

City Council Meeting - March 13, 2023
7:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Hodges and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ROLL CALL

The following were present: Councilmembers Brenner, Gallagher, Caulfield, Wiener, and McMillan, and Mayor Hodges.

Also present: Nick Sizeland, City Manager; Jane M. Blahut, Finance Director/Clerk; Dan Kelly, City Attorney; Bryan Jarrell, Director of Public Safety; Warren Rothe, Assistant City Manager; and Courtney Delmege, Deputy Clerk.

Excused Absence: Councilmember Relan.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Councilmember Wiener, seconded by Councilmember McMillan, to approve the consent agenda consisting of the February 13, 2023 minutes, committee and commissions report, finance report, and the City Clerk hire position.

AYES: Councilmembers Brenner, Gallagher, Caulfield, Wiener, and McMillan, and Mayor Hodges.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilmember Relan.

PUBLIC COMMENT (AGENDA ITEMS)

Two public comments were made.

MANAGERS' REPORT/PUBLIC SAFETY

City Manager Sizeland presented a brief overview of the following items: St. Clare Montefalco parking lot and water main update; Mack Ave water main; discussions with Congressman Shri Thanedar; new City Clerk; DPW update; new Finance Director; power outages discussions with DTE; discussions with State Senator Kevin Hertel; EERV out for bid; and a dog park update.

Public Safety Director Jarrell also discussed the following items: Hope Not Handcuffs training launching week of March 13, 2023; shared importance of properly maintained alarm systems to prevent false alarms where public safety officers are dispatched unnecessarily; and Mayor Hodges commended public safety department for their successful efforts on controlling and putting out the fire on Charlevoix.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS:
RESOLUTION-FORMER CITY ATTORNEY DENNIS LEVASSEUR

Motion by Councilmember Wiener, seconded by Councilmember Caulfield, to adopt the resolution honoring former City Attorney Dennis Levasseur as presented.

AYES: Councilmembers Brenner, Gallagher, Caulfield, Wiener, and McMillan, and Mayor Hodges.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilmember Relan.

CITY AUDIT REVIEW

Motion by Councilmember Brenner, seconded by Councilmember Caulfield, to adopt the City audit review as presented.

AYES: Councilmembers Brenner, Gallagher, Caulfield, Wiener, and McMillan, and Mayor Hodges.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilmember Relan.

ORDINANCE NO. 238: CHAPTER 16 AMENDMENTS

City Attorney Dan Kelly, presented Ordinance No. 238 amending Chapter 16: Offenses. Specifically, the amendment adds the following offenses: Attempt to Commit a Crime and Causing a Police Response. Both of these additions are intended to assist the City Prosecutor in plea negotiations. The Ordinance Review Committee met on March 7th, and unanimously voted to recommend that the City Council adopt the proposed ordinance.

Motion by Councilmember Caulfield, seconded by Councilmember McMillan, to adopt Ordinance No. 238 as presented.

AYES: Councilmembers Brenner, Gallagher, Caulfield, Wiener, and McMillan, and Mayor Hodges.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilmember Relan.

TEMPORARY TRAFFIC REGULATIONS NO. 224 - 233

Public Safety Director Jarrell presented the traffic control orders ("TCOs") listed below in an effort to improve safety and traffic conditions at the following locations:

Orders Involving Stop Sign Installations

- TCO #224: Essex at Pemberton

Orders Involving No Parking Signs

- TCO #225: moving several no-parking signs along Charlevoix to improve sight lines at

corners.

Orders Removing Various "2 Hour Parking" & "No Parking" Signs

- TCO #226: Buckingham between Kercheval and Mack
- TCO #227: Devonshire between Charlevoix and Mack
- TCO #228: Bedford between Charlevoix and Mack
- TCO #229: Three Mile between Kercheval and Mack
- TCO #230: Kensington between Kercheval and Mack
- TCO #231: Yorkshire between Vernor and Mack
- TCO #232: Grayton between Vernor and Mack
- TCO #233: Harvard between Jefferson and Vernor

Motion by Councilmember Caulfield, seconded by Councilmember Wiener, to make permanent traffic control orders No. 224 through 233.

AYES: Councilmembers Brenner, Gallagher, Caulfield, Wiener, and McMillan, and Mayor Hodges.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilmember Relan.

CLOSED DOOR-LABOR STRATEGY AND PERSONNEL REVIEW

Motion by Councilmember Wiener, seconded by Councilmember Brenner, to move into closed session to consider material exempt from discussion or disclosure by state or federal statute pursuant to MCL 15.268(h) at 8:14 pm.

AYES: Councilmembers Brenner, Gallagher, Caulfield, Wiener, and McMillan, and Mayor Hodges.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilmember Relan.

The meeting was returned to open session by Mayor Hodges at 9:16 pm.

COUNCIL COMMENT

Councilmember Gallagher commented on the following: contacted Paul McDonald, the CFO of EGLE and questioned him regarding applying for the Drinking Water Sewer Revolving Fund and confirmed the City had not applied until this year; she spoke with President Ahmed Ismail and Ginny Jeup of the Grosse Pointe Public School Board who had called an ad hoc committee for repurposing Trombly school and as the liaison for Trombly requested Mayor Hodges to include Councilmember Gallagher in future discussions; commented on articles in the Grosse Pointe News regarding Councilmember Gallaghers character and insinuating impropriety and noted reporter did not request comments from Councilmember Gallagher.

Councilmember McMillan commented on the following: minutes are too lengthy when videos can be viewed via the City YouTube channel.

Mayor Hodges commented on the following: the Michigan State University tragedy on February 13, 2023; and the borders were addressed.

PUBLIC COMMENT (NON-AGENDA ITEMS)

One public comment was made.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilmember Wiener, seconded by Councilmember Caulfield, to adjourn the meeting.

AYES: Councilmembers Brenner, Gallagher, Caulfield, Wiener, and McMillan, and Mayor Hodges.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilmember Relan.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:44 pm.