

Minutes of the regular meeting of the City Commission held Monday, March 28, 2022, at 7:00 p.m., in the City Commission Room, 320 W. Broadway St., Mt. Pleasant, Michigan with virtual options.

Mayor Perschbacher called the meeting to order.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Commissioners Present: Mayor Amy Perschbacher and Vice Mayor Olivia Cyman; Commissioners Mary Alsager, Brian Assmann, Maureen Eke & George Ronan

Commissioners Absent: Liz Busch

Others Present: City Manager Aaron Desentz and City Clerk Heather Bouck

Proclamations and Presentations

Public Safety Director Paul Lauria introduced Krysta Carabelli who is joining us as our Social Crisis Advocate in partnership with RISE and thanked all those assisting in the creation of this position.

Additions/Deletions to Agenda

Mayor Perschbacher added the appointment of Dave McGuire to Item #21 as an appointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Public Input on Agenda Items

Deb Cary, 7434 Howard City Edmore Rd, Vestaburg, fully supports the ordinance amendments and, if the Commission does not support this action to postpone the marihuana issues until the attorney, Commissioner Busch and City Planner Kain are present providing full transparency.

Micah Focken, 916 E. Chippewa St., expressed his support for reciprocity and his wish for the Commission to postpone the matter until the attorney, City Planner Kain and Commissioner Busch are present.

Stephanie Terpening, 611 Schoolcrest Ave, Clare, voiced her support for reciprocity.

Sergio Valiente, 1110 N. Fancher, stated his need for reciprocity as his business would fail without it due to changing market conditions.

Kurt Hartshorn, 621 N. Kinney, raised concerns about empty store fronts and the need to prevent others. He supports reciprocity and the need to table this matter until all parties are present.

Syd Smith, 730 E. Bluegrass, expressed his opposition to Broadway Central.

Judy Smith, 730 E. Bluegrass, raised concerns about downtown employees utilizing merchant, front row parking all day and the need to establish short term parking solutions. She further stated her opposition to Broadway Central.

Rosemary Gray, 1105 Greenbanks, is opposed to Broadway Central. She further shared her concern with the lack of communication between retailers and the City.

Rich Swindlehurst, 11794 East St., Kewadin, stated his opposition to Broadway Central. However, indicated that he would be supportive of temporary road closures for event purposes.

Christina Sheller, 515 N. Fancher, spoke in favor of Broadway Central.

Caleb Cary, 910 E. Chippewa St., spoke in favor of reciprocity.

Erik Canute, 703 N. Washington St., asked the Commission to consider the employees, not just the owners in their decision process and support reciprocity to help retain jobs.

Pete Tolas, 405 W. Grand, is opposed to Broadway Central. He also commented that he is happy to see the Taco Boy issue resolved although feels like it should have been done prior to attorney fees being incurred.

Receipt of Petitions and Communications

Received the following petitions and communications:

2. City Manager report on pending items.
3. 2021 Annual Report.
4. Airport Joint Operations and Management Board Meeting Minutes. (January)

Moved by Commissioner Alsager and seconded by Commissioner Eke to approve the following items on the Consent Calendar:

5. Minutes of the special meeting of the City Commission held March 9, 2022.
6. Minutes of the regular meeting of the City Commission held March 14, 2022.
7. Minutes of the closed session of the City Commission held March 14, 2022.
8. Commit to purchase road salt for the 2022-2023 season through the State of Michigan MiDEAL Extended Purchasing Program.
9. Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) Resolution authorizing the City Manager to approve a contract amendment for the approach slope clearing project at the Mt. Pleasant Airport as follows:

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Transportation has submitted an amendment for the purpose of amending Contract No. 2022-0445, dated February 9, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the contract provides for the undertaking of Phase II of the Runway 9 Approach Slope Clearing Project; and

WHEREAS, the parties desire to increase the contract amount to correct the original contract amount and to align the budget with the budget set forth for the project;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the city manager is authorized to digitally sign said contact amendment on behalf of the City of Mt. Pleasant.

10. Set a public hearing for Monday, April 11, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. to obtain public input on the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) Revitalization and Placemaking Grant proposal.
11. Set a public hearing for Monday, April 11, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. to obtain public input on the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) Public Gathering Spaces Grant application.
12. Warrants dated March 22, 2022 and Payrolls dated March 18, 2022 all totaling \$747,126.08.

Motion unanimously adopted.

A public hearing was held on the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant application. Phil Hertzler, 2113 McDonald Dr. spoke in support of the project. There being no additional public comments or communications received the Mayor closed the public hearing.

Moved by Commissioner Ronan and seconded by Commissioner Eke to approve the Resolution of Approval for the 2022 Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant Application as follows:

Whereas, the City of Mt. Pleasant, in cooperation with the Isabella County Friends of the Mid-Michigan Community Pathways and the Charter Township of Union, wishes to construct a trail connecting the GKB Riverwalk Trail to Mission Creek Park and to establish a northerly connection point for the Mid-Michigan Regional Pathway System, and

Whereas, the proposed project is consistent with the Greater Mt. Pleasant Non-Motorized Plan and provides a vital connection for City and Township residents to access the City's park system and existing 4 miles of paved, non-motorized pathways, and

Whereas, the proposed project is specifically outlined in and consistent with the goals and objectives of the City's current 2021-2026 Parks and Recreation Master Plan, and

Whereas, the proposed project is listed in the City's adopted 2022-2027 Capital Improvement Plan, and

Whereas, the proposed project and grant application were discussed at a public meeting of the Mt. Pleasant City Commission held March 28, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at Mt. Pleasant City Hall to provide an opportunity for additional public comment on the proposed project, and

Whereas, the City of Mt. Pleasant has committed to providing \$525,000 or 43% of the total \$1,200,000 project cost from City matching funds along with \$375,000 or 31% of the total \$1,200,000 project cost from Township matching funds;

Be it therefore resolved that the Mt. Pleasant City Commission hereby approves submittal of a 2022 Michigan Department of Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant application for the Mid-Michigan/GKB Trail Project.

AYES: Commissioners Alsager, Assmann, Cyman, Eke, Perschbacher & Ronan

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Commissioner Busch

Motion unanimously adopted.

Moved by Commissioner Ronan and seconded by Commissioner Alsager to approve the budget amendment of \$60,000 to cover the addition of a Water Plant Operator for the remainder of 2022. Motion unanimously adopted.

Moved by Vice Mayor Cyman and seconded by Commissioner Alsager to approve Broadway Central for the May 2 - October 11, 2022 season and a budget amendment of \$30,500 from the fund balance for economic initiatives.

AYES: Commissioners Cyman & Perschbacher

NAYS: Commissioners Alsager, Assmann, Eke, & Ronan

ABSENT: Commissioner Busch

Motion failed.

Moved by Commissioner Assmann and seconded by Commissioner Alsager to approve the requested street closure for Richli, Inc. to hold an EDM concert on Saturday, September 17, 2022 on Court Street with the following conditions: 1) Time of concert: from 8:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. (midnight); 2) Notification of the public, including downtown restaurants, a minimum of three times via social media and press release; 3) Maximum of 2,000 people; and 4) Trash is removed and disposed of within 12 hours of ending.

AYES: Commissioners Alsager, Assmann, Cyman, Eke & Perschbacher

NAYS: Commissioner Ronan

ABSENT: Commissioner Busch

Motion carried.

Approved submission of City requests for Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe two percent allocations with a summary of the Commission's top priorities.

Moved by Commissioner Assmann and seconded by Commissioner Eke to approve the revised purchasing policy to enhance and streamline the purchasing process. Motion unanimously adopted.

Moved by Commissioner Eke and seconded by Commissioner Alsager to receive proposed amendment to Title XI: BUSINESS REGULATIONS, Chapter 112. Medical Marihuana Facilities of the Mt. Pleasant Code of Ordinances to update standards for medical marihuana facilities and set a public hearing for Monday, April 11, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. on same.

AYES: Commissioners Alsager, Cyman, Eke, Perschbacher & Ronan

NAYS: Commissioner Assmann

ABSENT: Commissioner Busch

Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Alsager and seconded by Commissioner Eke to receive proposed amendment to Title XI: BUSINESS REGULATIONS, Chapter 115. Recreational Marihuana Establishments of the Mt. Pleasant Code of Ordinances to update standards for adult-use marihuana establishments and set a public hearing for Monday, April 11, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. on same.

AYES: Commissioners Alsager, Cyman, Eke, Perschbacher & Ronan

NAYS: Commissioner Assmann

ABSENT: Commissioner Busch

Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Alsager and seconded by Commissioner Eke to make the following appointments to boards and commissions as recommended by the Appointments Committee.

Isabella County Material
Recovery Facility Board (MRF)

Jason Moore, DPW Director
Matt Weaver, Street Department Supervisor

Term Exp.
City Official Appointment
12/31/2023

Zoning Board of Appeals

David McGuire
Motion unanimously adopted.

12/31/2022

Moved by Commissioner Assmann and seconded by Vice Mayor Cyman to reappoint Corey Friedrich as the representative of the Planning Commission to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Motion unanimously adopted.

Announcements on City-Related Issues and New Business

Commissioner Eke expressed her appreciation to Public Safety Director Lauria for initiating the social crisis advocate position.

Mayor Perschbacher encouraged residents to get involved by filling a vacant board or commission seat. More information available at www.mt-pleasant.org.

Public Comment on Agenda and Non-Agenda Items

Deb Cary, 7434 Howard City Edmore Rd., Vestaburg, further encouraged the participation of Jacob Kain and the City's Legal Counsel at the public hearing and encouraged a panel discussion of the players.

Mikah Focken, 910 E. Chippewa St., expressed his appreciation for the April 11th public hearing.

The Commission recessed at 9:22 p.m. and returned to a work session at 9:30 p.m.

WORK SESSION

Discussion on Michigan Municipal League (MML) Capital Conference learning.

Mayor Perschbacher, Commissioners Eke, Ronan and Alsager as well as City Manager Desentz provided a brief overview of the sessions they each attended at the MML Capital Conference.

Moved by Commissioner Alsager and seconded by Commissioner Eke to adjourn the meeting at 10:24 p.m. Motion unanimously adopted.

Amy Perschbacher, Mayor

Heather Bouck, City Clerk