



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

**Regular City Commission Meeting
July 13, 2021**

Having been duly publicized, Mayor Metzger called the meeting to order at 7:31pm.

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

Amending the July 13, 2021 City Commission Agenda
21-3521

Motion by Commissioner Perry, second by Commissioner Scott, to amend the July 13, 2021, Pleasant Ridge City Commission Agenda by the removal of item #9 Pleasant Ridge Summer Fun Run proposal.

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

Public Discussion

Jeremy Noonan, 60 Woodward Heights, commented on traffic issues on Woodward Heights Boulevard, including the amount of truck traffic. Charles Kughn, 25 Elm Park, discussed the Woodward Road Diet. Would like preliminary paint testing done prior to final implementation to see where the traffic will flow to with the narrowing of lanes to create bike lanes. Howard Smith, 60 Woodward Heights, commented on the Woodward Road diet and the request for preliminary bike lane parking paint. Jeremy Noonan, continued to discuss Woodward Heights, and the amount of police patrol. Feels there could be more patrolling on the street. Questioned when the Woodward Heights traffic calming measures requested by the residents be implemented. Feels that options for that street could be implemented easily. Howard Smith, discussed Woodward Heights traffic issues and truck traffic and easy solutions the City could implement to alleviate traffic on that street.

Governmental Reports

Chief Kevin Nowak, Pleasant Ridge Police Department, gave a brief crime update and police department statistics and updates. Introduction of newest Police Officer Todd Tyler. He also gave an update from the Ferndale Fire Department that Chief Robinson had provided to him.

City Commission Liaison Reports

Commissioner Wahl gave an update from the Recreation Commission. She detailed upcoming events related to the Recreation Department, the Summer Program, Ice Cream Social and the Community Pool Season.

Commissioner Scott gave an update from the Historical Commission. September 11, 2021, is the date for the 2021 Garden Tour, called the “Outdoor Sanctuaries of Pleasant Ridge.” Looking for homeowners willing to showcase their garden on the tour. The museum will be resuming visiting hours soon.

Commissioner Budnik gave a report for the Ferndale Public School District and the report for the Huntington Woods Library provided by the Pleasant Ridge board representatives and other events happening at the library. Check the website for opening times and activities.

Commissioner Perry gave an update from the Planning Commission/DDA, next meeting will be held Monday, July 26, 2021.

Consent Agenda

21-3522

Motion by Commissioner Perry, second by Commissioner Wahl, that the consent agenda be approved.

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

Public Hearing – Ordinance 445 – Marijuana Facilities Ordinance

Breuckman gave a brief overview and presentation of the proposed marijuana facilities ordinance. Need discussed legal issues in other communities related to their ordinances.

Mayor Metzger opened the public hearing at 8:44pm.

Mr. Mikhail Lenko, 32 Oakland Park Blvd. requested clarification on the definition of a microbusiness. Breuckman stated he was not clear about the exact definition of a microbusiness, but he believes it relates to the volume of product and typically they are small and the product can be sold to individuals.

Mr., Michael Woodyard, attorney representing Vote Compassion for Pleasant Ridge Committee, there are a number of residents involved with committee, happy with the City’s effort to adopt an ordinance regarding facilities. A majority of Pleasant Ridge voters passed the initiative regarding marijuana in 2018. Commented regarding the proposed ordinance requirements hold both medical and recreational license for license selection, concerned with possibility of litigation, so called “sore loser” litigation for applications not chosen based on some qualifications. Zoning issues regarding location selection, appears that Iron Ridge location is one of the only areas, could be deemed not competitive, as Iron Ridge owners could say no to applicant leasing or buying space or the proposed apartments that are scheduled to be built at the site would limit the marijuana business due to the 200’ distance requirement. Having a narrow location could expose City to litigation.

Commissioner Wahl commented that the number of voters voting yes in 2018 may have wanted to legalize marijuana statewide, but not necessarily be in agreement for it to be sold at the storefront in the community. Residents have expressed concerns to her about the potential of a marijuana retailer in town. There are parking and traffic issues along Woodward Avenue. Access to retailers is close by to the community. Struggling to see benefit to this community by allowing a retailer. Breuckman indicated the community is smaller, there is not a huge amount of land for retailers. The Iron Ridge

area works well and can house this type of use. Commissioner Scott indicated regardless of the retailer, the same issues exist with parking and traffic.

Kristi McAuliffe, 6 Fairwood, indicated business ownership dictates how the business will be run and will be a community partner. 80% of residents voted in 2018 to legalize marijuana but agrees that many residents don't want the facility in their neighborhood. Every business has to work within the City guidelines. Not in favor of a facility being down the street from her house. These facilities are high traffic businesses, and there are many facilities in the surrounding communities. In favor of the proposed ordinance. In favor of a facility at the Iron Ridge location, not in favor of a Woodward Avenue location.

Allison indicated that there were three comments received prior to the meeting (attached).

Commissioner Scott questioned competitive bidding processes, was this an issue with liquor license. Breuckman indicated the marijuana facilities will be a different application process.

With no further comments or questions, Mayor Metzger closed the public hearing at 9:04pm.

21-3523

Motion by Commissioner Perry, second by Commissioner Scott, that Ordinance 445 regarding marijuana facilities be adopted subject to the revision to Section 18-294(d)(1 & 2) as presented to the City Commission, and read at the meeting, and further that the City begin accepting applications for licenses on September 15, 2021.

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

City Manager's Report

Supplemental Brush pick up was today. The regularly scheduled brush pick up will be next week (7/20). The Woodward Heights stripping project will begin the week of July 19th. New crosswalks citywide will also be stripped. Park pavilion updates.

Other Business

Allison discussed the upcoming November General Election, to be held November 2, 2021. There will be two City Commission seats and the Mayor seat will be elected at that time. Nominating petitions for these offices are available and will be due by 4pm on July 20th.

With no further business or discussion, Mayor Metzger adjourned the meeting at 9:09pm.

Mayor Kurt Metzger

Amy M. Allison, City Clerk