



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

**Regular City Commission Meeting
June 9, 2020**

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

Present: Mayor Metzger, Commissioners Budnik, Perry, Scott, Wahl,
Also Present: City Manager Breuckman, City Attorney Need, City Clerk Allison
Absent: None

Community Pool Discussion

Shawsheen Stamper, Recreation Director, gave an update regarding the community pool and summer camp program for the 2020 season. In May it was determined that the pool and summer season would be cancelled. In June, the Governor's office announced that pool and summer seasonal programming could proceed, unless local restrictions prohibit the openings. Oakland County has not created guidelines for the pool to open at this time. The number of COVID infections are still on the rise. Oak Park, Hunting Woods, Troy and Southfield will not be opening their pools for the summer season. Over 90% of Oakland County communities will not be opening their pools according to her research. Training and staffing of the pool would be difficult to do with social distancing. Patrons would have to remain 6 feet apart, additional staff would need to be hired, pool furniture, locker rooms, concession stand and showers would not be accessible, The earliest the Red Cross will be offering life guard training would be in mid-July, if the pool were to open for the 2020 season it would not open until after the staff is trained. Patrons would need to schedule pool time in approximately 2-hour blocks and these blocks could not be rescheduled if there is weather delay or a contamination issue. The pool will be completely cleared between time blocks and be cleaned and sanitized. The time block will include check in time and deck clearing time. All patrons would need to have their pool tags for the entire household, and no guests will be allowed. Masks will be required, must arrive in bathing suit and pre-showered. One household will be permitted through the locker room at a time. Additional equipment would need to be provided to the lifeguards, as no shared equipment would be allowed. Patrons would be required to sign a COVID waiver, and a strict rule and procedure policy would be adopted. The recommendation, after consulting with several sources, is that due to these unprecedented circumstances is that the community pool and summer seasonal programming remain closed for the remainder of the season.

Commissioner Perry thanked the recreation staff for the work that has been put into this decision. She understands this is a difficult decision and there have been many hours dedicated to this topic. Commissioner Wahl understands this is a difficult decision, was hopeful that the community pool could reopen, but after looking at the research she does not feel it is appropriate to open the pool at this time, knowing it will be upsetting for many. Commissioner Scott understands the concerns and

wants in the community; however, he feels it is not safe to open the pool at this time. Commissioner Budnik also thanked the staff for the work and the accessibility of answers regarding this topic. He does believe there is the ability to open the pool and states COVID cases are on the downturn, the situation has changed in the state and is very fluid. He is concerned for the kids in the community, lifeguards are not a replacement for parents, parents should be responsible for their children at the pool. If the parents of the potential lifeguards agree that their children can work in that capacity, that should be up to the parents. There are options to make the season as safe as possible. He would like to see if there is a way to open the pool with alternative staffing or hours. Mayor Metzger would like to hear from the residents and get an idea of their feelings regarding the restrictions if the pool was to open for the season. He is not committing to opening the pool under the current restrictions, but would like resident input regarding a pool that may be open for 4-5 weeks, with limited hours. Breuckman indicated that there will approximately \$40,000 in saved costs by not opening the pool in staff wages, however the taxes collected for the pool/community center pays for other items aside from operating the pool. The savings that could be realized will be returned to improvements to the fitness center machines, building issues and pool upgrades. He explained how the public can participate.

Comments from the public in favor of opening the pool for the 2020 season, Ms. Caryn Leonard, 121 Maplefield; Tom McEvoy, 77 Oakdale; Scott Shelton, 7 Maywood; Jessica Herzig, 1 Sylvan; Natalie Fuoco, 21 Millington; Christine Matayas, 106 Elm Park; Luke Samoray, 3 Woodside Park; Eric Andary, 52 Devonshire.

Other comments from the public regarding the pool closure, Sean Campbell 58 Sylvan, Christopher Binder-Kopchick, 15 Maplefield; Michael McGrath, 6 Cambridge; Megan Martin-Campbell, 58 Sylvan.

20-3465

Motion by Commissioner Perry, second by Commissioner Scott that the City Commission confirm the closure of the Pleasant Ridge Community Pool for the 2020 pool season.

Adopted: Yeas: Commissioners Perry, Scott, Wahl, Mayor Metzger
 Nays: Commissioner Budnik

Governmental Reports

Chief Kevin Nowak, Pleasant Ridge Police Department, complaints regarding code enforcement issues, construction issues, including work without a permit. Contact the building department for additional information as to when a permit is required. Refuse collection, trash cans should go out for collection after 6pm the day before collection and the can should be removed from the street by 6pm on the day of collection. Tall grass cannot exceed 8 inches in height.

Commission Scott read a statement regarding the death of George Floyd and give an understanding of what the community of Pleasant Ridge is doing.

Consent Agenda

20-3466

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

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

Public Hearing – 2020-2021 Millage Rates and Budget

Breuckman presented information concerning the 2020-2021 budget and millage rates. He highlighted the accomplishments that had been achieved in the last year. The unfunded pension liability is being addressed due to the millage that was passed. The proposed budget for 2020-2021 is available on the website. If passed, it will take effect on July 1, 2020. The millage rate for 2018 will be slightly increased from 21.4120 mills in 2019 to 21.4531 mills in 2020. He presented a graph showing how the millage is distributed among various entities. Pleasant Ridge's millage rate is slightly above average for Oakland County communities, primarily due to reliance on residential taxes rather than commercial. Net revenue for 2020-2021 is projected to be lower due to the global pandemic and the projected dip in property assessments. The unrestricted fund balance will remain at 29.5%. Utility rates will be adopted by resolution. There is a three-year budget for capital improvement projects which include cleaning and televising sewers and water meter head replacement. There is an app that can be installed to monitor water usage for leak detection. The cost for meter head replacement has been included in the water bill. There is still a long-term issue regarding lead pipe replacement which could result in a \$10-12 million expense citywide. Replacement of all lead pipes including leads to the meters is being mandated by the state. Based on the project being conducted in Lansing, the cost was between \$10,000 and \$20,000 per house. PR is planning on presenting an asset management plan to the state to phase in the project in conjunction with regular street maintenance.

Mayor Metzger opened the public hearing at 9:45pm.

Megan Martin-Campbell, 58 Sylvan, questioned whether the DDA project on Woodward Avenue regarding greenway/greenspace improvements will go forward in this budget. Brueckman indicated that project will proceed in the upcoming fiscal year.

With no further comments or questions, Mayor Metzger closed the public hearing at 9:47pm.

20-3467

Motion by Commissioner Perry, second by Commissioner Scott, that the 2020-2021 Combined City Budgets be approved and that the Budget Resolution be adopted, including the levying of

- 12.6399 mills for the General Fund Operating,
- 2.6415 mills for Infrastructure Improvements,
- 1.5084 mills for Solid Waste and Disposal,
- 0.3000 for Publicity,
- 0.3564 mills for Library Services,
- 1.1199 mills for Community Center Complex Operations,
- 1.1700 mills for Community Center Complex Debt Service, 0.6670 mills for Park Improvement, and
- 1.0500 mills for Police Pension Stabilization, be approved.

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

Public Hearing – Ord 439 – DAS/Small Cell/Wireless Facilities in the public ROW

Breuckman presented information regarding the proposed ordinance. For background in 2017, the City adopted an ordinance regulating the deployment of “small cell” wireless facilities in the right-of-way. At the time, we were one of the first communities in Michigan to adopt such an ordinance. Unfortunately, the Michigan Legislature adopted legislation and the FCC adopted regulations that make our current ordinance provisions unenforceable. The legislation does allow some limited ability to issue permits, regulate aesthetic aspects of these small cell facilities, and require insurance, indemnity provisions, and bonds, but only if the City adopts an ordinance to do so. City administration recommends adoption of this draft ordinance to allow us to exercise the limited rights we do have. City Attorney Need concurred with the presentation given by the City Manager.

Mayor Metzger opened the public hearing at 9:54pm.

With no comments or questions, Mayor Metzger closed the public hearing at 9:55pm.

20-3468

Motion by Commissioner Perry, second by Commissioner Scott, that ordinance 439 amending Section 62-29 of the Pleasant Ridge City Code, regarding DAS/small cell/wireless facilities in the public rights-of-way be adopted.

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

City Manager's Report

Scott requested a summary of the Woodward Heights road calming project. Breuckman stated that project will begin sometime in the summer.

Other Business

Wahl stated there will be a graduation walk for all Pleasant Ridge graduates on June 17th at 6pm. The walk will take place on Ridge Road starting at the Community Center. Citywide Garage Sale will be held on August 8th, the cost is \$25.00. Oakland County family scavenger hunt will be in July, more details to follow. Playground equipment is open

Scott announced that the Historical Commission will hold a workshop on June 10th.

Budnik questioned when the fitness center will open, he understands gyms will be allowed to open June 15th. Stamper stated the section of the state we are has not opened yet. A plan is in place to open the gym when it is allowable. Breuckman stated there is a written operations plan in the works so that gym can open.

With no further business or discussion, Mayor Metzger adjourned the meeting at 10:03pm.

Mayor Kurt Metzger

Amy M. Allison, City Clerk