



City of Pleasant Ridge
23925 Woodward Avenue
Pleasant Ridge, Michigan 48069

**Regular City Commission Meeting
January 12, 2016**

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.

Agenda Amendment

City Manager Breuckman requested to add Resolution in Opposition of PA 269 after Public Discussion as Item 4A.

Public Discussion

Mr. Ted Zachary, 68 Devonshire, representing the Environmental Committee, reported that the tonnage of recyclables was 21 tons in September, 29 tons in October, 26 tons in November, and 27 tons in December. An 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. Bill Riley will be speaking at the Hazel Park Library, Thursday, January 14, 6:30p to 8:00p, on how to spot a criminal. “Ted’s Tip” is that a normal preheat of an oven to 350-degrees is approximately 7 to 9 minutes, so take that in consideration during the amount of preparation time so that you are not wasting energy.

Resolution in Opposition of PA 269

City Manager Breuckman had a handout for the add-on item regarding the Resolution in Opposition of PA 269 (Senate Bill 571), Section 57, Subsection 3, wherein the new law prohibits a public body or a person acting for a public body from using public funds or resources for the purpose of communicating any information to the electorate regarding a local ballot question within 60 days or an election, along with placing an immediate gag order on entities with ballot questions. Breuckman read the proposed Resolution. Commissioner Krzysiak inquired as to the penalty of a violation of this law whether or not it is sanctioned against an individual or the city. City Attorney Need responded that it could go either way. Krzysiak finds this new law to be troublesome and commends Breuckman for bringing this resolution to the Commission. Commissioner Foreman believes that a public body should be able to provide information to the residents/voters in order for them to become better informed and gave the example of the recent millage that passed. Commissioner Scott supported the comments that have been made by the other Commissioners.

16-3230

Motion by Commissioner Foreman, second by Commissioner Scott, that the Resolution in Opposition of PA 269 as recommended by the Michigan Municipal League be adopted.

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

Governmental Reports

Chief Kevin Nowak, Pleasant Ridge Police, reported that there were a number of property crimes in the City during the months of November and December that included home invasion, and several attempts; breaking and entering garages, and several attempts; and larcenies from unlocked vehicles. An arrest has been made and the suspect, a former Pleasant Ridge resident, has been linked to numerous crimes in neighboring cities. Chief Nowak thanked Berkley Public Safety, Ferndale Police Department, Detroit Police Department, Michigan State Police, Oak Park Public Safety, and Royal Oak Police Department for their efforts in solving these cases. The investigation is still active and ongoing. During the months that the crimes were reported, the Pleasant Ridge Police Department took action and had officers in plain clothes on walking the streets, on bikes, and undercover cars. Chief Nowak commended Sergeant Reed for the many hours working this case, even on his own time, which led to the apprehension of the suspect. Many residents noticed something unusual, but never bothered to call the police. Chief Nowak reminded residents to make sure personal property, such as, garages and vehicles are locked at all times, and having motion sensor lights is a good deterrent. City Manager Breuckman commended the police department for its efforts. Mayor Metzger expressed frustration from comments on Facebook from residents that do not believe the police department cares or makes an effort to investigate crimes. Commissioner Foreman inquired as to why the police department did not share the fact that there was a major investigation going on, and Chief Nowak responded that the nature of investigating a crime needs to be somewhat concealed in order to not tip off a suspect that various surveillances are set up, pawn shops are being monitored, along with even Craig's List. Breuckman reported that a neighborhood watch meeting will be scheduled in the near future in order to report on the sequence of events that led up to the arrest.

City Commissioner Liaison Reports

Commissioner Foreman reported that Jackie Hart has been appointed to fill the vacancy on the Ferndale School Board. A kindergarten open house will take place on January 27th, 6:00p to 8:00p, Roosevelt Lower Elementary School. If you RSVP by January 19, you will be entered into a prize raffle. Ferndale High School has been afforded the opportunity to work with CNBC and Universal Studios on an entrepreneur challenge. Marcus Lemonis, "The Profit" reality TV show host, will select the winning team and visit the school on January 26th to announce the winners. The next School Board meeting will be held January 20th, 7:00p, Ferndale High School.

Commissioner Perry reported that the Planning Commission/DDA met Monday, December 14th. DDA approved the final banner designs for the Pleasant Ridge light poles along Woodward Avenue. Planning Commission held public hearings on the Amendment to the Pleasant Ridge Zoning Ordinance regarding changes to the Manufacturing District, use table update, map update, and proposed exterior design standards. Motions for approval will presented to the Commission this evening. A request was made to the Planning Commission for Capital Improvement Plan ideas for

the January meeting. Commissioners Laidlaw and Decoster were commended for their years of service on the Planning Commission/DDA Boards. The next meeting will be held Monday, January 25th, 7:00p.

Commissioner Scott reported that the Historical Commission has started planning the next Home & Garden Tour on June 4th. The next meeting is February 3rd.

Commissioner Krzysiak reported that on Wednesday, January 20th, 10:00a, 50-plus Club bus trip will be a mystery trip making stops at surprise locations in Detroit. This event will last about 4-5 hours and cost is \$22/person. Each person is responsible for the cost of their lunch. The Daddy/Daughter Dance will be held Friday, February 5th, 6:30p to 8:00p, \$5/person. Each couple will receive a complimentary keepsake photo. Krzysiak reported that over the last several months there have been many meetings on finalizing the plans for Gainsboro Park. Breuckman presented a PowerPoint outlining the various phases. Construction drawings are starting to be developed and are 30-percent completion. There is a meeting in February for the 60-percent drawings; and the construction drawings should be completed by April. Total budget for Phase 1 is approximately \$800,000 to \$875,000. Phase 1 improvements include the community garden and dog park entrance relocation; Kensington park entrance; walking path system (Sylvan to Kensington); new 5-12 play area and equipment; seating/gathering space at the shelter; irrigated open lawn area; resurface tennis and basketball courts; reconstruct Amherst parking lot (reduce size, same number of spaces, green infrastructure); Gainsboro street pedestrianization; DPW yard fence improvements (south side); baseball diamond improvements; and adult exercise equipment. As grant money is received, the Phase 2 improvements will include pavilion structure at the heart of the park; play area at Victory Park; pathway lighting/park decorative lighting; public art; and Flynn Field walking path.

Consent Agenda

16-3231

Motion by Commissioner Perry, second by Commissioner Foreman, that the Consent Agenda be approved, as recommended.

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

Deficit Elimination Plan – Capital Project Fund

City Manager Breuckman reported that when the City's 2015 audited financial statements were filed with the State of Michigan the Capital Projects Fund was in a deficit condition. When this occurs and the State takes notice, the local unit of government must file a "Deficit Elimination Plan" with the Department of Treasury. The Capital Projects Fund includes items, such as, streets and park improvements. The deficit occurred due to the fact that the City has been self-financing various projects in order to avoid paying interest on outside borrowed money. The proposed plan adjusts some accounting changes that will eliminate the deficit. Mr. Brian Camiller, Plante Moran, added that the City did not make any mistakes in how the projects were funded, but the State prefers that cities not have a deficit and that a funding mechanism is in place in order to remedy the deficit. The City has millages for the improvement projects deficit. Money was spent in advance to complete the projects before the monies were available from these millages.

16-3232

Motion by Commissioner Foreman, second by Commissioner Scott, that the Deficit Elimination Plan for the City's Capital Project Fund be approved.

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

Establish Public Hearing – Tuesday, February 9, 2016, 7:30 p.m., on proposed Exterior Design Standards, M-Manufacturing District; Use Table and Map Update

A public hearing is requested to solicit public comments on the ordinance amending the Pleasant Ridge Zoning Ordinance regarding the proposed Exterior Design Standards, M-Manufacturing District, Use Table Update and Map Update. City Manager Breuckman referred to the memos in the packet and indicated that this will be two different items on the next meeting's agenda. The zoning amendment will be voted on first, and if approved, then the actual exterior design standards will be voted on to be enforced. Breuckman reviewed the proposed zoning map update, which included the rezoning of Roosevelt School in the residential area to parks/recreational area. Commissioner Krzysiak inquired if the rezoning of Roosevelt School would prevent the School District from selling it down the road, and Breuckman responded that it would not prevent a sale, but the City would have better leverage on what actually happens with the site. Commissioner Foreman added that with the School District selling other properties, Roosevelt will most likely remain serving the K-2 grades. Breuckman presented a slideshow on the proposed Exterior Design Standards and explained that the new standards will provide clear direction and allow for consistent enforcement. The basis for the standards is traditional architecture. Breuckman gave an in-depth presentation of the various elements and materials that will be allowed under the proposed standards. The Planning Commission recommended approval of this proposed amendments and design standards. Commissioner Scott inquired if these standards apply to corner lots or homes facing municipal properties, and Breuckman responded it is street facing as of now and he will look into whether or not it applies to parks.

16-3233

Motion by Commissioner Perry, second by Commissioner Scott, that the Public Hearing be scheduled for Tuesday, February 9, 2016, at 7:30 p.m., to solicit public comments on an ordinance amending the Pleasant Ridge Zoning Ordinance regarding the proposed Exterior Design Standards, M-Manufacturing District, Use Table Update and Map Update.

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

Municipal Civil Infraction Ordinance

City Attorney Need explained that this is the first step in a 2-step process. The proposed amendments are mostly process orientated and set forth how the civil infractions can be issued. After this is approved, the next procedure will be to review the Ordinance in order to adjust charges to a civil infraction and amend the fine schedule.

Mayor Metzger opened the Public Hearing at 9:06 p.m.

With no comments or discussion, Mayor Metzger closed the public hearing at 9:07 p.m.

16-3234

Motion by Commissioner Foreman, second by Commissioner Perry, that Ordinance 416 amending certain sections of the Pleasant Ridge City Code regarding Municipal Civil Infractions be approved.

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

Annual Meeting Schedule

Mayor Metzger referred the Commission to the packet with the proposed meeting schedules for the City Commission, Historical Commission, Planning Commission/Downtown Development Authority, and Recreation Commission. City Manager Breuckman highlighted a few changes on the City Commission meetings, one being the meeting on March 8th that is also the presidential election will be rescheduled for March 15th. The meeting of October 11th meeting falls on Yom Kippur and will be rescheduled for October 18th. The general election is on November 8th and the rescheduled meeting will be November 15th.

16-3235

Motion by Commissioner Perry, second by Commissioner Scott, that the 2016 Annual Meeting Schedule for the City Commission, Historical Commission, Planning Commission/Downtown Development Authority, and the Recreation Commission be approved.

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

City Manager's Report

City Manager Breuckman announced that the January *Ridger* will be delivered this week. The “dangerous animals” town hall meeting will be January 19th, at the Community Center. In *The Ridger* is information on a cooperative tree purchase program that the City is offering for the city streets only. Orders/checks are due by February 4th. *The Ridger* also has a 2016 community survey focusing on how the City is doing delivering the core functions of government. All information is available online. Beginning February 4th, Pleasant Ridge is partnering with Royal Oak to provide on-demand bus transportation for Pleasant Ridge residents. The service is provided on Thursdays from 9:15 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and can travel within a 5-mile radius of the Community Center. New banners will be displayed on the light posts along Woodward Avenue that is sponsored by the DDA. A new City logo will also be going into effect. Commissioner Foreman requested clarification of the date on the banner, and Breuckman explained that Pleasant Ridge incorporated as a city in 1928, and the word “established” used on the banner seemed to be a friendlier term. Pleasant Ridge was incorporated as a village in 1919. Mayor Metzger complimented the final product of the banner.

Other Business

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.

With no further business or discussion, Mayor Metzger adjourned the meeting at 9:25 p.m.

Mayor Kurt Metzger

Amy M. Drealan, City Clerk
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