



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

**Regular City Commission Meeting and Public Hearing
March 12, 2019**

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, City Attorney Need
Absent: None

Public Discussion

(None)

Governmental Reports

Interim Fire Chief Jack Pesha, Ferndale Fire Department, encouraged residents to check their smoke and CO2 detectors as well as their fire extinguishers which should be on each floor. There should also be a smoke alarm in each sleeping quarters and one outside the sleeping quarters within 10 feet. The Fire Department offers smoke alarm assistance. Residents can call the non-emergency number: 248-546-2510, extension 302. He recommended checking the smoke alarms every six months.

City Commission Liaison Reports

Commissioner Perry reported on the Planning Commission/DDA. The next meeting will be April 22nd.

Commissioner Scott reported on the Historical Commission. The museum will have an open house on May 1st. The next meeting is April 3rd.

Commissioner Wahl reported on the Recreation Commission. The next meeting is March 27th. Upcoming events include a pancake breakfast and Easter egg hunt. The Foundation Auction is May 18th. There will be special celebrations for the 100-year anniversary. Residents are encouraged to suggest a special ice cream flavor which Sweet Dreams will produce for the auction.

Commissioner Krzysiak reported on Ferndale Public Schools. A Build It Construction 2019 event was held for middle and high school students to showcase careers in various trade industries. Oakland County is hosting a similar apprenticeship showcase on March 13th. Ferndale Schools also hosts a program called Girls Go Cyber which introduces female students to careers in cybersecurity. Beginning on March 21st they will meet on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. in room 114 at the Ferndale High School. Zoe Butters and other cast members presented some statistics from the upcoming Addams Family Musical. A recognition celebration for Ferndale Youth

Assistance will be held on March 28th. The Ferndale Eagles basketball team made it to the state division II playoffs. The Ferndale High School Winterguard took first place at the Troy Athens competition. The FHS student athlete, Angel Defray Morerro, placed sixth in the state championship. FUEL was named an Evergreen School. The Superintendent's Excellence award went to Chloe Farrah. The next School Board meeting is March 18th.

Consent Agenda

19-3406

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

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

Garden Club Memorial Park Fountain Presentation

Breuckman introduced Robert Campbell, immediate past president of the Garden Club, to present a project to replace the fountain in Memorial Park. The Parks and Rec master plan included this project, but it would be a few years before the city could actually implement it. Campbell noted that repairing the fountain would cost \$22,000 so replacement was considered the best option. The Club reviewed several options and chose Aquafina as the vendor. The chosen installation is a carved granite, three-tiered fountain. It is approximately 85 inches tall and 59 inches wide. The design would provide more splash and sound and would be relatively low maintenance. Maintenance would include approximately \$10 per month for algaecide. The pump would last four to five years and cost between \$50 and \$100. Perry inquired regarding funding. The overall median cost would be \$25,500. The Garden Club has already budgeted \$7000 and fundraisers bring in several thousand more. The Historical Commission funds are committed to the 100-year anniversary projects. The Foundation would also likely contribute substantial funds to the project. Campbell proposed calling the new installation the Centennial Fountain. There was discussion regarding continuing maintenance. The Garden Club would maintain the plantings around the base of the fountain. The Garden Club is a 501(c)(3) and is looking for donations. If a contract was entered into soon, the fountain could be installed by Memorial Day. Once the funds from the Foundation are identified, the Garden Club may need a loan from the City to complete the project this spring. The Garden Club is meeting with the Foundation on March 21st. Additional donations from the community would also defray any possible loan that may be needed.

19-3407

Motion by Commissioner Perry, second by Commissioner Wahl, to authorize the Garden Club to remove and replace the fountain in Memorial Park with the cost being assumed by the Garden Club.

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

Establishing a Public Hearing to Solicit Public Comment Regarding an Ordinance to Prohibit Marihuana Establishments

Breuckman presented a draft ordinance that was requested by the Commission at the last meeting. A public hearing to solicit public comments regarding that ordinance, which would be Section 42-14, would be scheduled for April 9, 2019. The effect of the ordinance would be to opt out of the current state law which would result in the prohibition of marihuana establishments in the city. Krzysiak discussed the unanswered questions that exist surrounding this issue, especially with regard to zoning. He expressed concern regarding the timing of the decision to prohibit these establishments. Scott noted that the city needs to have its own rules in place to avoid being forced to allow these establishments under the state's rules. Perry agreed that the timing of the city's ordinance is crucial and that Pleasant Ridge doesn't have the same kind of flexibility that some larger, neighboring communities have. Metzger emphasized that this vote is just for the public hearing and that the city can always opt back in once more information is made available. He also noted that other methods of gathering public input will be utilized before a decision is made. Scott pointed out that there are six different kinds of businesses associated with the marihuana statute, not just storefront sales. Metzger added that some of those six businesses provide no tax revenue for the city. Krzysiak indicated that growing marihuana in basements cannot be prohibited. Breuckman noted that lawsuits are likely inevitable, and it would be difficult for a small city to finance the litigation.

19-3408

Motion by Commissioner Perry, second by Commissioner Scott, to establish a public hearing on April 9, 2019, to solicit public comment regarding Section 42-14, which would prohibit marihuana establishments in the city.

Adopted: Yeas: Commissioners Perry, Scott, Wahl, Mayor Metzger
 Nays: Krzysiak

Marihuana Establishment Public Input Survey

Breuckman presented the proposed survey. The survey would be offered online through the website. He noted that space can be provided to include the link to the survey on the back cover of the upcoming Ridger. It would cost approximately \$750-\$1000 to mail a postcard to all residents. Perry and Wahl supported putting the survey on the back of the Ridger. The online survey would be ready to launch by the end of the month. Metzger noted that the information from the survey will be taken to the town hall meeting to frame that discussion.

Interlocal Agreement between the City of Pleasant Ridge and the City of Ferndale regarding Woodward Heights Boulevard Intersection Construction

Breuckman noted that Ferndale was going to be reconstructing Woodward Heights from Bermuda to Hazel Park. They are requesting interlocal agreements with both Pleasant Ridge and Hazel Park to reconstruct the intersections that touch the boundaries of both cities. The agreement would allow Ferndale to reconstruct both sides of the intersection and would include bump outs to improve pedestrian traffic flow. The total cost for the project is \$13,800. Krzysiak indicated that the town hall meeting showed that the residents support this kind of project. He inquired regarding where to best safely cross Woodward Heights after the reconstruction. Breuckman noted that improved striping for the crosswalk would be part of the project. He also suggested that additional signage may be tested at this location. If warranted, reconsideration of a stop sign at the intersection will potentially take place after the project is completed. Krzysiak indicated that he supported having a stop sign. There was discussion regarding a bike lane being added to Gainesboro in Ferndale.

19-3409

Motion by Commissioner Perry, second by Commissioner Wahl, to approve the interlocal agreement with the City of Ferndale to reconstruct the Woodward Heights/Bermuda intersection as presented and that the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to sign the agreement.

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

City Manager's Report

Breuckman presented an update on the energy saving projects throughout the city including LED lighting and solar panels at 4 Ridge and City Hall. There has been a 30% reduction in total city energy usage which represents \$8125 and 67,000 kWh in savings. He presented statistics showing how those savings would be reflected in other areas such as CO2 emissions and gallons of gasoline. Tree trimming on the east side has been completed. Breuckman noted that the trees had not been trimmed and elevated in a long time. Trimming the trees spurs them for more upward growth in the long run. In the future the trees will be trimmed every seven years so the trimming will be much more gradual. Scott noted that there have been power outage issues in parts of the city. Breuckman indicated that the issue appears to be very old overhead lines. He and Mayor Metzger have discussed the issue with DTE but there does not appear to be a clear solution. DTE will likely be trimming trees along the power lines this summer. Metzger indicated that DTE would be upgrading the substation on Hilton this spring. There are five DTE circuits serving Pleasant Ridge. There are six DTE employees living in Pleasant Ridge.

Other Business

Metzger noted that there are 73 days until the pool opens. Krzysiak indicated that the March book is a memoir by Stephen Hawking. The meeting is March 20th. Krzysiak will not be running for reelection in November. The deadline for petition signatures is in July. Twenty-five signatures are necessary to be placed on the ballot.

With no further business or discussion, Mayor Metzger adjourned the meeting at 9:03 p.m.

Mayor Kurt Metzger

Amy M. Drealan, City Clerk

/dleg