



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

**Regular City Commission Meeting
April 10, 2018**

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

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

Public Discussion

Ms. Jodi McGuire, 6 Woodside Park, discussed the Ridge Resale which is part of the Pleasant Ridge Foundation. They are entirely volunteer and 100% of the proceeds go to back into the community. Ridge Resale is located at 92 Amherst. They take donations every day that there is a sale. The first sale will be Friday, April 20th from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. The kick-off date is Saturday, April 25th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. That sale day will be in collaboration with the Ferndale Fine Arts program which will receive 50% of the proceeds from that day. The dates of the sales for this season are in the Ridger. It is the second Saturday of every month from April through October or November.

Ms. Cheryl Ramos, 59 Kensington, inquired about access to the dog park. There have been problems with small dogs having to go through the large dog part of the park. Pietrzak indicated that a new pass card system needs to be installed on the new gate which will be done when the weather improves. Residents will then be able to use the same pass that accesses the Wellness Center.

Mr. Mike Ross, 19 Kensington, indicated that he has owned two ducks for six years which he keeps in his back yard. Rats have been a problem in the city. He has taken several steps to eliminate the rats from his duck feeders and hay bales. A neighbor has recently complained about the rats. He is requesting permission to keep the ducks for the remainder of their lives which will likely only be a couple of years. The City Manager and City Attorney will meet to discuss whether a variance is possible.

Governmental Reports

Mr. Gary McGillivray, Oakland County Commissioner, noted that next year is the last year for the local road pilot program. The county has invested \$1.5 million with a 50/50 local match to improve or maintain non-county roads. The application deadline is April 20th. A new school drinking fountain program has been started. The application deadline is also April 20th. The County provides the fountain and the school provides the installation. Local municipalities can also buy the fountains at approximately half price. On Saturday the Detroit Zoo is hosting a GreenFest in partnership with the County.

Sergeant Robert Ried, Pleasant Ridge Police, advised that it is severe weather awareness week. Sirens will be tested at 1:00 pm on April 11th. Officer Julie Reid accepted another position and has left the department. He encouraged people to check with the credit bureaus to ensure prevention of identity theft. He noted that you should open any mailings regarding unemployment benefits. People have been creating unemployment benefit accounts in other people's names.

City Commission Liaison Reports

Commissioner Scott reported on the Historical Commission. The Home and Garden Tour will be June 2nd. The proceeds go back into the community. On August 9th at 7:00 p.m. there will be a speaker regarding kit homes.

Commissioner Wahl reported on the Recreation Commission. Summer program registration begins Monday. The swim team registration also begins Monday. The next meeting is Wednesday, April 25th at 7:00 p.m. Spring Bingo is May 3rd from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. The Citywide Garage Sale is May 12th. Permits cost \$25. The Foundation auction is May 19th with an '80s theme.

Commissioner Krzysiak reported on Ferndale Public Schools. He discussed the CASA program which brings students from other districts to take collective classes and field trips. On April 24th there is a program called Screenagers, an examination of the impact of technology on development. April 28th is the Ferndale Students Got Talent program. Two students qualified for the State Honors Orchestra. The Robotics Team is preparing for the statewide competition. The Ferndale Education Foundation Derby Party will be held at the Recreation Center on April 27th at 6:00 p.m. A strategic planning session is scheduled for April 21st to discuss the outcomes from the input sessions. Commissioner Perry attended the school scavenger hunt.

Commissioner Perry reported on the Planning Commission/DDA. They did not meet in March. The next meeting is April 23rd at 7:00 p.m.

Consent Agenda

18-3364

Motion by Commissioner Perry, second by Commissioner Wahl, to approve the consent agenda as presented.

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

2018 HMA Resurfacing Project Bid Alternates

City Manager Breuckman presented an overview of the plan to install corner expansions at the intersections involved in the road resurfacing project. The expansions would improve both safety, walkability and add green space to the intersections. There has been a high level of input most of it against the project. The current design of the streets prioritizes the free flow of vehicle travel which encourages higher speeds. He noted that volume, speed and intersections are the primary elements to be considered when looking at "traffic calming." There has been a study into possibly installing a stop sign at Oakland Park and Ridge. Breuckman noted that stop signs are intersection control devices, not speed control. A lot of information is considered to determine whether a stop sign is warranted at a certain intersection. Pursuant to the study a stop sign is not warranted on Ridge. One would be warranted on Oakland Park but there has not been a history of accidents there. He noted that unwarranted stop signs are often ignored by drivers. He discussed the problems with the stop

signs on Woodward Heights. He will be putting together a summary of all the traffic control options that are available or currently in use. A pedestrian crossing will be installed on Ridge at Roosevelt School. A presentation of other alternatives will be made in the future.

Commissioner Krzysiak inquired regarding plans for enforcement. Breuckman noted that enforcement does not address the cause of any speeding problem. The best way to deal with traffic issues is by applying the right street design but enforcement on residential streets will also be increased. Eighty-five percent of drivers comply with the speed limits so it is difficult to consistently ticket the violators at any given time. Sgt. Reid indicated that officers do patrol the problem streets but agreed that enforcement will be increased. Speed limit trailers are also used.

Mr. Bob Obringer, 22 Oakland Park, is the block captain for Oakland Park. He indicated that the responses that were received from 16 residents on Oakland Park were strongly opposed narrowing the street. He indicated that many residents stated that historically there had been no problems for pedestrians at that intersection.

Mr. Tom Treuter, 11 Oakland Park, appreciated the online survey. He inquired whether the money coming from the state could be used for other projects. Breuckman noted that it is Act 51 money is used for major or local streets which covers all the streets in Pleasant Ridge. Some of the money is coming from the infrastructure millage which can be used on Woodward which is a state road. Treuter discussed eliminating the right turn lane on Woodward at Oakland Park. He indicated that he would be in favor of slowing down the traffic on Oakland Park. Breuckman noted that the test was narrower than the actual proposal which may have influenced some of the negative response. Mayor Metzger indicated the fact that government funds often cannot be moved freely from one project to another. There was discussion regarding the difficulty of communicating complex issues like this one to the residents. There was general agreement with Loretta, 32 Oakland Park, that Facebook is not the appropriate method for this kind of communication.

Ms. Jodi McGuire, 6 Woodside, discussed building more block clubs that could then be used for better communication. Commissioner Scott agreed that this would be a good way to address road construction projects that are primarily a block by block issue.

Mr. Richard Burr, 48 Woodward Heights, indicated that he supported the use of Facebook for communication. Krzysiak discussed the need for open communication and trust as well as responsibility and respect. Perry and Scott supported the use of Facebook as one communication tool. They both also indicated that they support the overall idea of narrowing the intersections as one way to slow down traffic which is a common concern for residents. Wahl indicated that pedestrian safety and traffic speeds are the number one concern among citizens.

18-3365

Motion by Commissioner Scott, second by Commissioner Krzysiak, to not move forward with Agenda Item #8, the 2018 HMA Resurfacing Project bid alternates.

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

.2018 City Commission Goals and Objectives

Breuckman indicated that this document is created annually and included in the budget each year. Mayor Metzger stated that it is informative to note the progress that is achieved each year and apply that to the priorities for the upcoming year. Krzysiak encouraged residents to review the city's goals.

18-3366

Motion by Commissioner Wahl, second by Commissioner Scott, to adopt the City Commission Goals and Objectives as presented.

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

City Manager's Report

Breuckman noted that reconstructing the intersection of Oakland Park and Woodward may be included in MDOT's plans to redo all the pedestrian crossings in 2019. The city is working on a new website which will interact better with Facebook and provide other means of obtaining public input.

Other Business

Commissioner Krzysiak noted that the April book is *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet*, by Jamie Ford. The meeting is April 11th. The next meeting is May 9th and the book is *Grownup Anger* by Daniel Wolf. It traces the history of the Calumet massacre of 1913.

With no further business or discussion, Mayor Metzger adjourned the meeting at 9:04 p.m.

Mayor Kurt Metzger

Amy M. Drealan, City Clerk

/dleg