

Minutes of the electronically conducted regular meeting of the City Commission held Monday, August 10, 2020, at 7:00 p.m.

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

Commissioners Present: Mayor William Joseph and Vice Mayor Amy Perschbacher; Commissioners Mary Alsager, Lori Gillis, George Ronan and Petro Tolas

Commissioners Absent: Commissioner Kristin LaLonde

Others Present: City Manager Nancy Ridley, City Clerk Jeremy Howard and City Attorney Michael Homier

All present attended virtually via Zoom video conference.

Proclamations and Presentations

Peter Haefner, Partner with Vredevelde Haefner LLC, gave a presentation on the 2019 Comprehensive Annual Finance Report.

Discussion ensued.

Additions/Deletions to Agenda

Item #12 - "Consider extension of contract with Republic Services for solid waste pick up."; and, Item #13 - "Consider resolution setting fee for trash carts." were removed from the agenda via unanimous consent.

Receipt of Petitions and Communications

Received the following petitions and communications:

1. City Manager report on pending items;
 - a. Monthly report on police related citizen complaints received.
2. Tax Increment Finance Authority Meeting Minutes. (May)
3. Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes. (June)
4. Traffic Control Committee Meeting Minutes. (July)
5. Receipt of 2019 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.
6. Receipt of 2019 Annual Report.
7. Notice of Temporary Traffic Control Order #2-2020.

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 July 27, 2020.

2. Sole-source purchase of replacement self-contained breathing apparatus equipment from Dinges Fire Company of Amboy, Illinois in the amount of \$244,447.
3. Set a special meeting for Thursday, September 17, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. with the Mt. Pleasant Public School Board and the Charter Township of Union Board of Trustees to discuss the Recreation Authority Study Committee's final report.
4. Warrants dated July 17, 21 and 30, 2020 and Payrolls dated July 24, 2020 all totaling \$1,752,408.74.

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Commissioner LaLonde

Motion unanimously adopted.

Moved by Commissioner Alsager and supported by Commissioner Ronan to provide input to CMU that the current draft of the amended Restrictive Covenants is supported and in addition, the City Commission would recommend the following two items be further considered:

- The list of uses in Section B (Restrictions), item 2 is very specific in some respects (particularly the carry over uses from the current covenants) while some of the new allowances are very general. The current list also prohibits some desirable activities (such as outdoor dining).
- The updated document provides limited direction on site landscaping. This was more clearly articulated by the design guidelines which were previously eliminated. Consistent landscaping standards would ensure a cohesive look and feel for the park and protect the investment of the City, University, and private owners. If the University has landscaping standards used elsewhere on University owned properties, it may be beneficial to reference those in the covenants.

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Commissioner LaLonde

Motion unanimously adopted.

Moved by Commissioner Alsager and supported by Commissioner Ronan to approve the City Commission Agenda Setting Policy as presented. (CC Exh. 9-2020)

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Commissioner LaLonde

Motion unanimously adopted.

Moved by Commissioner Alsager and supported by Vice Mayor Perschbacher to approve the proposal from AKT Peerless for environmental consulting services as presented at a not-to-exceed cost of \$21,000 and the appropriate budget amendment for this year.

AYES: Commissioners Joseph, Perschbacher and Ronan

NAYS: Commissioners Alsager, Gillis and Tolas

ABSENT: Commissioner LaLonde

Motion Failed.

Moved by Commissioner Alsager and supported by Commissioner Gillis to send the project out for competitive bid.

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Commissioner LaLonde

Motion carried.

Announcements on City-Related Issues and New Business

Mayor Joseph announced that:

- The City and project consultant McKenna Associates, will host a virtual open house on Thursday, August 20th at 7 p.m. on the 2050 Master Plan. Information can be found on the City's website at www.mtpleasant2050.com;
- CMU students are coming back this week and we are thankful they are able to come back. He asks that everyone continue to wear masks and not gather in large groups. He asks everyone to make good decisions and follow community standards.
- Reminded everyone to fill out their census.
- Thanked the Clerk and City staff for work done on the August Primary election.
- Thanked staff for their work on recreational marijuana selection committee and he mentioned the meeting coming up this week and that they hoped to be finished by the end of the month.

Commissioner Gillis encouraged everyone to fill out their census before the September 30th deadline and encouraged community members to sign up for vacancies on city boards and commissions.

Commissioner Ronan encouraged citizens to read the 2019 Comprehensive Annual Finance Report and the 2019 Annual Report as well as other information available on the city's website. www.mt-pleasant.org

Commissioner Tolas thanked City staff for their work on the audit report.

Public Comment on Agenda and Non-Agenda Items

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

Mike Logan, Michigan Consulting & Environmental, 1669 S. Isabella Rd. spoke in opposition to the sole sourcing of the contract for environmental consulting services.

The Commission recessed at 9:02 p.m. and went into a work session at 9:09 p.m.

WORK SESSION - 2019 Goal Report Discussion on Downtown Study.

Mayor Joseph and City Manager Ridley led a discussion on the 2019 Goal Report on Downtown Study.

Discussion ensued.

Staff will begin work on the policies/programs that were discussed and had general agreement.

Mayor Joseph adjourned the meeting without objection at 10:13 p.m.

William L. Joseph, Mayor

Jeremy Howard, City Clerk