

Minutes of the electronically conducted regular meeting of the City Commission held Monday, August 23, 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 and City Clerk Heather Bouck

All present attended virtually via Zoom video conference.

Proclamations and Presentations

Mayor Joseph read aloud a proclamation recognizing the 150th Anniversary of the Mt. Pleasant First Presbyterian Church.

Public Input on Agenda Items

Andy Blom, 1304 E. Lincoln St., spoke in support of reconfirmation of the commitment to meeting with the Mt. Pleasant Area Diversity Group (MPADG) and Human Rights Committee (HRC).

Harmony Nowlin, Consumers Energy Community Services Area Manager, 1325 Wright Ave., Alma, announced the completion of the natural gas project that services Union Township and the City of Mt. Pleasant. Free ice cream will be provided at Doozier's on Thursday, August 26th from noon until 4 p.m.

Cindy Kaliszewski, Sacred Heart Business Manager, spoke in opposition to the special assessment lighting district proposed for Illinois Street due to cost, lack of necessity, snow removal issues and the fact the zoning is Civic versus Commercial.

Receipt of Petitions and Communications

Received the following petitions and communications:

1. City Manager report on pending items;
 - a. Requested information on marihuana licensing.
2. Planning Commission Meeting Minutes. (July)
3. Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes. (May)
4. Economic Development Corporation-Brownfield Redevelopment Authority (EDC/BRDA) Meeting Minutes. (July)

Item #14 "Consider reconfirmation of commitment to meeting with the Mt. Pleasant Area Diversity Group (MPADG) and Human Rights Committee (HRC)" was removed from the Consent Calendar.

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

1. Minutes of the electronically conducted regular meeting of the City Commission held August 9, 2021.
2. Minutes of the electronically conducted closed session of the City Commission held August 9, 2021.
3. Bid of F & K Tree Services of Mt. Pleasant, Michigan for 2022 and 2023 tree trimming and removal services as presented.
4. Bid of Green Scene Landscaping of Mt. Pleasant, Michigan for 2022 and 2023 grounds mowing in the amount of \$325 per week for street boulevards, islands and drain areas, and \$397 per week for the former Mt. Pleasant Center Property area.
5. Bid of Shults Equipment of Ithaca, Michigan in the amount of \$74,997.00 for the purchase and installation of plow truck equipment and lighting.
6. Bid of Thomas Scientific of Swedesboro, New Jersey in the amount of \$23,652.60 for the Fume Hood Replacement at the WRRF
7. Resolution for final approval for Traffic Control Order #5-2021 as follows:

WHEREAS, under the date of May 28, 2021, the Traffic Engineer of the City of Mt. Pleasant issued temporary traffic control order No. 5-2021 (Place overnight permit parking signs for the city parking spaces in parking lot 10 downtown.). Said temporary traffic control order was presented to the City Commission on August 23, 2021 for review and after reviewing said temporary control order and being fully advised in the premises,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Commission approves making temporary traffic control order No. 5-2021 a permanent traffic control order.
8. Resolution for final approval for Traffic Control Order #6-2021 as follows:

WHEREAS, under the date of May 28, 2021, the Traffic Engineer of the City of Mt. Pleasant issued temporary traffic control order No. 6-2021 (Place no parking signs at the turnaround at the end of Sansote Street.). Said temporary traffic control order was presented to the City Commission on August 23, 2021 for review and after reviewing said temporary control order and being fully advised in the premises,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Commission approves making temporary traffic control order No. 6-2021 a permanent traffic control order.
9. Confirm appointment of Vice Mayor Amy Perschbacher as the voting delegate representing the City of Mt. Pleasant at the Michigan Municipal League annual member's meeting and appoint Commissioner Mary Alsager as the alternate.
10. Set a public hearing for September 13, 2021 on the application to transfer the existing Industrial Facilities Tax abatement from DAYCO to MAC LTT for the remaining three years.

11. Receive proposed Ordinance to amend Chapter 51: Sewers, of the Mt. Pleasant City Code of Ordinances and set a public hearing for September 27, 2021 on the Industrial Pretreatment Program (IPP) and the proposed ordinance amendment.
12. Set a public hearing for September 13, 2021 on the request from TNC Holdings for a Redevelopment Liquor License at 203/205 W. Broadway.
13. Authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the lighting agreement with the Friends of the Dog Park as presented.
14. Warrants dated August 2, 3, 10 & 11, 2021 and Payrolls dated August 6, 2021 all totaling \$1,964,812.92.

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Motion unanimously adopted.

A Public Hearing was held on proposed ordinance to amend Chapter 97: Parks and Recreation, Section 97.99 Penalty of the Mt. Pleasant Code of Ordinances to add penalties for violations of the ordinance. There being no public comments or communications received, the Mayor closed the Public Hearing.

Moved by Commissioner Tolas and seconded by Vice Mayor Perschbacher that Ordinance 1073, an Ordinance to amend Chapter 97: Parks and Recreation, Section 97.99 Penalties of the Mt. Pleasant Code of Ordinances to add penalties for violations of the ordinance having been introduced and read, now be passed, ordained and ordered published.

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Motion unanimously adopted.

A Public Hearing was held on the necessity of the public improvement; consider resolution #3 to proceed with improvements; consider resolution #4 to accept the special assessment roll and set a public hearing for September 13, 2021 regarding said roll for Special Assessment District #1-21 regarding pedestrian lighting.

Amanda Hart, Executive Director of The Listening Ear, expressed opposition to the Special Assessment District.

Jim Wojcik, Finance Commission Chair; Fr. Loren Kalinowski, Pastor and Cindy Kaliszewski, Business Manager for Sacred Heart Parish, provided written correspondence opposing the Special Assessment District.

Mike Kostrzewa, 1211 E. Chippewa St., submitted an email opposing the Special Assessment District, indicating he feels that the area is sufficiently illuminated.

There being no additional public comments or communications received, the Mayor closed the Public Hearing.

Moved by Commissioner Tolas and seconded by Vice Mayor Perschbacher to postpone action on Special Assessment District #1-21 until a review of the zoning is completed.

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Motion unanimously adopted.

A Public Hearing was held on the necessity of the public improvement; consider resolution #3 to proceed with improvements; consider resolution #4 to accept the special assessment roll and set a public hearing for September 13, 2021 regarding said roll for Special Assessment District #2-21 Principal Shopping District. There being no public comments or communications received, the Mayor closed the Public Hearing.

Moved by Commissioner Tolas and seconded by Vice Mayor Perschbacher to approve resolutions #3 and #4 for Special Assessment District #2-21 regarding Principal Shopping District and set a public hearing for September 13, 2012 on same.

PRINCIPAL SHOPPING DISTRICT 2-21
RESOLUTION NO. 3

WHEREAS, the City Commission, after due and legal notice, has met and heard all interested persons to be affected by the proposed funding for the operations of the Principal Shopping District hereinafter described;

AND, WHEREAS, the City Commission deems it advisable and necessary to proceed with Special Assessment No. 2-21

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The City Commission hereby determines to provide funding for the Principal Shopping District, in the City, Special Assessment District No. 2-21.

2. The plans, profiles and specifications previously prepared by the City Manager are hereby approved.

3. The Commission hereby approves the detailed estimates of the special assessment district's cost to be \$104,700. \$104,700 shall be spread over the special assessment district as hereinafter described as a result of benefits to be received by the affected properties in the special assessment district.

4. The City Assessor is directed to prepare a special assessment roll in accordance with the Commission's determination.

5. When the Assessor has completed the assessment roll he shall file the roll with the City Clerk for presentation to the Commission.

6. All resolutions and parts of resolutions conflicting with the provisions of this resolution are and the same hereby are rescinded.

PRINCIPAL SHOPPING DISTRICT 2-21
RESOLUTION NO. 4

WHEREAS, the Assessor has prepared a revised special assessment roll for Special Assessment District No. 2-21 to special assess to provide funding for the operations of the Principal Shopping District, and the same has been presented to the City Commission by the City Clerk.

WHEREAS, the district is described as all the lots and parcels of land as follows: all lots in the Principal Shopping District, as established by the City Commission at the February 24, 2003 meeting, and amended at the November 14, 2005 meeting.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. Said special assessment roll is accepted and will be on file in the office of the City Clerk for public examination.

2. The City Commission shall meet virtually at 7:00 p.m., Daylight Savings Time, on September 13, 2021, as part of the regularly scheduled City Commission meeting to hear all persons interested in reviewing the special assessment roll, and shall be afforded an opportunity to be heard. The City Clerk is directed to publish and mail, in accordance with applicable statutory and ordinance provisions, the notice of hearing.

3. All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this resolution be and the same hereby are rescinded.

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Motion unanimously adopted.

Moved by Commissioner Alsager and seconded by Commissioner Ronan to support the reconfirmation of the regular meetings with the Director of Public Safety and the Mt. Pleasant Area Diversity Group and the Human Rights Committee to accomplish the activities as presented.

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

NAYS: Commissioner Tolas

ABSENT: None

Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Gillis and seconded by Commissioner Tolas to extend second interviews to candidates Aaron Desentz and John Hanifan.

AYES: Commissioners Alsager, Cyman, Gillis & Tolas

NAYS: Commissioners Joseph, Perschbacher & Ronan

ABSENT: None

Motion carried.

Moved by Vice Mayor Perschbacher and seconded by Commissioner Alsager to approve closed session pursuant to subsection 8(c) of the Open Meetings Act for strategy and negotiation sessions connected with the negotiation of a collective bargaining agreement.

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Motion unanimously.

Announcements on City-Related Issues and New Business

Mayor Joseph announced FDA approval of the Pfizer vaccine. He commented that the Delta variant is bad and disrupting lives in the southern states adding that vaccinated individuals suffer much less severe symptoms. He encouraged everyone to help yourself, your family and friends and get vaccinated if you have not already done so.

Commissioner Tolas commented that the Taco Boy article in the newspaper and related petition should be a non-issue as the drive through should be grandfathered in. He read an August 17th email he received regarding a Commissioner's post to Facebook and expressed his displeasure and embarrassment with the post.

Commissioner Gillis reminded Commission that Commission positions are non-partisan and restraint needs to be utilized regarding political posts. She announced that the Pfizer vaccine is now FDA approved, she encourages individuals to obtain vaccination and supports the University in their decision to require vaccination or regular COVID-19 testing.

Commissioner Ronan encourages everyone to vote in the November 2, 2021 election.

The Commission recessed at 9:55 p.m. and went into a closed session at 10:03 p.m. A separate set of minutes was taken for the closed session.

The Commission recessed at 10:29 p.m. and went into open session at 10:32 p.m.

Moved by Commissioner Tolas and seconded by Commissioner Cyman to approve labor agreements with Technical, Professional, and Officeworkers' Association of Michigan (TPOAM); Police Officers Labor Council (POLC) and Command Officers Association of Michigan (COAM).

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Motion unanimously adopted.

Mayor Joseph adjourned the meeting without objection at 10:34 p.m.

William L. Joseph, Mayor

Heather Bouck, City Clerk