

**CITY OF LIVONIA – CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF STUDY MEETING HELD JULY 12, 2021**

Meeting was called to order in the Auditorium of City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive, at 9:02 p.m. by President Kathleen McIntyre. Present: Rob Donovic; Jim Jolly; Laura Toy; Scott Bahr; Cathy White, Brandon McCullough; and President Kathleen McIntyre. Absent: None.

Councilmember Rob Donovic 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; LaShawn Thomas, Director of Governmental Affairs; Curtis Caid, Chief of Police; Brandie Isaacson, Director of Housing; and Sara Kasproicz, Manager of Council Office.

AUDIENCE COMMUNICATION None heard.

Chief Curtis Caid introduced the newest members of the Livonia Police Department who will be working through Hegira, Caitlin Witt, and you may recall some months ago the presentations that were made before Council requesting your authority and approval to begin a new program at the Livonia Police Department to imbed a clinician, social worker, into the Police Department to help serve this community. And through that process, months of vetting and working through the contract process with Hegira and vetting candidates, I'm please to introduce to you Caitlin. She has ten years of experience in this field including working at St. Mary's, which is going to be very beneficial for us being one of the hubs in serving our community with people that are in distress or in a crisis situation. And I'll just add as well that we focus quite a bit about mental health crisis and we've seen a lot of national news on that that communities including Livonia have experienced. But this program is above that as well. Regardless of really social situations that are really not law enforcement related, the police play a limited role, but having the resources of Ms. Witt and her resources as well to help address a variety of situations is going to be in my view very, very positive for our community and I'm very excited for us to kick off the program, she'll be starting in a couple of months. And I know that she is quite excited about the opportunity as well and I'll just turn the podium over to her. I told her she's only got a half hour, so, she brought a power point presentation but I said that's not going to work.

Caitlin Witt came to the podium and stated I am very excited about this; I think it's really needed in our community. I'm a Livonia resident, I grew up in Livonia for 28 years and I'm very passionate about working in mental health. I have a variety of experience working in mental health, some inpatient as you said working at St. Mary's. I've worked at Havenwyck, I've worked outpatient, I've also worked within the community. I will always work in mental health. It is a huge passion of mine and it's really an honor to be able to

be kind of the first mental health commission to work aside law enforcement and strengthen that partnership between law enforcement and mental health.

Councilmember McCullough welcomed Ms. Witt and stated the innovation and the trailblazing that we are taking this step and to have you here today is exciting news and nothing short of extraordinary, so welcome board, we're glad to have you, and especially someone that's been in the community as long as you have to be able to do this is wonderful, so welcome.

Councilmember Donovic stated that Chief Caid and Livonia Police Department are the single most professional and well-trained officers in the State. I'm really fortunate and I know we're all fortunate to say that, Livonia cops protect us every single day. So, to have this new program coming to our City, it's only going to strengthen what services our department can offer our community. I'm looking forward to this program being successful and to you being safe and I know Livonia cops are going to work really hard to answer the call for service when residents need help and I know with you being alongside of them and maybe one of your colleagues in the future, I know that you can do a good job and take care of the residents that are really struggling in that time of need. So, welcome to Livonia.

Ms. Witt thanked Council for the welcome.

NEW BUSINESS

1) BLOCK PARTY: Maggie McGrane, re: to be held Saturday, August 21, 2021, from 1:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. on Rayburn Street, between Levan and Williams, with no rain date requested.

The Petitioner not being present, Councilmember Jolly offered an approving resolution for the Regular Agenda.

The Petitioner having appeared at the end of the Study Session, Councilmember Jolly rescinded his request for the approving resolution on the Regular Agenda and requested it be placed on the Consent Agenda.

DIRECTION:

APPROVING

CONSENT

2) BLOCK PARTY: Jennifer Thomas, re: with a band and DJ, to be held Saturday, August 7, 2021, from 12:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. at Dooley Park, on Harrison between Meadowlark and Lyndon, with a rain date of Saturday, August 14, 2021.

Jennifer Thomas, 14054 Sunbury, Livonia, 48154, presented this request to Council. She stated we are asking for permission to do a community block party in Compton Village at Dooley Park. It's not really a block, it's the park, but we more recently just had the food truck rallies begin in our neighborhood and it's been hugely successful and myself and a couple neighbors were looking to do an actual block party but then once

we saw the magnitude of how many people showed up and how awesome this was, that's when the idea kind of came into fruition, too, make this a little bit bigger within the community and we definitely need it after the last year that we've had and we just think it would be an awesome community event. We are looking at securing a stage for our DJ and we have like a kid's band and then a couple other little bands, bounce houses, it's going to be a really cool thing and you guys are all welcome to come join.

Vice President Bahr said this one is particularly special for me because as Council is probably sick of hearing I spent eleven years leading the Compton Village Civic Association and leading exactly this type of stuff. And that was a greater renovation that had a lot of great things going and due to a number of reasons has not kept up the same level of activity and my eyes absolutely lit up, Jennifer, when I saw your name on the Agenda tonight and what you were trying to do because this is just a continuation or a restart really of a really great tradition in that neighborhood and I just think it's huge for that neighborhood and those types of activities and organizations are huge for our City. I got the chance to meet the Thomas' during the intermission here and look forward to hopefully some more conversations and sharing the lessons learned. I wish you all the best and I'm going to mark my calendar and try to be there and come see some of my old friends. I'll offer this for approving on Consent if there's no objections.

Councilmember Toy asked Thomas if this is their first attempt at this event and Thomas replied yes, they're calling it their first annual as they would like to have it be a yearly thing.

Councilmember Jolly pointed out that there is a request for a non-veto letter and he would like to note that as well as the request for a non-veto.

DIRECTION:	APPROVING	CONSENT
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3) REQUEST TO WAIVE THE CITY'S NOISE ORDINANCE: Robert Rais, Knights of Columbus, re: to host a car show with a DJ at Saint Colette's Catholic Church, 17600 Newburgh Road on Saturday, August 7, 2021 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Robert Rais, 39499 Northwind Court, Northville, MI, presented this request to Council. He stated I'm a member of the Knights of Columbus and a Bentley Bulldog and stated this is the fourth year that we're having this car show. We were shut out last year with Covid but we're here before the Council to get a waiver of the Noise Ordinance so that we can have a DJ. The show runs from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, August the 7th. All are welcome.

Councilmember Jolly stated I am also a duly Knight of Columbus and Mr. Rais and his partners in crime over at St. Colette's are putting on a good show here on an almost annual basis. There haven't been any problems from any neighbors or anything like that and it's for a good cause so I'm happy to offer an approving for the Consent Agenda. I'll note in terms of community, Mr. Rais and his wife opened their house to a group of

probably obnoxious Ladywood girls and Catholic Central guys for most of my high school experience, so he deserves a commendation for that and a thank you as well. President McIntyre thanked Rais and his organization for what they do for our community.

DIRECTION:

APPROVING

CONSENT

4) REQUEST TO WAIVE THE CITY'S NOISE ORDINANCE: Ian Edgar and Gale Wilcox, Anastasia & Katie's Coffee Shop, re: to host a car show with a DJ, in the parking lot of business located at 19215 Merriman Road on Saturday, August 28, 2021 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., with a rain date request of either Saturday, September 4, 2021 or Saturday, September 11, 2021.

Ian Edgar, representing Anastasia & Katies Coffee Shop, 19215 Merriman Road, Livonia, presented this request to Council. He stated they are having a car show on August 28th from 11:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Councilmember White offered an approving resolution for the Consent Agenda.

Councilmember McCullough said I want to give you guys a shout out because of all of the awesome things you do in the community, and the coffee and all the food that you guys have is top notch, I love stopping. And then I think, if I'm not mistaken, do you guys have anything going on this Thursday from 5:00 to 8:00?

Edgar replied yes, we're having a social event on Thursday, just to celebrate the coffee shop.

McCullough said I wanted to make sure for all the viewers out there and anybody in the audience that on Thursday, July 15th from 5:00 to 8:00, you'll have eating to music, free to attend. So, feel free to stop by.

Edgar stated we are a 501(c) (3) nonprofit that was formed in 2018 and we were started by a group of families, caregivers and advocates of people with developmental disabilities and our work is funded through private donations and grants. We are not affiliated with any Federal or State entity. And also, our work is also funded through these fundraisers that we do periodically.

President McIntyre asked Edgar to repeat their motto and he replied, "We are good and strong." President McIntyre said exactly, and that's about your coffee and your people, right, and Edgar replied exactly. President McIntyre stated that the business I work for, we did a box lunch day a few weeks ago and it was wonderful. We ordered the box lunches from Anastasia & Katie's and it was just great, everybody loved their lunches and we all just really enjoyed that. So, thank you for everything you do, you did a wonderful job presenting tonight and this is on Consent so you don't have to come back but you're always welcome to come back and we encourage you to come back any time

there's news about Anastasia & Katie's or your activities that you'd like to share with us and with the City.

Edgar stated we actually have a couple packets of information about the nonprofit and asked if his mother could pass those out to everybody.

President McIntyre asked Edgar the date of their golf outing and he replied August 16th at Idyl Wild Golf Course.

DIRECTION:

APPROVING

CONSENT

5) REQUEST TO MAINTAIN MEMBERSHIP IN OAKLAND COUNTY'S COURTS AND LAW ENFORCEMENT MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM (CLEMIS): Division of Police, re: as this system serves as a technical link between member agencies to promote communication and the sharing of criminal justice information.

Curtis Caid, Chief of Police, presented this request to Council. He stated this item before you is a request for your authorization to really renew the existing contract that we have with CLEMIS. As you mentioned from the Regular Meeting with the item that was before you, CLEMIS has played a role in the City of Livonia for a number of years and worked jointly with the Court, 16th District Court, along with the Fire Department as well using the suite of services that CLEMIS provides. A quick note on some of those is the CAD, computer aided dispatch, the Mobile Data Computers, access to LIEN, electronic citations, crash reports, evidence and property management, the list goes on. We also have a seat at the table for voting with the CLEMIS committee, as a Wayne County rep and Livonia has that initially going into it as well as because we were a strategic partner with them at the beginning of this with a catastrophic back-up. Things have modified over the years and that necessity has waned. But Livonia remains at the table with a vote on various policy issues that come to task, discussing or debating whether we go down a path of adding or subtracting other services to the CLEMIS program overall. It's been a great group, we budget annually funds to continue that subscription, we have that going forward, again with your approval of this contract. The contract has been submitted, the Law Department has been vetted by the legal analysts and have found no issues with that. So I'm before you asking your support and approval to re-enter into this agreement and then continue with the payment of the annual dues as dictated in the request.

Councilmember Jolly stated this is a crucial piece of information and infrastructure for the Police Department and the 16th District Court, I'm happy to offer an approval for the Consent Agenda. I can't imagine how law enforcement would work at this point without a system like this.

Caid replied it is very comprehensive, not to take up more time, it is the largest in the State and with technology being what it is today it would be cost prohibitive for us to replicate what we're doing outside of CLEMIS.

President McIntyre asked Caid if he heard at the prior meeting about the issue of looking into the ability and we know that it's complicated, but to give Ordinance some limited access to CLEMIS but we know it's complicated, I don't know if you heard the previous conversation.

Caid replied yes, I was there and I'm aware of that. And the issue really isn't so much the CLEMIS end, it's the hardware and the cost of that. So, we'd have to get laptops and printers and all these things and then get access into the system, the Mobile Data Link, all of those things. And we've just kind of been weighing that out on against the cost effectiveness of it, so we've been writing paper tickets and then have to input those but we're adjusting it.

President McIntyre said thank you, very much, we know you are and I didn't know if you were here for that part of the meeting but thank you very much.

Caid thanked Council.

DIRECTION:	APPROVING	CONSENT
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6) REQUEST APPROVAL FOR SENIOR ALLIANCE 2022 ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (AIP): Jason Maciejewski, Chief Information and Planning Officer, re: as required by the Aging and Adult Services Agency (AASA) to be submitted to the State Commission on Services to the Aging.

Brandie Isaacson, Director of Housing, presented this request to Council. She said I'm here on behalf of the Senior Alliance to request approval of their Fiscal Year 2022 Annual Implementation Plan which outlines the activities the Agency is pursuing to achieve its goals in providing services to Senior Citizens which includes the City of Livonia. A couple of their programs that they do assist with our Senior residents are the nutrition and food assistance program, holiday meals, care management and case coordination, Medicare and Medicaid assistance, long term care, adult day care, legal assistance, just to name a few.

Councilmember Toy offered an approving resolution for the Consent Agenda, this has been longstanding with this organization, they do wonderful work and I'm just disappointed we didn't get to see Jason because he was intern out of the Council Office many years ago with me and he's just a talented person.

President McIntyre said I'd just like to add, I know that everyone's got a lot of things to read but if you haven't had a chance to look at the AIP it's pretty amazing and it lays out the many, many things that the Senior Alliance does. I can't think of one program that doesn't benefit somebody in the City and a lot of work goes into that. It's a required State filing but it's more than just a pro forma, it really does outline and give you a sense of the scope of their services and the programs that are provided.

DIRECTION:	APPROVING	CONSENT
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7) TAX RATE REQUEST FOR THE PLYMOUTH ROAD DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY FOR THE 2021 TAX YEAR: Office of the City Clerk, re: forwarding communication dated May 17, 2021, from Michael T. Slater, Treasurer, setting forth the rate of tax to be levied and requesting that it be collected as part of the summer tax collection.

Vice President Bahr stated this is a housekeeping item basically, it's a pass-through for us, so I'll offer this for approving for Consent if there's no objection. And I'll also ask can we just handle the next seven or eight items together? Bernier replied they can all just be received and filed because they're just pass-through items.

President McIntyre asked if they can be grouped together and Bernier replied yes, because there's no vote on it.

DIRECTION:	RECEIVE & FILE	CONSENT
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8) TAX RATE REQUEST FOR THE LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR THE YEAR 2021: Office of the City Clerk, re: forwarding a communication from Alison Smith, Director of Finance, requesting the City to continue to collect one-half of the district's taxes with the summer tax collection and the remaining one-half with the winter tax collection, commencing July 1, 2021.

President McIntyre stated she will be presenting Item Nos. 8 through 14 cumulatively.

Vice President Bahr offered them to be received and filed for the Consent Agenda.

DIRECTION:	RECEIVE & FILE	CONSENT
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9) TAX RATE REQUEST FOR THE CLARENCEVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR THE 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR: Office of the City Clerk, re: forwarding a communication from David G. Bergeron, Assistant Superintendent, setting forth the rate of tax approved by the Board of Education on May 14, 2021.

DIRECTION:	RECEIVE & FILE	CONSENT
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10) TAX RATE REQUEST FOR SCHOOLCRAFT COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT FOR THE 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR: Office of the City Clerk, re: forwarding a communication from Jon Lamb, CPA, CFO of Schoolcraft College, to set the rate of tax to be levied and requesting that it be collected as a summer tax.

DIRECTION:	RECEIVE & FILE	CONSENT
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11) TAX RATE REQUEST FOR OAKLAND SCHOOLS ISD FOR THE 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR: Office of the City Clerk, re: forwarding a communication from Michelle

Saunders, Executive Director of Financial Services, to set the rate of tax to be levied and requesting that it be collected as a summer tax.

DIRECTION: RECEIVE & FILE CONSENT

12) TAX RATE REQUEST FOR WAYNE COUNTY REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICE AGENCY (RESA) FOR THE 2021 SCHOOL YEAR: Office of the City Clerk, re: forwarding a communication from Tamara Dust, Director of Finance and Compliance, requesting to set the rate of tax to be levied and requesting that it be collected as a summer tax.

DIRECTION: RECEIVE & FILE CONSENT

13) TAX RATE REQUEST FOR THE COUNTY OF WAYNE FOR THE YEAR 2021: Office of the City Clerk, re: forwarding a communication from Scott T. Vandermergel, MMAO(4), Director of Assessment and Equalization, requesting that the City collect 5.6347 Charter authorized mills as part of the summer tax collection and the remainder as part of the winter tax collection.

DIRECTION: RECEIVE & FILE CONSENT

14) TAX RATE REQUEST FOR THE STATE OF MICHIGAN, STATE EDUCATION TAX FOR THE YEAR 2021: Office of the City Clerk, re: forwarding a communication from Rachael Eubanks, State Treasurer, requesting to set the rate of tax to be levied and requesting that it be collected as a summer tax.

DIRECTION: RECEIVE & FILE CONSENT

15) REQUEST TO APPROVE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF IMPROVEMENT BONDS: Engineering Division, re: to assure the installation of public improvements at Grand Reserve Site Condominium (formerly Roma Court); located on the south side of Lyndon Avenue between Newburgh Road and Hix Road (37855 Lyndon Avenue, formerly Webster Elementary School site) in the Southeast 1/4 of Section 19 (CR 87-21).

Todd Zilincik, City Engineer, presented this request to Council. He stated this is a just a formal housekeeping issue. We collect improvement bonds, general improvement bonds, sidewalk bond, grading and soil erosion control bonds, entrance marker and landscaping bond, monuments and markers bond and as-built drawings bonds. As we move forward with the construction of the development and the items are approved and accepted, we'll come back to City Council to have those bonds released again to protect the City and us in case the developer for some reason is unable to complete that or there's some outstanding issues, we can address those with the bond money that we've held and again, protecting the residents that may reside there or again, the City, to complete those items. Be happy to answer any questions if you have any and again, appreciate your efforts in the new developments that are coming into the City of Livonia, there's three of them, and these are two of them on board.

Councilmember Jolly offered an approving resolution for the Consent Agenda but I do have a question. Because these are bonds, are we always accepting these as cash bonds or are we accepting surety bonds or when we say bonds, what exactly are we taking from them?

Zilincik replied we're talking cash bonds, so if you look at the attachment or whatever, these are cash bonds that are due. Typically the problem with surety bonds is that they expire within a year and the banks and us trying to collect those is very difficult, so in order for the development to occur, we want to make sure that there's cash bonds. Again, with the surety bonds in the past practice we've had people walk and issues with that. So it's to protect the City. Since I've been here, I've taken cash bonds for all the recent developments itself, and again, it protects the City in the long run.

Jolly asked if that's the standard practice for all communities. I mean I think it's great, that's a great approach to take, but is that how other communities are doing it as well?

Zilincik replied I'd have to check, it depends on each practice, whatever, so I think some may take surety, some may take cash, but I believe again when I came on board here back in 2008, took me over areas where a lot of developments were left hanging to be fixed, the bonds came in handy to get that work done, whether paving the roads or whatever else. And a surety bond would have been expired by then from that bank or whatever entity they got it from, the developer got it from, or they may not be in business anymore. So, cash for us is very key to make sure that we protect the residents that actually reside there and may if a developer walks or something god forbid happens with that development, we can pick up those pieces and make sure the residents are put back whole.

DIRECTION:

APPROVING

CONSENT

16) REQUEST TO APPROVE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF IMPROVEMENT BONDS: Engineering Division, re: to assure the installation of public improvements at Lyndon Park Site Condominium (formerly Adams Park); located on the south side of Lyndon Avenue between Inkster Road and Middlebelt Road (28201 Lyndon Avenue, formerly Adams Elementary School site) in the Southeast 1/4 of Section 24 (CR 11-21)

Todd Zilincik, City Engineer, presented this request to Council. He stated Windmill Homes is developing that property over there, Stewart Michaelson is developing that area and is looking for improvement bonds again to protect us for the thirty-eight to thirty-nine homes going in that location and just to help protect the City and look forward to working with these folks on the new development that's occurring. As you know there's a block party at Dooley Park there so just be careful, there will be some development going on, hopefully not on Saturday and hopefully will obviously be contained with the silt fence and soil erosion measures that are there but I just want to make sure the people that came earlier with the Dooley Park party that there is construction north of that location obviously with the developments occurring at this location.

Councilmember McCullough said this is standard development and to answer Councilman Jolly's question, at least for a couple of the municipalities that I've had, the cash is the gold standard to have on file. I don't know of any other communities that do that but I'll offer an approving for Consent if there's no objection.

Councilmember Toy asked Zilincik for an update about the closure of Five Mile.

Zilincik replied as you all know, I-275 project, it's called I-275 Revive by MDOT, Michigan Department of Transportation, is working on the Five Mile bridge which will be extended to allow for pedestrians. They're closing it for approximately ten weeks starting today, July 12th, there's a message board on either side of the expressways letting people know that the bridge is closed to have construction work done for the next ten weeks. So, people are advised to go up Newburgh Road, north on Newburgh Road heading west off of Six Mile and head south down to Haggerty, so that's the detour, it is posted. And I look forward to completing that within ten weeks. And then they go up to Six Mile Road, that will be shut down partially for one way traffic for approximately eight weeks. So, watch out for the bridge work at Six Mile and Five Mile, but Five Mile was closed officially today for approximately ten weeks to do the work in widening the bridge.

Toy asked how would you get, if I may ask you, to the service drive at Schoolcraft if you're going to like the gas station or my physical therapy, it's on the other side, what's the best route to take on that.

Zilincik replied you can go up Haggerty to Six Mile down or if you're Schoolcraft you have to go west up to Newburgh, you know, eastbound Schoolcraft go to come up Newburgh and then come back around. You know they've got the Mobil gas station there, that Kroger's, things of that nature, I would just go south if you had to also and come back around if you wanted to, but Six Mile is a closer detour.

DIRECTION:

APPROVING

CONSENT

AUDIENCE COMMUNICATION

During Audience Communication Maggie McGrane appeared for her block party request which was Item No. 1 on the Agenda, and the results are reflected as such under the designated request.

As there were no further questions or comments, President McIntyre adjourned the Study Session at 9:00 p.m. on Monday, July 12, 2021.

For the 1,925th Regular Meeting of July 26, 2021

DATED: July 14, 2021

SUSAN M. NASH, CITY CLERK

