



23925 Woodward Avenue
Pleasant Ridge, Michigan 48069

**Public Hearing and Regular City Commission Meeting
December 8, 2015**

Having been duly publicized, Mayor Metzger called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Present: Commissioners Foreman, Krzysiak, Perry, Scott, Mayor Metzger.
Also Present: City Manager Breuckman, City Attorney Need, City Clerk Drealan.
Absent: None.

Little Lending Libraries Resolution

Commissioner Krzysiak read a resolution to recognize the contribution of Mr. Jake Covert, Ms. Pat Gross, and Mr. Tom Treuter to the City's Little Library project. A slideshow presentation of the libraries was also shown. Commissioner Foreman commended Krzysiak and the volunteers for making this project a success and something pleasurable to look at in passing.

15-3222

Motion by Commissioner Krzysiak, second by Commissioner Scott, that the resolution regarding contributions to the City's Little Libraries project be approved.

Adopted: Yeas: Commissioner Krzysiak, Scott, Foreman, Perry, Mayor Metzger
Nays: None.

Public Discussion

Ms. Gail Gerdan, 54 Ridge Road, representing the Environmental Committee, reported that the first event for 2016 will be Monday, March 21st, 7:00p to 9:00p, 4 Ridge, Dr. Tom Kocarek, Wayne State University, will speak on the "Health & Environmental Effects of Chemical Pesticides." Following Dr. Kocarek, Lisa Sargent, Detroit Chapter of the Ecology Center, will follow with safe and environmentally friendly solutions for lawn and gardens. In May, Brendan Nolan will speak about native plants and have a sale in June; exact dates, times and location to be determined. The information will be posted in *The Ridger*. Commissioner Foreman inquired if there will be another electronics recycling event in the spring, and Ms. Gerdan responded that the committee is working on the 2016 agenda that coordinates with all the city events.

2014-2015 Annual Audit

Mr. Aaron Stevens, Abraham & Gaffney, highlighted the 2014-2015 Annual Audit, ending June 30, 2015, with a slideshow presentation. All financial statements are management's responsibility in accordance with the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The auditor's responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on the audit. The auditor's opinion is that the financial statements of the City present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the discretely

presented component unit, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information. New accounting principles were implemented for reporting pensions during the year. As a result, the financial statements now recognize the City's unfunded defined pension benefit obligation as a liability for the first time and more comprehensively and comparably measures the annual costs of pension benefits. Graphs highlighting the general fund's revenues, expenditures, and fund balance over a 5-year trend, along with year-end of June 30, 2015 were presented. Commissioner Foreman pointed out that the newly passed millage will not show until next year's audit.

15-3223

Motion by Commissioner Foreman, second by Commissioner Perry, that the audit of the City's financial statements for the Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2015 be received and filed, as recommended.

Adopted: Yeas: Commissioner Foreman, Perry, Krzysiak, Scott, Mayor Metzger
 Nays: None.

Governmental Reports

Chief Kevin Nowak, Pleasant Ridge Police, reminded residents that it is the holiday season and the trend is to have packages taken from porches. The Chief suggests that you track your deliveries, have neighbors assist getting the packages if you are not available, or have the delivery made to the back of the home. There have been some reports of items being taken from unlocked cars and garages, so make sure you are locking at all times. The Pleasant Ridge Police Department is a 7-day/24-hour operation, and Berkley does answer the phones for Pleasant Ridge after 5:00p. Make sure you report anything suspicious. Motion lights are a good investment for your home.

City Commissioner Liaison Reports

Commissioner Krzysiak reported Saturday, December 19th, 10:00a–11:30a, the Kid's Santa Party will be held at the Community Center; RSVP required. The City Commission Workshop on the Gainsboro Park Plan scheduled for December 9th has been rescheduled for Wednesday, December 16th, 6:00p, at City Hall. Copies of the drawings and cost estimates are available on the website. Mayor Metzger added that there is an opening on the Recreation Commission.

Commissioner Foreman reported that there is a search being conducted to fill the vacancy on the school board that is effective December 21, 2015. Applications are available on the Ferndale School website. The State of Michigan as an initiative to stop adult advertisements from reaching children. You can register at www.protectmichild.com. Winter break will be December 21st through January 4, 2016.

Commissioner Perry reported that the Planning Commission/DDA have combined both November and December due to the holidays and will meet Monday, December 14th, 7:00p. A public hearing will be held on the exterior design standards in order to clarify the neighborhood compatibility requirements. The document is available on the City's website. Commissioner Perry also announced that there are two positions open on Planning/DDA and the City has received several applications to date.

Commissioner Scott reported that the Historical Commission wishes everyone a happy holiday, and the museum will be open on December 19th. There is an open position on the commission and four applicants have applied. Commissioner commended Ms. Carole Zupan for her 8 years of volunteer service to the commission.

Consent Agenda

15-3224

Motion by Commissioner Foreman, second by Commissioner Perry, that the Consent Agenda, be approved, as recommended, removing item 9(d).

Adopted: Yeas: Commissioner Foreman, Perry, Krzysiak, Scott, Mayor Metzger
 Nays: None.

2015 City Street Tree Planting Manual

City Manager Breuckman reported that three comments were received by the City and are in the packet. Commissioner Foreman would like to see more than one type of tree on a street in the future, but does support the plan as presented.

Mr. Sean Campbell, 58 Sylvan, suggests that diversifying the neighborhood with trees is a better idea to avoid a possible devastating disease to wipe out the entire neighborhood. Breuckman added that every street will vary and varieties will be staggered in order to balance the aesthetics.

15-3225

Motion by Commissioner Perry, second by Commissioner Foreman, that the 2015 City Street Tree Planting Manual be adopted.

Adopted: Yeas: Commissioner Perry, Foreman, Krzysiak, Scott, Mayor Metzger
 Nays: None.

2016 CDBG Application and Subrecipient Agreement

City Clerk Drealan explained that as part of the annual application process for participation in the Oakland County Community Development Block Grant Program, the City is required to hold a public hearing on programming of available funds. She explained the estimate for the 2016 grant year is \$6,000.00. The recommended project is Senior Services; \$6,000.00. The Senior Services Program will fund a portion of wages for the Assistant Recreation Director and the Recreation Director to administer the program.

Mayor Metzger opened the public hearing at 8:11 pm.

With no comments or discussion, Mayor Metzger closed the public hearing at 8:12 pm.

15-3226

Motion by Commissioner Foreman, second by Commissioner Scott, that the Oakland County Community Development Block Grant Program Year 2016 Application and Subrecipient Agreement be approved as follows, and that the Mayor be authorized to sign the agreement.

731712	Public Services-Senior Services	\$6,000.00
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Adopted: Yeas: Commissioner Foreman, Scott, Krzysiak, Perry, Mayor Metzger.
 Nays: None.

Establish Public Hearing on 1-12-16 at 7:30p for Proposed Municipal Civil Infractions

City Manager Breuckman explained that the City Attorney has been asked to prepare proposed amendments to the City Code regarding municipal civil infractions. City Attorney Need explained that some of the amendments comply with changes to state law, and that some of the violations will be changed from misdemeanor to civil infractions that will be payable citations to the city. The fine schedule may want to be reviewed and a comparison of other communities has been presented for review in the packets. Commissioner Foreman inquired as to the volume of violations and City Clerk Drealan reported that there are not many. Foreman also asked for a clarification of the offenses and the language that was presented for the recommended changes. Need explained that offenses like “fighting” and “prowling” should be misdemeanors due to the seriousness in nature. Parental responsibility is a charge that has parents taking responsibility for acts of their minor child(ren).

15-3227

Motion by Commissioner Foreman, second by Commissioner Perry, that a public hearing be established for Tuesday, January 12, 2016, at 7:30p, to solicit public comments on the proposed amendments to the City Code regarding certain Municipal Civil Infractions.

Adopted: Yeas: Commissioner Foreman, Perry, Krzysiak, Scott, Mayor Metzger
 Nays: None.

FOIA Policy and Guidelines

City Manager Breuckman explained that recent changes to the state law regarding FOIA need to be adopted by the City. An official form will now be required when a FOIA request is made. Costs have been standardized by the State of Michigan. Commissioner Foreman inquired if there have been any processes in the past and when did this law go into effect. Breuckman responded that the state law went into effect July 1, 2015. City Clerk Drealan reported that the City did not have a formal policy in the past, and that now the state has streamlined all the costs and procedures. Commissioner Krzysiak added that there is an appeal process that can either go to the City Commission or the City Manager, and inquired as to why the proposal is for the City Manager. City Attorney Need explained that it is more efficient to have the appeal go through an administrative process instead of involving the elected body. Breuckman added that Need will be consulted in instances that may need a legal opinion. Krzysiak would prefer the appeal process to go to the City Commission as the City of Ferndale has for its process. Commissioner Foreman would like to be able to allow for an appeal to the City Commission from the City Manager. Assistant City Manager Pietrzak added that the law is very specific on what can be provided and the time period that information has to be provided is a minimal turn around time, so having the appeal to the City Commission may cause some time concerns. Chief Nowak added that many FOIA requests are crime related in the discovery process. Need also added that there have not been any known appeals to date. Commissioner Scott inquired if video is considered a document and if there are any budget implications. Need and Chief Nowak concurred that videos are part of FOIA, i.e., in-car police video, and Breuckman added that costs of the FOIA are recoverable by the individual making the request.

15-3228

Motion by Commissioner Perry, second by Commissioner Foreman, that the City of Pleasant Ridge Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) policies and guidelines be adopted and be effective immediately.

Adopted: Yeas: Commissioner Perry, Foreman, Scott, Mayor Metzger
Nays: Commissioner Krzysiak.

Consent Item 9d - Resolution Opposing HB-4425

City Manager Breuckman reported that the House of Representatives is considering a package of bills which would alter the Michigan Vehicle Code. Of particular concern to Pleasant Ridge is that HB-4425 would require speed limits to be set on all streets based on the 85th percentile of the speed of free-flowing traffic under ideal conditions on the fastest portion of the street segment. Commissioner Scott questioned the 75th percentile as a minimum and Breuckman responded that that may deal more with limited access speeds on highways. Commissioner Foreman inquired on how other municipalities would find out that Pleasant Ridge is opposing this bill, and Breuckman responded that he can let neighboring communities know.

15-3229

Motion by Commissioner Foreman, second by Commissioner Perry, that the Resolution opposing HB-4425 be approved.

Adopted: Yeas: Commissioner Foreman, Perry, Krzysiak, Scott, Mayor Metzger
Nays: None.

City Manager's Report

City Manager Breuckman reiterated that the Gainsboro Park meeting has been moved to December 16, 2015; and that there are vacancies on various commissions that applications are being accepted. Breuckman wished everyone a wonderful holiday season.

Other Business

Commissioner Foreman showed a picture of candy that was donated by Pleasant Ridge residents that will be sent to the troops via Operation Gratitude. The total weight of the candy was 82 lbs. Foreman commended the residents for their generosity.

Commissioner Krzysiak reported that the next book for the Book Club will be "Dead Wake: The Last Crossing of the Lusitania" by Erik Larson and will be discussed on Monday, January 25th, at 7:00 p.m., Community Center. There will be no Book Club meeting in December.

Mayor Metzger announced he will be speaking at the Citizens for a Fair Ferndale on Wednesday, December 9th, Ferndale City Council Chambers, on the topic of race and ethnic trends in Ferndale and local areas.

With no further business or discussion, Mayor Metzger adjourned the meeting at 8:51 p.m.

Mayor Kurt Metzger

Amy M. Drealan, City Clerk
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