City of Hazel Park
City Council Special Meeting Minutes: March 17, 2020

A City of Hazel Park Special City Council meeting was held on Tuesday, March 17th, 2020 in Council Chambers, 111 E. Nine Mile Rd., Hazel Park, MI 48030. Mayor Webb called the meeting to order at 6:43 p.m.

Present: Mayor Webb, Mayor Pro Tem Sullivan (via telecommunication), Councilmember Aubry (via telecommunication), Councilmember LeCureaux, Councilmember McFall

Absent: None

Also present: City Manager Klobucher, City Attorney Schwartz

CALL TO ORDER – 6:43 p.m.

ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

CO-03-038-20 Motion to approve Agenda as revised: Motion by LeCureaux, second by Sullivan, to approve the Agenda as Revised. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

CIVIC ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Webb advised that it is important for residents to complete the 2020 Census due to the funding implications to the Hazel Park School District. City Manager Klobucher added that the Census has a huge impact on our political representation and on federal and state funding. Mayor Webb stated that Oakland County Executive Dave Coulter provided an update on the Coronavirus (COVID-19), which has 65 current incidences in Michigan, including 23 in Oakland Co. Unfortunately, the numbers seen now will continue to grow. If people feel sick, they should contact their regular physician. The Oakland Co. Nurse on Call can be reached at 1(800)848-5533, the Oakland Co. information hotline is (248)858-1000, and a depression helpline phone number will be posted online.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Public comments regarding stop signs were addressed, as were comments regarding water bill payment during the partial City closure for COVID-19.

City Attorney Schwartz, City Manager Klobucher, and Mayor Webb advised of the payment alternatives during the closure of City Hall to the public, including online, by mail, or via the drop-box. Water shutoffs will be postponed, though water used during this time must still be paid for. City Hall itself will be closed to the public, but staff will be available by phone, email, or mail.
CONSENT AGENDA
1. Approve Study Session Minutes 2/25/20 & City Council Meeting Minutes 2/25/2020
2. Approve Business License for 66 E. Ten Mile Rd. – Bad Az Bikes
4. Invoice Approval List
5. Approve 2020 High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Agreement w/ Oakland County
6. Approve Traffic Control Order #529
7. Approve Emergency Bid for Rear Engine Replacement for Vactor Truck
8. Approve Business License for 1400 E. Ten Mile Rd. – Akasol, Inc.
10. Approve Business License for 24047 Dequindre Rd. – HGS Hazel Park LLC DBA Hydro Harrys Hydroponics

CO-03-039-20 Motion to approve Consent Agenda Items #1-10: Motion by LeCureaux, second by Sullivan, to Approve the Consent Agenda. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

2. Consideration of License Applications

CO-03-041-20 Motion to approve Applications #9, 20, 27, 38 & 39: Motion by Aubry, second by LeCureaux, to approve Applications #9, 20, 27, 38 & 39, following discussion. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Vacant Lot Sales

CO-03-042-20 Motion to approve sale of vacant lot at 654 E. Meyers Ave. for $10,000: Motion by LeCureaux, second by McFall, to approve the sale of a vacant lot at 654 E. Meyers Ave., following discussion. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

CO-03-043-20 Motion to approve sale of vacant lot east of 533 Chestnut Ave.: Motion by LeCureaux, second by McFall, to approve sale of a vacant lot east of 533 E. Chestnut Ave. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

CO-03-044-20 Motion to approve Katherine Montalto: Motion by Aubry, second by LeCureaux, to appoint Katherine Montalto to the Hazel Park Arts Council. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

TABLED ITEMS - None

NEW BUSINESS

CO-03-045-20 Motion to authorize City Manager during this emergency, for up to 30 days, to have preapproval for necessary spending up to $50,000: Motion by LeCureaux, second
by McFall, to authorize the City Manager to make necessary expenditures for the next 30 days during the COVID-19 Emergency. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS - None

COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY ATTORNEY

City Attorney Schwartz wished everyone a happy St. Patrick’s Day and thanked people for watching the meeting from home.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY MANAGER

City Manager Klobucher thanked the residents of Hazel Park for their cooperation, patience, and willingness to make sacrifices. He advised people not to hoard supplies or panic-buy, but instead to be courteous to one’s neighbors. Restaurants who are offering carry-out desperately need customers to survive. Hazel Park is working to find solution to these problems and, moreover, will get through this challenge together.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM MAYOR & COUNCIL

Councilmember McFall reminded people to complete the Census, on which much of our City’s funding depends.

Councilmember Aubry thanked everyone for their patience, proactive handwashing, and self-quarantining during the COVID-19 pandemic. Residents can still be active outside or reach out to other people by phone. She thanked the Administration for suspending water shutoffs and working with those who are currently shutoff.

Councilmember LeCureaux encouraged more people to send in questions to the City Council, and advised people to express their feelings to those whom they love and to hug their children.

Mayor Pro Tem Aubry Sullivan thanked the Administration for making sure residents have water and, consequently, access to hygiene. People were encouraged to fill out their Census and to be safe on St. Patrick’s Day.

Mayor Webb stated that in these crucial and trying times, it was necessary to declare a State of Emergency in order to put the community in the best position to recover. Together, and only together, the city will weather this storm and come out better for it, just as Hazel Park has through other crises over the years.

City Manager Klobucher advised that the City of Hazel Park has no authority to declare a “rent holiday” or to stop evictions. Similarly, the City cannot waive third-party fees on credit card transactions, as the fees can’t be subsidized by an enterprise fund like the one for water billing. Councilmember McFall advised residents who are having difficulty making rent payments to contact their landlords.
EXECUTIVE SESSION

**CO-03-046-20 Motion to enter Executive Session for the purpose of Pending Litigation:** Motion by LeCureaux, second by McFall, to enter Closed Session for the purpose of Pending Litigation. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

**CO-03-047-20 Motion to reenter Open Session:** Motion by LeCureaux, second by McFall, to reenter Open Session. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

**CO-03-048-20 Motion to approve the recommendations of City Attorney & City Manager from Executive Session:** Motion by LeCureaux, second by McFall, to approve the recommendations of the City Attorney and City Manager from Closed Session. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT – 7:40 p.m.**

**CO-03-049-20 Motion to adjourn:** Motion by LeCureaux, second by McFall, 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).