CITY OF LIVONIA – CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF STUDY MEETING HELD JUNE 16, 2025

Meeting was called to order at 9:00 p.m. by Council President McCullough. Present: Scott Morgan, Laura Toy, Rob Donovic, Vice President Ptashnik, Carrie Budzinski, Lynda Scheel, and President McCullough. Absent: None.

Elected and appointed officials present: Eric Goldstein, Assistant City Attorney; Lori L. Miller, City Clerk; Mark Taormina, City Planner and Economic Development Director; Dave Lear, Assistant City Engineer.

Councilmember Morgan led the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

During Audience Communication, Christopher Martin, Livonia resident, expressed his concerns addressed in the Regular meeting regarding personal relationships and Councilmembers voting on items. Mr. Martin stated Council is responsible for the health and safety of Livonia citizens. Mr. Martin concluded he received his FOIA response and found it to be thorough.

Steve King, Coventry Gardens, spoke about the Fair Housing Act and how it relates to group homes within residential areas and zoning regulations that can be utilized. Mr. King stated he believes Greenmead has untapped potential. Mr. King concluded by stating first responder drones would assist and have great potential and use by public safety.

Denise Mika, Lancanshire Road, stated she has friends who own drones who have been in contact with the Police Department to extend their resources.

Noah Joseph Wojcik, 15351 Brookfield Street, brought to Council's attention some lifted cement near Community Choice Credit Union and indicated he felt it may be a hazard.

Councilmember Toy recognized the City's Birthday Party that took place at the City Hall complex. Councilmember Toy reminded everyone Spree starts next week, and will run Tuesday through Sunday, and the event concludes with fireworks around 10:00 p.m.

Councilmember Budzinski spoke about the Police Department already utilizing drones, larger and smaller, to navigate through and above buildings and throughout the community. Councilmember Budzinski extended her apologies for disrupting the earlier meeting, apologized for her misstep and stated she is still learning her role as a Councilmember.

President McCullough spoke about the Livonia Spree wine tasking to take place Friday, June 27th from 5 to 7 pm, the fee is $35.00 and proceeds help the Rotary Club. President McCullough encouraged everyone to visit the Spree website for registration and all information related to their events.

NEW BUSINESS

1. APPOINTMENT OF MARK OROSZ TO THE PLYMOUTH ROAD DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY: Office of the Mayor, re: for a three-year term, which will expire on May 16, 2028.

Mark Taormina, Planning and Economic Development Director, presented the item to Council. Mr. Taormina indicated Mr. Orosz is a resident of the Old Rosedale Gardens Association, is a veteran, a member of the St. Michael's Church and serves as a purchasing manager with Ford Motor Company. Mr. Taormina stated we are happy Mr. Orosz is willing to serve on the Plymouth Road Development Authority.

Mr. Orosz introduced himself and stated he can provide a CV if necessary, but thanked Council for the opportunity to serve and stated he was present should they have any questions.

Councilmember Budzinski thanked Mr. Orosz for attending and invited him to join her for a cup of coffee soon to discuss the PRDA.

Councilmember Toy thanked Mr. Orosz for serving on the PRDA and stated as a longtime business owner of a small business on Plymouth Road, she would also like to speak with him to share some concerns and issues that she has experienced.

Motion was made by Councilmember Budzinski to put the matter on the Consent portion of the next Regular Agenda.

DIRECTION: APPROVING CONSENT

2. WAIVER USE PETITION: Planning Commission, re: Petition 2025-04-02-09 submitted by Costco Wholesale Corporation, requesting waiver use approval to expand the existing fuel facility and parking lot at the Costco Wholesale at 19540 Haggerty Road, located at the Southeast corner of Haggerty Road and Eight Mile Road in the Northwest ¼ of Section 6.

Mark Taormina, Planning and Economic Development Director, presented the item to Council. Mr. Taormina indicated the Costco store on Haggerty is looking to expand the amount fueling stations by adding seven pump islands at this location. The waiver use petition does reduce the amount of parking spaces along the east side of the property, however, that is to provide a more direct access path to the fueling pumps. Mr. Taormina indicated the new overhead of the fuel pumps will be expanded and contain lights to indicate when a pump will become available which will streamline and move customers through the fueling process more efficiently. This petition also involves creating a secondary parking lot off to the side of the building to be used by employees of Costco. Mr. Taormina concluded the work contained in the petition has been reviewed and approved by the Planning Commission.

Councilmember Toy expressed concern regarding moving forward and around stacked vehicles when approaching an open pump and inquired if the spacing was addressed in this petition to allow additional room.

Larry Druzceck, Costco Real Estate Consultant, Northbrook, Illinois, was present to answer any questions of Council. Mr. Druzceck indicated the expansion is on the north end of the property and there is no expansion to the east-west drive aisles to expand the bi-pass lanes.

Mr. Druzceck indicated the line to enter has been pulled away from the front of the warehouse building to streamline traffic flow and stacking of vehicles waiting to use the gas pumps.

Councilmember Donovic inquired about the issue of abandoned shopping carts from the big box stores winding up in the parking lots and/or adjacent properties. Mr. Druzceck indicated that is an operational matter and training function and will speak with the warehouse manager of that location to ensure it is addressed since the concern has been expressed by Council.

Nicole Hefty, Melrose, raised the question about flooding on property given the schematics as presented and inquired if the City has investigated having a flood plan for the community as projects are presented for consideration and how this could affect neighboring residential properties.

Denise Mika, stated she has been through many Costco stores throughout the country and has seen other Costco locations with fueling facilities have wider passing lanes for the pumps and stacking of vehicles.

Motion was made by Councilmember Donovic to put the matter on the Regular portion of the next Regular Agenda.

DIRECTION: APPROVING REGULAR

3. SITE PLAN PETITION: Planning Commission, re: Petition 2025-03-08-02 submitted by Karim Elrez, requesting approval of all plans to expand an existing commercial building by constructing a new two-story addition at 29440 Schoolcraft Road, located at the Northwest corner of Schoolcraft Road and Middlebelt Road, in the Southeast ¼ of Section 23.

Mark Taormina, Planning and Economic Development Director, presented the site plan petition to Council. Mr. Taormina stated this petition involves a two-story addition to an existing building next to the Bob Evans restaurant on Middlebelt. The current building is vacant and is about 2,100 square feet in size. The addition would include about 2,800 square feet on the first floor and about 2,800 square feet on the second-floor, creating total building area around 7,700 square feet. There is a 10’ wide easement on the west side of the building and parking is available in front of the existing building.

Mr. Taormina indicated the area behind the building is in very rough shape and would need to be replaced. Parking is shown to be in the front and back of the building and the building will be used as a cabinet showroom and will not draw a lot of traffic. They are showing a total of 14 parking spaces between both front and back parking lot, the dumpster will be moved to the back portion of the property. Mr. Taormina continued by stating the building itself will be made of a combination of brick and hardy plank as well as efface material and metal trim. The addition would be approximately 27’ in height. There would be additional lighting to provide illumination to the building, walkways and parking lot areas.

Mr. Taormina indicated the Planning Commission is recommending approval of this petition with the caveat the petitioner provides emergency access to the back of the building, in agreement with the Bob Evans’ restaurant property. No agreement has been made on this point, to Mr. Taormina’s knowledge. However, it is a condition relative to this petition the Planning Commission stated must be included.

Councilmember Donovic inquired if the two-story building addition is on the west side of the building and the existing building will remain a single-store building. Mr. Taormina stated that was correct. Councilmember Donovic inquired about the neighboring homes to the west and the distance between the building and property line. Mr. Taormina stated he would estimate it is approximately 14’ from the building to the property line and the adjacent homes are approximately 40’ setback from the property lines so all told approximately 50+’ between them. Mr. Taormina explained the first floor of the addition will be used as a showroom and the upper level for meeting space, offices and perhaps additional storage. There is no manufacturing on the property and the Planning Commission recommends that there be an added condition to the approval of the petition.

The petitioner, Karim Elrez, 29440 Schoolcraft Road, was present to answer any questions of Council.

Vice President Ptashnik inquired about the south being the front-end of the building and it being plain gray cinderblock. The petitioner responded he was asked by the Planning Commission to add in brick and the revised site plan submitted does show that. Mr. Taormina confirmed the new plan does include what was recommended by the Planning Commission. Mr. Elrez indicated the easement plan has been submitted to Bob Evans corporate office for approval for the requested access by the Planning Commission and they are waiting their review and response.

Councilmember Toy inquired about the business owner’s background. Mr. Elrez stated he has been in business for 25 years as a construction company, but this would be his first location in Livonia and it will only be a showroom and not a production facility. Councilmember Toy asked what the addition would be used for. Mr. Elrez stated only for private offices for their designer to draft plans and meet with customers. Councilmember Toy asked if the petitioner had spoken with any of the neighboring homeowners about this project. Mr. Elrez responded he had not.

Councilmember Donovic asked how tall the two-story building added would be in total. Mr. Elrez stated total height would be 27’. Councilmember Donovic inquired of Mr. Taormina how tall the abutting homes are. Mr. Taormina estimated approximately 15’. Councilmember Donovic asked if there would be any windows on the west side of the building in this plan facing the backyards of the neighboring homes. Mr. Taormina stated the plans show there are a series of windows on the first and second floor of the new building on the west side of the property. Councilmember Donovic inquired if there would be any trucks parked on the lot or if the property would be used as a storage area. Mr. Elrez stated the property would not have any trucks parked on the property, the fence on the lot is in very good shape, and there would be no storage of anything on the property.

Councilmember Donovic inquired about the fencing and the relative spacing from the building to the property line and the homes that will be adjacent, stating the grass on the property and the fencing may be deficient. Mr. Taormina stated everything has been reviewed by the Planning Commission and landscaping has been considered. Councilmember Donovic was concerned about the sightline for the neighboring homes without adding large, high vegetation.

Councilmember Morgan was concerned about the windows for the second floor of the building looking into the neighboring homes. Mr. Elrez stated he can remove the windows on the second story so there is no problem and would eliminate Council’s concerns.

Councilmember Budzinski stated she would feel more comfortable if the petitioner would reach out and touch base with the neighboring property owners regarding the wooden fence, which will age with time, rather than a vinyl fence being installed to provide additional privacy between residential and commercial property.

Vice President Ptashnik inquired what the hours of the business will be. Mr. Elrez replied the hours of operation at the building will be 9 am to 6 pm, so there would be no lights shining into the neighboring homes.

Councilmember Donovic stated Mr. Taormina had expressed there were several concerns the Planning Commission would like addressed when he presented the petition to Council. Mr. Taormina replied it related to the emergency access to the property from the east, the Bob Evans property, as included in the Planning Commissions’ approving resolution and most all other conditions were standard except for the brick material to be added as discussed with Council and addressed by the petitioner.

Motion was made by Councilmember Morgan to put the matter on the Regular portion of the next Regular Agenda with additional conditions outlining the windows of the property.

DIRECTION: APPROVING REGULAR

4. SITE PLAN PETITION: Planning Commission, re: Petition 2025-03-08-05 submitted by Cityscape Architects on behalf of Comerica Bank, requesting site plan approval to renovate the building and reconfigure the parking lot at 17111 Laurel Park Drive North, located at the Northwest corner of Six Mile Road and Laurel Park Drive in the Southeast ¼ of Section 7.

Mark Taormina, Planning and Economic Development Director, presented the site plan petition to Council. Mr. Taormina indicated the building was constructed in 1979 and the building structure would remain the same, changes only to the façade, the parking lot will undergo significant reconfiguration, as well as a few other site features, and the south side access will be removed from the property. The circulation around the site will remain the same but a significant amount of parking will be removed. There will still be access to the drive-thru facilities at the rear of the property.

Mr. Taormina indicated storm water maintenance will occur at the north side of the property. The petition involves relandscape of the property and the appearance of the building, both color and in material, will significantly change the building. Mr. Taormina highlighted the building color changes to illustrate the changes to the façade with the new materials in comparison to the how the building looks current. Mr. Taormina stated the Planning Commission is recommending approval with the conditions indicated.

Councilmember Budzinski stated it looks like a great investment in the property to improve and modernize it, with other developments coming to that same area, so she felt it looks like a way to enhance that space.

Motion was made by Councilmember Budzinski to put the matter on the Consent portion of the next Regular Agenda.

DIRECTION: APPROVING CONSENT

5. AWARD OF CONTRACT: Department of Finance, re: for a three (3) year agreement to replace our current credit card program and transition to a procurement card program.

Debra Lichtenberg, Director of Finance, presented the request to Council. Ms. Lichtenberg stated their current credit card program is antiquated and offers no incentives or rebates. The cards themselves will work in the same manner for the user. It provides real-time tracking, easier reconciliation, and the new program will have a rebate program for every purchase made. It is an improvement not only in the rebate that would come back to the City but also in the controls it will offer and is aligned with all purchasing and procurement policies. All rules and City ordinances will still apply but is a better process for the Finance Department.

Councilmember Scheel inquired where would the rebate money received by the City go? Ms. Lichtenberg responded it would go back to the General Fund and not the individual City departments.

Councilmember Toy asked if the rebate was the same or better than what we currently have. Ms. Lichtenberg stated the City does not get any rebates back on credit card programs, only on checking and saving accounts.

Freya Jacoby, Parker Street, inquired if any fees were involved in the new credit card program. Ms. Lichtenberg replied there are fees attached to every credit card which are incurred on the merchant’s side. On the user side, there is an annual fee like all other credit cards but it leverages other networks to get rebates back for the City and benefits both the bank offering the card as well as the City.

Motion was made by Vice President Ptashnik to put the matter on the Consent portion of the next Regular Agenda.

DIRECTION: APPROVING CONSENT

6. REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE TWO (2) 2025 FORD RANGERS UTILIZING THE STATE OF MICHIGAN AND MACOMB COUNTY CONSORTIUM BID PRICING: Inspection Department, re: to replace current, outdated vehicles, from budgeted funds.

Jerome Hanna, Director of Inspection, presented the request to Council. Mr. Hanna indicated the request is to replace two (2) ten-year-old vehicles in the Inspection Department. The vehicles are old and have extended their useful life. Mr. Hanna indicated the purchase price for the vehicles was obtained through the State of Michigan and Macomb County consortium bid pricing and there are sufficient funds in the budget to make this purchase.

Motion was made by Councilmember Morgan to put the matter on the Consent portion of the next Regular Agenda.

DIRECTION: APPROVING CONSENT

7. REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE FOUR (4) 2025 FORD ESCAPES UTILIZING THE STATE OF MICHIGAN AND MACOMB COUNTY CONSORTIUM BID PRICING, Inspection Department, re: to replace current, outdated vehicles, from budgeted funds.

   Jerome Hanna, Director of Inspection, presented the request to Council. Mr. Hanna indicated the request is like the one previously presented, which is to replace old, outdated vehicles used by his department. The purchase price is a result of the State of Michigan and Macomb County consortium bid pricing and sufficient funds have been budgeted for this replacement of vehicles.

   Motion was made by Councilmember Scheel to put the matter on the Consent portion of the next Regular Agenda.

DIRECTION: APPROVING CONSENT

8. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT FOR CONSERVATION EASEMENT: Department of Parks and Recreation, re: an EGLE Conservation Easement along the branch of the Bell Creek within Fox Creek Golf Course.

   Ted Davis, Superintendent of Parks & Recreation, introduced Doug Ware, Superintendent of the Golf section of Parks & Recreation Department, who would present the item to Council. Mr. Ware stated this item requires an easement within the property of Fox Creek Golf Course from the east border to the big sled hill and involves grant money. Mr. Ware stated the city has done similar projects like this at Idyl Wyld and Whispering Willows in the past. It will involve a lot of erosion problems, flooding problems, removal of culverts that create back-ups and probably one new bridge. Mr. Ware stated it will improve the golf course.

   Motion was made by Councilmember Toy to put the matter on the Consent portion of the next Regular Agenda.

DIRECTION: APPROVING CONSENT

9. REQUEST TO APPROVE NOTICE OF INTENT RESOLUTION TO ISSUE GENERAL

OBLIGATION BONDS NOT TO EXCEED $5,000,000: Parks and Recreation, re: the acquisition, construction, furnishing and equipping improvements to Shelden Park.

Debra Lichtenberg, Finance Director, presented the request to Council. Ms. Lichtenberg indicated the request is to approve the Notice of Intent resolution to publish a notice of 45-day referendum for bonds not to exceed $5,000,000 for improvements at Shelden Park. This is a partnership with the PRDA and has already begun the process of improvements for the Park. The PRDA has already approved a contract in an amount not to exceed $350,500 with DLZ for architectural and engineering design services. The new plans include a splash pad, playgrounds, sports fields, facilities, walking path and a pavilion. The design services fee under the Notice of Intent would allow those funds to be refunded from bond proceeds. Looking for the funding to support the bonds, at 45% from the PRDA and the remainder from the City. There is an existing bond that is dropping off which would allow for the debt portion of the services to drop off relative to refunding bonds for Parks & Recreation, and the City has already accepted a grant from Bill Brown Ford for improvements at this park. Ms. Lichtenberg stated an agreement with the PRDA and the City will be brought back before the City to memorialize the shared costs between the PRDA and the City.

Councilmember Toy inquired about the pool not being opened this summer. Mr. Ted Davis, Superintendent of Parks & Recreation, responded it was done considering this planned improvement project and the pool needed to be completely redone, at an expense that would not be realized, so no plans for the pool were made. Mr. Davis explained the planned improvements include a splash pad, fitness area, accessible area, one large pavilion with restrooms and changing stations, pickle balls and tennis courts, and multiple smaller pavilions throughout the property.

Councilmember Donovic inquired what figure of tax dollars would be covered by tax dollars by the City. Ms. Lichtenberg responded the City's responsibility would be approximately $175,000 per year and would come out of the General Fund. Mr. Davis interjected it would come out of the Parks & Rec Fund, not the General Fund. Councilmember Donovic inquired what the total amount of payments, principal and interest, would be. Ms. Lichtenberg replied approximately $350,000 per year for 25 years and would include the design services of DLZ would also be able to be refunded from the bond proceeds.

President McCullough asked if there were any plans to sell any portion of the land for Shelden Park as there have been rumors out there and would rather to put the answer on the record. Mr. Davis indicated this plan entails the property for Shelden Park only, not the bordering property on the north and on the west, but specifically the park land and the plan before Council is solely on the Shelden Park property.

Laura Jannika, Munger Street, stated this was a big shock to her and did not see this coming. She expressed this was a lot of money, $5,000,000 and wondered if the plan had been put before the people for input and being vetted. Ms. Jannika felt it should be looked at further with consideration for the Noble building, and people in the south end do want a pool they can use and the dollar amount to remarcicite the pool would be worth the investment.

Councilmember Donovic asked Mr. Davis when this process for Shelden Park began. Mr. Davis responded it has been going on for close to ten years and has been in the Capital Plan to hire a formal architectural design since 2020. It has taken a lot longer than he would have liked to get it to this point but is thankful for the support of the PRDA who has made it possible for the City to pay for this. Mr. Davis stated he is thankful for this opportunity and feels residents will be very happy with the final product once the park has been renovated.

Motion was made by Councilmember Budzinski to put the matter on the Regular portion of the next Regular Agenda.

DIRECTION: APPROVING REGULAR

10. REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE FOUR (4) 2025 FORD F150 SUPER CAB XL 4X4 6.5' BED PICK-UP TRUCKS UTILIZING THE STATE OF MICHIGAN AND MACOMB COUNTY CONSORTIUM BID PRICING: Public Service Division, re: to replace outdated vehicles, from budgeted funds.

Don Rohraff, Director of Public Works, presented the request to Council. Mr. Rohraff indicated the vehicles will replace four (4) outdated vehicles. The pricing obtained for the vehicles is through the State of Michigan and Macomb County consortium bid pricing. Mr. Rohraff stated sufficient funds had been budgeted for this purpose.

Motion was made by Councilmember Toy to put the matter on the Consent portion of the next Regular Agenda.

DIRECTION: APPROVING CONSENT

11. REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE THREE (3) 2025 FORD F250 SUPER CAB XL 4X4 8' BED PICK-UP TRUCKS UTILIZING THE STATE OF MICHIGAN AND MACOMB COUNTY CONSORTIUM BID PRICING: Public Service Division, re: to replace outdated vehicles to be used by Parks Section, from budgeted funds.

Don Rohraff, Director of Public Works, presented the request to Council. Mr. Rohraff indicated this item was similar to the one just presented, however, the vehicles to be replaced in this request are used by the Parks Section. Pricing was obtained through the State of Michigan and Macomb County consortium bid pricing and funds had been budgeted for this purpose.

Motion was made by Councilmember Morgan to put the matter on the Consent portion of the next Regular Agenda.

DIRECTION: APPROVING CONSENT

12. REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE ONE (1) 2025 FORD TRANSIT VAN 250 RWD HI ROOF CARGO VAN UTILIZING THE STATE OF MICHIGAN AND MACOMB COUNTY CONSORTIUM BID PRICING: Public Service Division, re: to replace the current, outdated vehicle to be used by Building Maintenance Section, from budgeted funds.

Don Rohraff, Director of Public Works, presented the request to Council. Mr. Rohraff indicated this item was just like the two (2) preceding requests and involved replacing an outdated vehicle. This request was to provide a new vehicle to be used by the Building Maintenance Section of DPW and would require upfitting to store tools, ladders, and other materials frequently used by Building Maintenance. The vehicle price was obtained through the State of Michigan and Macomb County consortium bid and sufficient funds had been allocated in the budget for this purchase.

Motion was made by Vice President Ptashnik to put the matter on the Consent portion of the next Regular Agenda.

DIRECTION: APPROVING CONSENT

13. PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE LIVONIA CODE OF ORDINANCES, AS AMENDED: Department of Law, re: to amend Section 100 of Title 9, Chapter 56 (Malicious Mischief), to modernize the language used in the malicious use of a telephone ordinance.

Eric Goldstein, Assistant City Attorney, introduce Sydnee Rogers, the newest addition to the Law Department who serves as the City's Prosecuting Attorney, to present the item. Ms. Rogers stated the request is to amend an ordinance existing in Livonia, but to modernize the ordinance. The ordinance is antiquated and involves people calling each other to make "prank" phone calls. When implemented, cell phones and texting did not exist. The purpose of the amendment is to address the ways in which the public now communicates, including texting, and to bring the ordinance up to current times.

Motion was made by Councilmember Donovic to have the Law Department draft the proposed Ordinance amendment and the matter appear on the Regular portion of the next Regular Agenda.

DIRECTION: PREPARE ORDINANCE REGULAR

14. PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE LIVONIA CODE OF ORDINANCES, AS AMENDED: Department of Law, re: to amend Chapter 88 of Title 9 (Sale of Tobacco Products to Persons Under Age 21), to mirror the penalties of the state statue and tailor the language of the ordinance to prohibit the use of a nicotine vape in school buildings.

Sidnee Rogers, Law Department, presented the item to Council. Ms. Rogers indicated the current Ordinance regarding tobacco sales is outdated and does not include vaping, which is how most youth today are using nicotine. Ms. Rogers further indicated the current Ordinance is not in line with State law and punishment for the first offense should not be a misdemeanor. Ms. Rogers explained if the first offense is changed to a citation, it can be handled "in house" by the 16th District Court and would not need to be transferred to the Wayne County Circuit Court. Ms. Rogers concluded the change requested is to bring City Ordinance up to date and aligned with State law.

Vice President Ptashnik indicated as a full-time high school teacher, she can attest to the problems and prevalence of nicotine vaping that occurs in our local high schools.

Motion was made by Vice President Ptashnik to have the Law Department draft the proposed Ordinance amendment and the matter appear on the Regular portion of the next Regular Agenda.

DIRECTION: PREPARE ORDINANCE REGULAR

15. PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE LIVONIA CODE OF ORDINANCES, AS AMENDED: Department of Law, re: to add Section 045 of Title 9, Chapter 04 (Obstructing Officers and City Business), in order to give additional protection to a person that is making an emergency call and to criminalize the act of interfering with emergency services.

Sidnee Rogers, Law Department, presented the item to Council. Ms. Rogers indicated this third item is like the previous item. The current ordinance does not offer protection to individuals who contact the police to not be threatened or harassed by other individuals. Ms. Rogers stated this would put the City ordinance in alignment with State law.

President McCullough thanked Ms. Rogers for bringing these items to Council for process improvement and encouraged to continue to do so.

Motion was made by Councilmember Toy to have the Law Department draft the proposed Ordinance amendment and the matter appear on the Regular portion of the next Regular Agenda.

DIRECTION: PREPARE ORDINANCE REGULAR

16. REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION OF A PROPOSED ORDINANCE: Freya J. Jacoby, re: in order to regulate the number of racing pigeons allowed to be housed in a N2 (Neighborhood District).

Freya Jacoby, Livonia resident, presented her request to Council to have City Council adopt an ordinance to limit the number of racing pigeons allowed in neighborhoods and subdivisions zoned N2. Ms. Jacoby explained that the State of Michigan allows this hobby but involves a lot of money, illegal gambling, but is more of a nuisance rather than a hobby. Local communities are allowed to regulate the processes, and Wayne County dictates the rules regarding how many pigeons are allowed in pigeon coups/lofts. Her neighbor plans to start off his pigeon loft with approximately 80 pigeons and she would like the Ordinance to spell out a limit, such as 20, for the total amount of pigeons allowed.

Councilmember Scheel inquired about the size of the loft built by her neighbor. Ms.

Jacoby stated the loft was built on stilts, size was 14' x 20' and felt it would eliminate the need for a rat-wall if up on stilts, but did not. Ms. Jacoby stated her neighbor did receive a City Building permit for this structure.

Motion was made by Councilmember Donovic to have the Law Department draft an Ordinance to regulate racing pigeons.

Following discussion by Council with the resident, Councilmember Scheel made the motion to have the Law Department prepare a draft Ordinance to limit the number of racing pigeons to no more than 20, specifically, as requested by Ms. Jacoby to enable them to vote at the next meeting.

Based on the motion made by Councilmember Scheel, this matter will be placed on the Regular portion of the next Regular Agenda to include the limit of 20 pigeons in the Ordinance.

DIRECTION: PREPARE ORDINANCE REGULAR

AUDIENCE COMMUNICATION

There was no Audience Communication at the end of the meeting.

ADJOURNED

Meeting adjourned at 10:32 pm

For July 7, 2025 Regular Meeting