



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

**Regular City Commission Meeting
January 12, 2021**

Having been duly publicized, Mayor Metzger called the meeting to order at 7:32pm.

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

Public Discussion

Mayor Metzger discussed the Voter Challenge Award offered by Mr. Matt Pernick. The challenge was offered as a reward for voter turnout at the November 2020 election. Pleasant Ridge was awarded \$500.00 which was donated to Ferndale Youth Assistance and Ferncare.

Governmental Reports

Chief Kevin Nowak, Pleasant Ridge Police Department, introduced the newest member of the department Officer Jean-Pierre Cormier. Officer Cormier thanked the Commission for the opportunity to serve the citizens of Pleasant Ridge. Chief Nowak announced Pleasant Ridge Officers will be wearing centennial badges for 2021 to commemorate 100 years since the first Pleasant Ridge Officer was sworn in. He also gave updates on Code Enforcement activities and a brief crime update.

Regina Weiss, Michigan State Representative, gave a brief update regarding the state government activities. She discussed unemployment and the COVID vaccine rollout.

Governmental Reports

Commissioner Scott gave an update from the Historical Commission. September 11, 2021 is the tentative date for the Home and Garden Tour. The next meeting will be held February 3, 2021.

Commissioner Wahl gave an update from the Recreation Commission. She detailed upcoming events related to the Recreation Department. Discussed money raised for Gleaners.

Commissioner Budnik did not have a report from Ferndale Public Schools.

Commissioner Perry gave an update from the Planning Commission/DDA. There was a meeting held in December regarding updates to the sign ordinance. The recommendation by the Planning Commission was to move for City Commission action. The next Planning Commission/DDA meeting will be held January 25th.

Consent Agenda

21-3490

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

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

Establishing Public Hearing 2/9/2021 at 7:30pm regarding Sign Ordinance Amendments

Need gave an overview of the proposed sign ordinance amendments. These amendments bring the City’s ordinances into compliance with recent Supreme Court decisions. Breuckman gave a more detailed explanation of the proposed amendments. Mr. Jason Krzysiak, 55 Wellesley, voiced concerns regarding the proposed amendments, he would like to see the Commission pass the most permissive ordinance allowable. Scott requested Mr. Krzysiak forward his comments to the Commission for their consideration.

21-3491

Motion by Commissioner Perry second by Commissioner Scott, that a public hearing be established for Tuesday, February 9, 2021 at 7:30pm, to solicit public comments on an ordinance to amend Pleasant Ridge City Code, Chapter 54, Article I – Temporary and Nonconforming Signs, Section 54-2 – Definition, Section 54-7(b)(6) – Election Signs, Section 54-7(b)(8) – Sandwich Board Signs, Section 54-7(b)(9) – Street Banner Signs, and to amend the Pleasant Ridge Zoning Ordinance, Chapter 82, to remove the provisions dealing with temporary signs, and to revise sections of Chapter 82 accordingly.

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

Junior Commission Appointments

a. Historical Commission

21-3492

Motion by Commissioner Scott, second by Commissioner Perry, that the appointment of Rosemary Spatafora and Colleen McKenna to the Pleasant Ridge Historical Commission and the reappointment of Mr. Don Daniels to the Pleasant Ridge Historical Commission, terms to expire December 31, 2023, be approved.

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

b. Planning Commission/DDA

21-3493

Motion by Commissioner Perry, second by Commissioner Scott, that the appointment of Stephanie Vemula to the Pleasant Ridge Planning Commission/DDA and the reappointment of Tom, Wilkinson to the Pleasant Ridge Planning Commission/DDA, terms to expire December 31, 2023, and the appointment of Tim Matyas to the Planning Commission/DDA to a partial term, term to expire December 31, 2022 be approved.

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

c. Recreation Commission

21-3494

Motion by Commissioner Wahl, second by Commissioner Scott, that the reappointment of Al Kaczkowski, Catherine Russell, and James Leyerly to the Pleasant Ridge Recreation Commission, terms to expire December 31, 2023, be approved.

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

d. Library Board

21-3495

Motion by Commissioner Budnik, second by Commissioner Scott, that Mary Foreman be appointed to serve as the City's liaison to the Huntington Woods Library Board be approved.

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

Citywide Street sign replacement discussion

Breuckman gave a brief presentation regarding the ongoing street sign replacement. There was a request by Budnik to escalate the replacement of the rest of the street signs. Breuckman will come up with a replacement schedule over the next 6-9 months. The older signs that are replacement may be offered to the Pleasant Ridge Foundation for use as an auction item. The newer signs are easier to read and lighter weight. The direction Breuckman received was to proceed with the replacement project. Mr. Ted Zachary, 68 Devonshire, requested that the signs be oriented differently on the pole so they are easier to read. Perry received a comment from a resident about adding "Blvd" or "Ave" at the end of some streets, such as Elm Park. By adding the additional letters, the overall sign is smaller and can sometimes be harder to read.

21-3496

Motion by Commissioner Scott, second by Commissioner Budnik, that staff be directed to begin the process of completing the citywide street sign replacement project over a one-year period.

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

Closed Session

21-3497

Motion by Commissioner Budnik, second by Commissioner Wahl, that the Pleasant Ridge City Commission move into closed session under section 8(e) of the Open Meetings Act, and MCL 15.268 (e) and (h), to consult with our attorney regarding trial or settlement strategy in connection with Phillips v City of Pleasant Ridge, et al., Circuit Court Case No. 17-157620-NZ. (8:34pm)

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

Mayor Metzger reconvened the Regular City Commission Meeting at 9:14pm.

Settlement Agreement

21-3498

Motion by Commissioner Perry, second by Commissioner Scott, that the Pleasant Ridge City Commission adopt the settlement agreement in connection with Phillips v City of Pleasant Ridge, et al., Circuit Court Case No. 17-157620-NZ as presented by legal counsel.

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

Establish public hearing 2/9/2021 at 7:30pm, 2021 CDBG Program

21-3499

Motion by Commissioner Perry, second Wahl, that a public hearing be established for Tuesday, February 9, 2021 at 7:30pm to solicit public comments on the 2021 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application and subrecipient agreement.

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

City Manager's Report

None.

Other Business

None.

With no further business or discussion, Mayor Metzger adjourned the meeting at 9:20pm.

Mayor Kurt Metzger

Amy M. Allison, City Clerk