

Minutes of the electronically conducted regular meeting of the City Commission held Monday, February 8, 2021, 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, Olivia Cyman, Lori Gillis, George Ronan and Petro Tolas. All Commissioners present indicated they were in Mt. Pleasant, Isabella County, Michigan.

Commissioners Absent: None

Others Present: City Manager Nancy Ridley, Acting City Clerk Chris Saladine and City Attorney Michael Homier

All present attended virtually via Zoom video conference.

#### Additions/Deletions to Agenda

City Manager Ridley requested City Commissioners consider adding Item #11 "Consider adopting approval of poverty exemption extension under PA 253 of 2020"; and Item #12 "Consider setting special meeting for training on Robert's Rules" to the agenda. There being no objections the items were added to the agenda.

#### Public Input on Agenda Items

Caleb Cary, 214 S. Pine Street, commented on correspondence to City Commission related to adult use marijuana application timelines.

Bob Busch, 422 S. Washington; Steve Swaney, 1405 Greenbrier; Jessica Jernigan, 302 E. High; Toby T. Busch, 900 Appian Way; Eric Chercover, 318 S. Cherry; John Dinse, 1206 E. High; Pat Heitman, 911 Elizabeth Court; Sara Prussing, 4439 Sterling Way; Maureen Eke, 912 Hopkins; Desirea Woodworth, 214 N. Arnold; and Theresa Turner, 608 S. Kinney spoke against censure for Vice Mayor Perschbacher.

Dustyn Coontz, Attorney for Vice Mayor Perschbacher, commented on his client's social media post and possible actions by the City Commission.

#### 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. Correspondence received from Jared and Amanda Morningstar, 1105 Robert Ave.; Bruce Kilmer, 415 N. University; Robert Busch, 422 S. Washington; and Eric Chercover and Xanther Carp, 318 E. Cherry, regarding social media post. City Manager Ridley read communications received from Rorik Brooks, 618 E.

- Gaylord; Janet Peace, 425 S. Shepherd Rd. and Eric Chercover and Xanther Carp, 318 E. Cherry St. in support of Commissioner Perschbacher.
3. Correspondence received from Deborah Cary, 7434 E. Howard City Edmore Rd, regarding recreational marihuana ordinance.
  4. Traffic Control Committee meeting minutes. (October)

Item #6 "Bids and Quotations a. Street Overlays" was removed from the Consent Calendar.

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

1. Minutes of the electronically conducted regular meeting of the City Commission held January 25, 2021.
2. Warrants dated January 26 & 27, 2021 and Payrolls dated January 22, 2021 all totaling \$526,020.56.

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Motion unanimously adopted.

Moved by Commissioner Ronan and supported by Commissioner Alsager to approve the bid of Central Asphalt of Mt. Pleasant, Michigan for 2021 Street Overlay Project in the amount of \$309,000.

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Motion unanimously adopted.

Moved by Vice Mayor Perschbacher and supported by Commissioner Alsager to approve a budget amendment of \$95,000 from the Capital Improvement Fund to the General Fund Parks Department for the Island Park tennis/pickleball courts conversion, outdoor fitness equipment and Millpond Park parking lot repair.

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Motion unanimously adopted.

Moved by Commissioner Alsager and supported by Commissioner Ronan to approve budget amendment so that \$16,260 from the Economic Initiatives Fund is

transferred to the TIFA-CBD to be used for the \$40,000 marketing and promotion planned as outlined by the TIFA Board.

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Motion unanimously adopted.

Vice Mayor Perschbacher abstained due to personal content of discussion.

Moved by Commissioner Tolas and supported by Commissioner Gillis to adopt the Resolution Regarding Censure of Vice Mayor Amy Perschbacher as presented.

Moved by Mayor Joseph and supported by Commissioner Alsager to amend the Resolution by removing items 1 and 3 from the Resolution presented.

AYES: Commissioners Alsager, Cyman, Joseph & Ronan

NAYS: Commissioners Gillis and Tolas

ABSENT: None

ABSTAINED: Commissioner Perschbacher

Motion carried.

The Commission considered the original motion as amended.

AYES: Commissioners Gillis and Tolas

NAYS: Commissioners Alsager, Cyman, Joseph & Ronan

ABSENT: None

ABSTAINED: Commissioner Perschbacher

Motion failed.

Moved by Commissioner Alsager and supported by Vice Mayor Perschbacher to approve the resolution adopting approval of poverty exemption extensions as presented. (CC Exh. 1-2021)

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Motion unanimously adopted.

Moved by Commissioner Alsager and supported by Vice Mayor Perschbacher to set a special meeting for Tuesday, March 2, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. for parliamentary procedure training.

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Motion unanimously adopted.

## Announcements on City-Related Issues and New Business

Commissioner Gillis reminded residents of available board and committee vacancies which are available on the city website; she announced that our police have been highlighted in the media for their partnership with RISE to assist those who have been impacted by domestic violence; and she encouraged the community to continue wearing masks, social distancing and hand washing to help against the spread of COVID-19.

Commissioner Alsager relayed information she received from CMU's Rural Medicine Program.

Commissioner Ronan indicated his support for the CMU Rural Medicine Program.

Mayor Joseph reminded community that a lot of people in the community are struggling right now. He encouraged volunteering if possible. He also showed support for Commissioner Gillis' reminder about taking precautions against COVID-19.

Commissioner Tolas asked about communications received.

The Commission recessed at 8:44 p.m. and went into work session at 8:52 p.m.

### WORK SESSION - Discuss Charter Amendments Proposed in 2020.

Mayor Joseph and City Manager Ridley led a discussion on possible Charter Amendments.

Discussion ensued.

General agreement was reached to first move forward with a rewrite of the resolution of four year terms for a 2022 vote.

Mayor Joseph adjourned the meeting without objection at 9:40 p.m.

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William L. Joseph, Mayor

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Chris Saladine, Acting City Clerk