

**City of Hazel Park
City Council Meeting Minutes: February 25, 2020**

A City of Hazel Park Regular City Council meeting was held on Tuesday, February 25th, 2020 in Council Chambers, 111 E. Nine Mile Rd., Hazel Park, MI 48030. Mayor Webb called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Present: Mayor Webb, Mayor Pro Tem Sullivan, Councilmember Aubry, Councilmember LeCureaux, Councilmember McFall

Absent: None

Also present: City Manager Klobucher, City Attorney Schwartz, Assistant City Attorney Mason, Deputy City Attorney Campbell

CALL TO ORDER – 7:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

CO-02-024-20 Motion to Approve Agenda as Revised: Motion by Sullivan, second by McFall, to approve the Agenda. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

1. Chamber of Commerce Donation to City of Hazel Park

Keri Valmassei from the Madison Heights – Hazel Park Chamber of Commerce presented a donation of \$500.00 to Hazel Park Animal Control.

2. Community Foundation of Southeast MI

Recreation Director Papakhian, Ferndale Director of Recreation LaReina Wheeler, and Sarah Wedepohl from the Community Foundation of Southeast Michigan spoke before Council regarding the presentation of a grant from the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation in the amount of \$50,000.00 to the Hazel Park Recreation Dept.

3. Proclamation Naming April 2020 as Child Abuse Prevention & Awareness Month

Mayor Webb read the above-listed proclamation into record.

CIVIC ANNOUNCEMENTS

City Manager Klobucher advised that the annual Hazel Park Promise Zone dinner will be held on March 3rd.

Mayor Webb indicated that I-75 Construction by the Michigan Dept. of Transportation will simultaneously take down the Meyers Ave., John R Rd., and Woodward Heights Blvd. bridges, despite efforts by the City to secure an alternative timeline. Additionally, the State of the City address will be held on the morning of February 28th at 7:30 a.m.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Jesse Robertson spoke regarding the Hazel Park Historical Commission.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approve City Council Meeting Minutes 2/11/2020
2. Pending Business Licenses (Informational – Receive & File)
3. Invoice Approval List
4. Temporarily Suspend Traffic Control Order #506 Section III during I-75 Construction
5. Approve Purchase of Baseball Floodlights at Green Acres Park
6. Temporary Traffic Control Order #536 Section VII: E. Harry One-Way Segment
7. Temporary Traffic Control Order #542 Section XI: E. Jarvis One-Way Segment
8. Award Bid for Lining of E. Evelyn Sanitary Sewer to Inland Water Pollution Control

CO-02-025-20 Motion to Approve Consent Agenda Items #1-8: Motion by LeCureaux, second by Sullivan, to Approve the Consent Agenda, following discussion. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Webb advised residents that the above-listed temporary Traffic Control Orders were being enacted to better handle traffic during the I-75 construction.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

1. AN ORDINANCE TO ADD SECTION 15.54, ENTITLED NEIGHBORHOOD ENTERPRISE ZONES, TO TITLE 15, BUILDINGS AND CONSTRUCTION, SECTION 54, ENTITLED NEIGHBORHOOD ENTERPRISE ZONES, TO STATE THAT ALL PROPERTIES ELIGIBLE FOR A NEIGHBORHOOD ENTERPRISE ZONE CERTIFICATE MUST BE INSPECTED PRIOR TO SALE BY THE HAZEL PARK BUILDING DEPARTMENT, Second Reading.

CO-02-026-20 Motion to Approve Ordinance as stated: Motion by LeCureaux, second by McFall, to approve Ordinance #01-20 upon second reading. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Resolution #02-008-20: Adoption of Neighborhood Enterprise Zone District

CO-02-027-20 Motion to Approve Adoption of the Neighborhood Enterprise Zone District: Motion by LeCureaux, second by Sullivan, to approve Resolution #02-008-20. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Consideration of License Application #15

CO-02-028-20 Motion to Approve Application #15: Motion by LeCureaux, second by Aubry, to approve a Secure Transporter Marihuana City Operating License for Motas Inc. at 21015 John R Rd., following discussion. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Consideration of License Application #22

CO-02-029-20 Motion to Approve Application #22 for Safety Compliance: Motion by LeCureaux, second by McFall, to approve a Safety Compliance Marihuana City Operating License for Steadfast, LLC at 21928 John R Rd. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Consideration of License Applications #23 & 24

CO-02-030-20 Motion to Approve Administrative Report #5: Motion by Sullivan, second by Aubry, to approve Safety Compliance Marihuana City Operating Licenses for Steadfast, LLC at 22016 John R Rd. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

Avi Zallen spoke before Council regarding the license approvals for Steadfast, LLC.

6. AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 5.04, COMMERCIAL MARIHUANA FACILITIES, OF THE CITY OF HAZEL PARK'S CODE OF ORDINANCES, TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC'S HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELFARE, First Reading.

Jenn Zielinski of Dunaskiss Consulting & Development spoke before Council regarding the proposed Ordinance.

CO-02-031-20 Motion to Approve Amendments to Ordinance Section 5.04 with all changes, hours, restrictions and notifications: Motion by LeCureaux, second by McFall, to approve the Ordinance upon first reading with changes to be made prior to second reading, following discussion. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

CO-02-032-20 Motion to Appoint of Gary Harrison, Michael Mazzuckelli, and Tom Selman to the Board of Review: Motion by Aubry, second by Sullivan, to reappoint Gary Harrison and Mike Mazzuckelli, and appoint Tom Selman to the Board of Review. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

TABLED ITEMS - None

NEW BUSINESS

CO-02-033-20 Motion to provide the City Manager, Police Chief and DPW Superintendent with the authority to make Traffic Control Orders during the construction of I-75 for the purpose of public health, safety and welfare for the next six (6) months: Motion by Aubry, second by Sullivan, to allow the City Manager, Police Chief, or DPW Superintendent to temporarily enact Traffic Control Orders during the I-75 project, provided that the Orders

are then submitted to Council at the next meeting, following discussion. All in favor.
Motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS - None

COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY ATTORNEY - None

COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY MANAGER

City Manager Klobucher advised that the City of Hazel Park was very displeased with MDOT for scheduling the simultaneous demolition of three of the City's I-75 bridges. The City was originally against the I-75 widening several years ago. The construction schedule will negatively impact travel for school children and emergency services. The hours of construction for demolition will be 24/7 for two weekends, with subsequent work being done between 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. In conjunction with the Hazel Park School District, alternative routes to school will be determined. Secondly, the City recently extended an olive branch to the Hazel Park Historical Commission. Members of that body strayed beyond the scope of their authorization under Ordinance, prompting Mayor & Council to take justified and appropriate steps to protect the public interest by suspending the Commission's operations. Said suspension does not cast aspersions or shadows over all individual members of that body. Not everyone on the Commission is responsible for actions that were inconsistent with the city's best interests. The City's plan was to discuss how to put things back together with the Commission, in order to make sure that everything was operating in an above-board manner according to proper procedures. Mayor & Council are protecting the residents' best interests and holding Boards & Commissions accountable to the law and to the people of Hazel Park.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM MAYOR & COUNCIL

Councilmember Aubry advised that the suspension of the Historical Commission pending an investigation was not directed at all members, but rather to identify the source of specific actions. She elaborated that a meeting between Historical Commission members and City Administration had been scheduled to ascertain how to return the former to good standing and move forward in the best interests of the city. Since all Commission members declined to attend that meeting, she stated the reasons for the suspension of said body. These reasons included the Commission failing to operate within the bounds of its enabling Ordinance and the lease of the Erickson Building, as well as the usurpation of the City's lease of said building by the Hazel Park Historical Society. This latter action harmed the relationship between the City and the School District. The purpose of the investigation was to identify the members responsible for these improper actions, not to punish all members. Holding the Commission responsible for its actions is not an attack. An open dialogue is sought to pursue solutions that support the Commission and Historical Museum.

City Attorney Schwartz added that Councilmembers have been attacked for trying to uphold the City's Ordinances. The establishment of a separate entity apart from the Commission poses a potential conflict over City property contained within the Museum. The failure of the Commission to dialogue at all with the City displayed a lack of respect.

City Manager Klobucher stated that members of the Historical Commission are not victims. The planned meeting was an attempt to establish a proper, lawful and accountable way forward for the Commission to operate the Museum and best serve the residents of Hazel Park. Attacks on Councilmembers are disgusting, wrong, and nothing but obfuscation.

Councilmember LeCureaux thanked Rec. Director Papakhian for working with other organizations to secure a grant for sports equipment. He also thanked all the applicants who attended the Boards & Commissions Study Session, for the City could not operate without volunteers.

Mayor Pro Tem Sullivan spoke regarding untrue statements and misinformation. She also thanked the Board & Commission applicants, the Chamber of Commerce for its donation to Hazel Park Animal Control, Rec. Director Papakhian for her advocacy of parks and green spaces, and the Police Chief for being proactive regarding impending traffic issues related to I-75 construction.

Mayor Webb thanked all the Board & Commission applicants. He also thanked the City staff for maintaining quick emergency response times, accurate accounting, clean streets, a quality water system, and sound legal advice. Lastly, in regards to the proclamation naming April 2020 as Child Abuse Prevention & Awareness month, protecting the welfare of our community's children is paramount.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

CO-02-034-20 Motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of Pending Litigation:

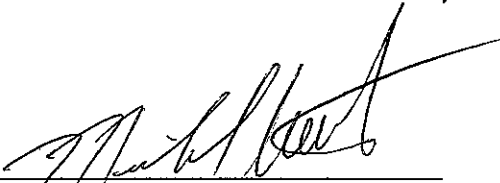
Motion by LeCureaux, second by Sullivan, to enter Closed Session for the purpose of Pending Litigation. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

CO-02-035-20 Motion to come back into Open Session: Motion by Sullivan, second by LeCureaux, to reenter Open Session. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.


CO-02-036-20 Motion to Accept the comments from the Attorneys and Administration in Executive Session: Motion by Sullivan, second by LeCureaux, to approve the recommendations of Closed Session. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT – 8:58 p.m.

CO-02-037-20 Motion to Adjourn: Motion by Sullivan, second by Aubry, to Adjourn. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.



Mayor Michael Webb



James Finkley, City Clerk

(The preceding minutes are a synopsis of the City Council Meeting and do not represent a verbatim record).