

Minutes of the electronically conducted regular meeting of the City Commission held Monday, June 22, 2020, at 7:12 p.m.

Mayor Joseph called the meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Commissioners Present: Mayor Joseph and Vice Mayor Perschbacher;
Commissioners Alsager, Gillis, Ronan and Tolas

Commissioners Absent: Commissioner LaLonde

Others Present: City Manager Ridley and City Clerk Howard

All present attended virtually via Zoom video conference.

Proclamations and Presentations

Mayor Joseph read the original Emancipation Proclamation in recognition of Juneteenth.

Receipt of Petitions and Communications

Received the following petitions and communications:

1. City Manager report on pending items.
2. Downtown Development Authority Meeting Minutes. (February)
3. 2019 Component Unit Financial Reports.
4. Communication received from Martha Smith, 1001 E. Gaylord St., in opposition to approval of a liquor license for Central Michigan University, John G Kulhavi Events Center.
5. Communication received from Thomas Rudert, 622 S. Kinney Ave., regarding street signs.

Moved by Commissioner Gillis and supported by Commissioner Alsager to approve the following items on the Consent Calendar:

1. Minutes of the regular meeting of the City Commission held June 8, 2020.
2. Contract with ATI Group of Flushing, Michigan for HVAC preventative maintenance and hourly response rates as presented.
3. Contract with Cusack Masonry Restoration, LLC of Hubberdston, Michigan in the amount of \$54,000 for the Public Safety Building EIFS repair and the appropriate budget amendment.
4. Contract for the bid prices submitted by Nutrigro Environmental Solutions of Charlotte, Michigan for biosolids management as presented at a not-to-exceed cost over three years of \$208,300.
5. Authorize the Mayor to sign the 2020 CARES Act agreement with MDOT-AERO regarding sub grant #MOP-11720 CARES for the Mt. Pleasant Municipal Airport.

6. Warrants dated June 9, 15, 16 and 17, 2020 and Payrolls dated June 12, 2020 all totaling \$752,708.31.

AYES: Commissioners Alsager, Gillis, Joseph, Perschbacher, Ronan & Tolas

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Commissioner LaLonde

Motion unanimously adopted.

A public hearing was held on a new Class C License for John G Kulhavi Events Center, Central Michigan University and consideration of resolution in support of authorizing same. Communication received from Martha Smith, 1001 E. Gaylord St., in opposition to approval of a liquor license for Central Michigan University, John G Kulhavi Events Center. There being no other comments or communications received, the Mayor closed the public hearing.

Moved by Commissioner Ronan and supported by Vice Mayor Perschbacher to approve the standard Liquor Control Commission resolution for the John G Kulhavi Events Center as presented.

AYES: Commissioners Alsager, Gillis, Joseph, Perschbacher and Ronan

NAYS: Commissioner Tolas

ABSENT: Commissioner LaLonde

Motion carried.

Moved by Vice Mayor Perschbacher and supported by Commissioner Tolas to authorize the Mayor to sign the appropriate MSHDA documents for the acceptance of the \$30,000 Neighborhood Enhancement Program Grant.

AYES: Commissioners Alsager, Gillis, Joseph, Perschbacher, Ronan and Tolas

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Commissioner LaLonde

Motion unanimously adopted.

Moved by Commissioner Gillis and supported by Commissioner Alsager to authorize the Mayor to sign the site access agreement with Alltel Corporation as drafted by the City Attorney for property located at 3244 West Broomfield Road, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan.

AYES: Commissioners Alsager, Gillis, Joseph, Perschbacher, Ronan and Tolas

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Commissioner LaLonde

Motion unanimously adopted.

Announcements on City-Related Issues and New Business

City Manager Ridley gave an update on the City's current status in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic and gave some updated information and plans on current staffing levels with the opening of city buildings to the public without appointment starting today, farmers market update, outdoor dining applications, status of the closure of a section of Broadway Street downtown for use by businesses; status of reopening parks and amenities further, including the spray park and some restrooms. She also asked everyone to be patient, compassionate and kind with each other as we work towards returning to a form of normal.

Public Safety Director Lauria reminded residents of the City's fireworks ordinance which provides: A person may ignite, discharge or use consumer fireworks within the city on the following dates at the following times: Every day from June 29th through July 4th from 11:00 a.m. until 11:45 p.m.

City Clerk Howard announced that there are two seats available on the City Commission for the three year term of January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2023. Terms are expiring on December 31, 2020 for Commissioners William Joseph and Kristin LaLonde. City Commission packets are available at the City Clerk's Office and can be turned in starting Monday, June 22 thru 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 21.

Mayor Joseph announced that June is "Pride" month and shared some resources that are available. He encouraged the city to be safe in relation to COVID-19 and to remember that we still need to be careful to avoid a second wave. Continue to wear a mask and practice social distancing. He also encouraged citizens to fill out the census.

Commissioner Gillis asked how to report discharge of fireworks outside of allowed times/dates; and encouraged public to contact central dispatch if they see campfires at parks. She urged the property committee to not extend Olivieri's request for extension of building houses on the property that was sold to him from the city; she would like to see them sold back to the city and resold. She would like to see free rides to the polls by I-Ride for each of the elections. She encouraged citizens to take advantage of no reason absentee voting and run for City Commission. She heard that Target is raising minimum wage to \$15/hr and commends them for that and hopes other businesses would follow suit. She thinks that low income housing would not be as needed if living wage is provided for all. She is concerned with issues related to the zoning ordinance and the elimination of parking requirements; and asked citizens to please continue to wear masks for the safety of yourself and others. She thanked law enforcement for their work during this time and reminded everyone that times can be trying for officers too. She thanked commissioners for their service.

Commissioner Tolas commented that he has questions on Broadway Street closure and shared concerns of some business owners who have contacted him. He asked who is doing the review every two weeks. He has concerns with removal of directional indicators on street signs. He agrees with Commissioner Gillis that the Eastpointe lots could be sold back to the city from Olivieri, but if garage setbacks were corrected in the zoning ordinance the problem would go away.

Public Input on Agenda Items

Due to the meeting being conducted electronically, public comments were emailed to the city and then read aloud by City Manager Ridley.

Betty Tyler, 210 W. High St., spoke in support of the temporary street closure on Broadway Street between Main and University.

The Commission recessed at 8:39 p.m. and went into a work session at 8:44 p.m.

WORK SESSION – Continue Discussion on 2019 Housing Study.

Mayor Joseph and City Manager Ridley led a discussion on the 2019 Housing Study

Discussion ensued.

Staff will continue to work on items that were discussed and had general agreement and bring back further details for a future discussion by the Commission.

Mayor Joseph adjourned the meeting without objection at 9:37 p.m.

William L. Joseph, Mayor

Jeremy Howard, City Clerk