



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

Regular City Commission Meeting
July 11, 2017

Having been duly publicized, Mayor Metzger called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m.

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

Public Discussion

Michael Valentine, 65 Sylvan, discussed the Front Porch Concert Series in Ferndale. It was well received by all. He suggested that potentially Pleasant Ridge could host a similar event. There was discussion about the logistics of coordinating such an event. He asked whether there had been any discussion regarding a bridge connecting Iron Ridge with the Park. City Manager Breuckman indicated that there has been some discussion but there are some difficult structural issues to overcome. Mr. Valentine noted that the basketball courts are being well utilized and is waiting for signage to be installed.

Governmental Reports

Gary McGillivray, Oakland County Commissioner, noted that he and Commissioner Janet Jackson will be sponsoring a forum on August 9, 2017, to make sure that all Oakland County businesses know how they can bid on county projects. It will also inform entrepreneurs about the demographic information available at the county to assist in business planning. The County fair is ongoing. He encouraged everyone to use the parks, golf courses, wave pools and campgrounds in the county.

Kevin Nowak, Police Chief, noted that on July 1, 2017, Ferndale Police began dispatching for Pleasant Ridge. The system operates the same way as it did before. Residents need to notify their alarm companies to use the Ferndale number - 248-541-3650. He thanked Berkley for their years of cooperation. The department participates in a gun safety lock program through the County which provides gun locks at no cost to residents who need them. The department has many gun locks available to donate. He also noted that the basketball courts are being well-utilized and everyone is generally well behaved.

City Commission Liaison Reports

Commissioner Perry reported on the Planning Commission/DDA. DDA District businesses gathered for a happy hour on June 14, 2017, sponsored by Cork Wine Pub. Current and future projects were discussed including façade improvement, the planter program and sidewalk improvement. Attending the quarterly meetings was encouraged. They also discussed coordinating holiday lights. Next meeting is July 24, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

Commissioner Krzysiak reported on the Recreation Commission. Ice cream social will be held at the pool on Wednesday, July 19 at 6:00 p.m. Adult only swim nights are scheduled for July 26 and August 23 at 6:00 p.m. Adult swim meet will be held on Tuesday, August 1 at 7:30. Six events are planned. The Family Campout is August 12th beginning at 4:00 p.m. at Gainsboro Park. There is a \$25.00 cost per family. The price includes dinner and breakfast. Sign up before July 31, 2017. Assistant City Manager Pietrzak noted that the swim team is doing well. There are 109 children registered for the summer playground camp. The check in program works very well and shows that 68.2 children are checking into the park every day. The community center project is moving forward. Construction will start after Labor Day. There have been 691 gym fobs issued. This should result in significant staffing savings in the future. The PR Royals little league team was recognized for its accomplishments.

Commissioner Scott reported on the Historical Commission. The Commission is on its summer break. There is an event on August 2nd discussing the history of the pool. The next regular meeting is September 6. John Wright commented on the fifty-year history of the pool. Any pictures can be dropped off to use in the presentation.

Commissioner Foreman reported on Ferndale Public Schools. The new superintendent will host a meet and greet on July 26 at 6:30 p.m. There are some energy improvements happening through the district including lighting upgrades, boiler replacements, and expanded use of timers. The next school board meeting is on July 17.

Consent Agenda

17-3317

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

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

Proposed language to be placed on the ballot of the General Election to be held on Tuesday, November 7, 2017, regarding a Police Pension Millage

17-3318

City Manager Breuckman noted that there is a pension funding problem that has been discussed at previous meetings. The purpose of the millage is to eliminate the unfunded liability from past pension plans. Changes in current pension plans will put the path of sustainability going forward. The proposal is to authorize an additional 1.4 mills over 15 years to fund the currently underfunded police

pension. It will be phased in over four years. Commissioner Foreman asked how the progress on funding the pension will be tracked. There is an annual report from MERS that is available on the website. Commissioners Krzysiak and Perry noted that this millage will not fund future pensions. It will only allow the city to pay for the pensions that were authorized in the past.

Motion by Commissioner Foreman, second by Commissioner Scott, to approve that the ballot proposal as presented be approved and forwarded to the State and County for review and placements on the November 7, 2017, general election ballot.

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

Scheduling a public hearing on Tuesday, August 8, 2017, at 7:30 p.m., to solicit public comments on an ordinance to amend Chapter 14 Building and Building Regulations, Article V, Fences, Section 117, Front Yard Fences

17-3319

City Manager Breuckman noted that a variation had been granted to a resident to install a front yard fence on Ridge Road. At that time, it was discussed that an additional ordinance amendment should be considered to allow limited front yard fencing along Ridge Road only. Existing fences are wrought iron, wood, brick or stone. The proposed ordinance would allow fences or walls of those materials up to 48 inches and set back 12 inches from the sidewalk.

Motion by Commissioner Perry, second by Commissioner Foreman, to schedule a public hearing on Tuesday, August 8, 2017 at 7:30 p.m., to solicit public comments on the proposed ordinance amendments as presented.

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

City Manager's Report

City Manager Breuckman reported that the SOCWA water rate study has been issued. Pleasant Ridge water cost is below the average of other SOCWA users. Assistant City Manager Pietrzak discussed that the single stream recycling bins will be coming at the end of August. There is one on display at the pool. A notice will be going to residents regarding changing the garbage collection day. The pick-up day has been Friday for approximately 70 years. The city is looking at changing it to Mondays when the City Hall is open. Also, it will be easier to solve any pick-up problems on the next day which will be Tuesday. If there is a Monday holiday, it will be picked up on Tuesday. It will be better for weekend clean up as well. The Woodward streetscape changes are scheduled to proceed next week. Information from the energy survey will be presented at future Commission meetings. The City is looking to cooperate with SEMREO to purchase residential solar energy solutions. The Commission needs to revisit existing regulations regarding solar panels and installation. There is a contractor in place for the Community Center solar project which should be installed within a month or two. Commissioner Foreman noted that the roof of the Community Center has been leaking. A pump in one of the HVAC units had failed and has now been replaced.

Commissioner Krzysiak expressed some concern regarding the recent dog census and Oakland County Animal Control. The City partners with the County for animal control services. The service is free and saves the City the cost of maintaining their own animal control department and shelter.

This is the third dog census that the County has conducted in Pleasant Ridge. Their animal control department is funded by dog tags and license. They perform the census for safety to make sure dogs are licensed and vaccinated. They do not census every community every year; only if that community's reported number of dogs falls below the expected average based on the number of households. Commissioner Foreman noted that some citizens complained about the intrusiveness of the census takers. City Clerk Drealan noted that citizens can call the census office and report their tag number.

Other Business

Commissioner Krzysiak noted that the book for July is *Annie's Ghost*, by local author Steve Luxenberg, regarding a family with a mentally ill sister who was institutionalized. The meeting is on July 12 at 7:00 p.m. in Hessel Park. Next month's meeting is on August 9 at Stephenson Park. The book is *Fool's Crow*, by James Welch.

City Clerk Amy Drealan noted that qualifying petitions for Mayor and City Commission are available. They are due by July 25 at 4:00 p.m. One petition is in for Mayor and one for Commissioner.

With no further business or discussion, Mayor Metzger adjourned the meeting at 8:47 pm.

Mayor Kurt Metzger

Amy M. Drealan, City Clerk

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