDINANCES, AS AMENDED: Department of Law, re: to amend the sewage disposal system ordinance Chapter 13.20, Section 050 (Connection rates for buildings-fee schedule) and Section 060 (Connection rates for buildings-Computation guidelines).

Councilmember Jolly offered an approving resolution for the Regular Agenda.

DIRECTION:

APPROVING

REGULAR

AUDIENCE COMMUNICATION None heard

As there were no further questions or comments, President McIntyre adjourned the Study Session at 9:16 p.m. on Monday, February 22, 2021.

For the 1,916th Regular Meeting of March 8, 2021

DATED: February 25, 2021

SUSAN M. NASH, CITY CLERK