

**City of Hazel Park  
City Council Meeting Minutes: May 12, 2020**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, a City of Hazel Park Regular City Council meeting was held on Tuesday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020 via *Zoom* video/telephone conferencing in accordance with Executive Order 2020-15. Mayor Webb called the meeting to order at 7:01 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, Deputy City Attorney Campbell, Assistant City Attorney Mason

**CALL TO ORDER – 7:01 p.m.**

**ROLL CALL**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**CO-05-069-20 Motion to Approve Agenda:** Motion by LeCureaux, second by McFall, to approve the Agenda. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

1. Proclamation Declaring the First Friday in June to be Gun Violence Awareness Day
2. Proclamation Declaring May 2020 as Mental Health Awareness Month
3. Proclamation Declaring May 2020 as Williams Syndrome Awareness Month

The above-listed Proclamations were declared by Mayor Webb.

**CIVIC ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Barbara Winter spoke regarding the Proclamation declaring the first Friday in June to be Gun Violence Awareness Day.

Councilmember Aubry advised that the Arts Council has cancelled the 2020 Hazel Park Art Fair, although alternative plans are in development.

**PUBLIC DISCUSSION**

Pastor Stanley Scott of Salvation Temple Church spoke regarding potential radiation from 5G cell phone towers.

Jesse Robertson spoke regarding COVID-19 and a recent food drive by Gleaners Community Food Bank and the Hazel Park School District.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Approve City Council Meeting Minutes 4/28/2020
2. Pending Business Licenses (Informational – Receive & File)
3. Invoice Approval List
4. Resolution #05-009-20: West Nile Virus Fund Expense Reimbursement Request
5. Approve SOCRRA Representative (LeCureaux) and Alternate (Jones) to Board of Trustees
6. Interlocal Agreement w/ Oakland County for Animal Care Services

**CO-05-070-20 Motion to Approve Consent Agenda:** Motion by LeCureaux, second by Sullivan, to Approve the Consent Agenda. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS - None****BOARDS & COMMISSIONS - None****TABLED ITEMS - None****NEW BUSINESS**

Mayor Webb raised the topic of subsequent City Council meetings in the month of May. A Special Meeting will be held on May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. for the purpose of processing applications for Marihuana licensure. The Regular Meeting scheduled for May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020, will also be held via *Zoom*.

Councilmember LeCureaux proposed adding a Hazel Park School Board Member to the Hazel Park Historical Commission.

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS**

Councilmember McFall raised the issue of semi-trucks frequently traversing residential streets because of the I-75 construction.

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY ATTORNEY - None****COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY MANAGER**

City Manager Klobucher stressed that Michigan's system of municipal finance is fundamentally broken. COVID-19 is going to leave a long trail of economic misery and destruction in its wake. The virus will have a tremendous effect on the City of Hazel Park due to an imminent revenue-sharing reduction from the State of Michigan given the drop in sales tax consequent to the social-distancing shutdown. A federal stimulus package for units of government is a hope but is by no means a guarantee of funding. Absent additional funding via a stimulus package, this crisis will likely be as bad as the Great Recession. The City's FY 2020-21 Budget will require amendment as the full economic impact of COVID-19 unfolds.

## **COMMUNICATIONS FROM MAYOR & COUNCIL**

Councilmember McFall advised that every Monday and Friday the YMCA distributes food in the Recreation Center parking lot (620 W. Woodward Heights Blvd.) from 4:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. A fund has been started through Main Street Oakland County for Hazel Park businesses impacted by the State shutdown, with \$6500 raised so far not including a match of \$4000 from the County.

Councilmember Aubry thanked Council for passing the Proclamation for Gun Violence Awareness Day. The number of COVID-19 cases in Michigan is thankfully beginning to stabilize, though that does not mean we are out of danger yet. The more cooperative we are, the more quickly we can start to reopen and find a new normal. State Senator Jeremy Moss and State Representative Robert Wittenberg are great resources for help with unemployment assistance. She also encouraged people to support small businesses with curbside pickup when possible.

Councilmember McFall added that May is Williams Syndrome Awareness Month. More information is available at [Williams-syndrome.org](http://Williams-syndrome.org).

City Manager Klobucher reiterated the importance of supporting our local businesses, not least of all because the tax structure in the State of Michigan is based almost entirely on brick-and-mortar businesses. If they fail, it will depress the city's property values and negatively impact quality of life.

Councilmember LeCureaux inquired about a Resolution advocating financial relief for municipalities and encouraged people to support local restaurants during this challenging time. City Manager Klobucher thanked Councilmember LeCureaux for his volunteer work at the rapid-test center.

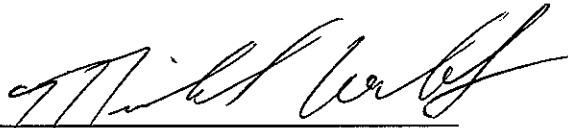
Mayor Pro Tem Sullivan appreciated everyone's participation in this new meeting method. She thanked City Attorney Schwartz and Animal Control Officer Jennifer Thomas for their work on overhauling the Animal Control Ordinance. Additionally, there is an "Honoring our Heroes" Facebook page to virtually and interactively celebrate Memorial Day using photos, given that the normal festivities have been cancelled. Local food pantry options are available online via the City and its Councilmembers. Those having difficulty with their unemployment benefits should consult an informative Facebook Chat hosted by State Senator Moss.

Mayor Webb wished a belated happy Mother's Day to all mothers. County grants are available for local businesses, a few of whom in Hazel Park have already taken advantage of this program. As a small business owner, he understands how difficult times are and how the utmost caution is required from everyone.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION - None**

**ADJOURNMENT – 7:39 p.m.**

**CO-05-071-20 Motion to Adjourn:** Motion by LeCureaux, second by McFall, to Adjourn. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.



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Mayor Michael Webb



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James Finkley, City Clerk

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