

**City of Hazel Park
City Council Meeting Minutes: December 8, 2020**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, a City of Hazel Park Regular City Council meeting was held on Tuesday, December 8th, 2020 via *Zoom* video/telephone conferencing. Mayor Webb called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

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

Absent: None

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

CALL TO ORDER – 7:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Councilmember Aubry attended remotely from Hazel Park, Oakland County, MI.

Councilmember Sullivan attended remotely from Hazel Park, Oakland County, MI.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

CO-12-175-20 Motion to approve Revised Agenda as Presented: Motion by LeCureaux, second by McFall, to approve the Revised Agenda. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

CIVIC ANNOUNCEMENTS - None

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

No one wished to speak.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approve City Council Meeting Minutes 11/10/20 & 11/17/20
2. Pending Business Licenses (Informational)
3. Invoice Approval List
4. Interlocal Agreement w/ Oakland County as Designated Assessor
5. Resolution #12-023-20: Board of Review Scheduling
6. Return of Annual Fee
7. Approval of Short-term Rental application fee
8. Purchase of Lexipol law enforcement policy management software
9. Traffic Control Order #515 Section X: Prohibiting left turns from southbound Couzens Ave. into Tri-County Commerce Center
10. Purchase of Code Department Vehicles
11. Renewal of Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority Coverage
12. Purchase of Motorola 911 CallWorks equipment

CO-12-176-20 Motion to approve Consent Agenda Items #1-12: Motion by LeCureaux, second by McFall, to approve the Consent Agenda. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

1. Ordinance to Amend Title 15, Chapter 15.09 – Property Maintenance Code; 2nd Reading.

CO-12-177-20 Motion to approve Ordinance to Amend Title 15, Chapter 15.09 – Property Maintenance Code, 2nd Reading: Motion by Sullivan, second by LeCureaux, to approve the Ordinance to Amend Title 15, Chapter 15.09 upon 2nd Reading. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

CO-12-178-20 Motion to begin the process of forming an Environmental Sustainability Board or Commission: Motion by Aubry, second by LeCureaux, to form a public body concerning environmental sustainability efforts, following discussion. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

TABLED ITEMS - None

NEW BUSINESS

1. Introduction of Hazel Park Logo

Councilmember Aubry presented the new City of Hazel Park logo, which was influenced by resident input during the Master Plan project. The logo aims to highlight the city's growth while at the same time honoring its history. The blue in the logo represents the denim worn by the blue-collar workers who built Hazel Park, while the natural ochre is inspired by the city's eponymous Hazelnut bushes. The mix of residential and commercial buildings are indicative of a growing community.

City Manager Klobucher thanked Councilmember Aubry and the other people who contributed to the new logo. The existing and new logos are all protected and may not be used without permission from the City of Hazel Park.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS

Planning & Economic Development Director Jeff Campbell wished everyone a happy holidays.

Water Superintendent Tim Young shared the same sentiment.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY ATTORNEY

City Attorney Schwartz wished all a happy holidays.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY MANAGER

City Manager Klobucher wished a happy and safe holidays to all. While 2020 has not been the best year in recent memory, the City aims to lay the foundation to emerge even stronger than before. There are some beneficial proposals being considered in the State legislature, including one that would fix a problematic component of the Headlee and Proposal A interaction that is greatly detrimental to cities and does not meaningfully benefit taxpayers. He thanked those who wished him well during a recent health situation and advised everyone to stay safe.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM MAYOR & COUNCIL

Councilmember Sullivan thanked the City Manager for his discussion of the tax situation in light of a recent inquiry by a resident. She is seeking additional disclosures regarding tax rates by real estate agents when houses are sold, as it is an injustice that buyers are not being made aware of this in their home-buying process. Regarding the extension of COVID restrictions, it is imperative that the State passes additional financial assistance before the end of the year to alleviate the burden on those hardest hit by the economic shutdown.

Councilmember Aubry advised that this would be her last City Council meeting, as she is moving and will no longer be a resident. Hazel Park has been her home for the last decade and a piece of her heart will always be here. Councilmember Aubry has enjoyed serving the residents and hopes that the city was left a better place following her time as Councilmember. She appealed to residents to continue to be involved, vote, and remember that local government has the most direct impact on their lives. Until she was on Council, she was not aware how much time and energy goes into being a member of that body. In closing, she expressed her thanks to everyone and is looking forward to continuing her involvement with artistic causes in Hazel Park.

Mayor Webb thanked Councilmember Aubry on behalf of the entire Council for her work. In what can be a simultaneously wonderful and thankless role, it is gratifying to be the first point of response for residents in need.

Councilmember McFall stated how it has been a pleasure serving with Councilmember Aubry and thanked her for assistance in his own campaign. This marks a loss for Hazel Park but a gain for her new home.

Mayor Pro Tem LeCureaux expressed appreciation for Councilmember Aubry's spirit, energy and ideas. It was clear that she puts her heart into her work. He wished her good luck in future endeavors.

Councilmember Sullivan stated how devastated she was about Councilmember Aubry leaving, even though she is happy for her. Their shared experience as Councilmembers has been a great shared adventure. Councilmember Sullivan is grateful that Councilmember Aubry will be staying on the Arts Council to continue to develop art in Hazel Park.

City Manager Klobucher thanked Councilmember Aubry for her service on behalf of the City staff. He looks forward to working with her on next year's Art Fair. She will always remain a part of the Hazel Park family.

Councilmember McFall advised residents to shop at local restaurants and stores whenever possible; Main Street Hazel Park is presently running a "By Golly, Be Jolly" holiday campaign to do just that. The campaign involves social media efforts, videos, and graphics to support local businesses. He thanked Main Street Oakland County for a grant allowing productions of said videos. Councilmember McFall also reminded everyone that the holiday Christmas lights contest is still open for submissions and thanked Ashely Capital for sponsoring the prizes.

City Manager Klobucher thanked Councilmember McFall and the Main Street Hazel Park team for their work on the local business support videos. He added that ordering carryout meals from local restaurants is crucial given the current absence of federal CARES Act funding. The support of residents is crucial in keeping local businesses alive.

Councilmember LeCureaux advised that he is happy to bid farewell to 2020. He thanked those whose efforts allow remote public meetings to operate in a legal manner and appear as normal as possible. Additionally, he thanked those who participated in the meeting and advised people to safely celebrate the holidays.

Mayor Webb thanked everyone for attending and wished them a happy holidays. To Councilmember Aubry, he wished the best of luck in future endeavors and is sorry to see her go. To the Council as a whole, he thanked them for working together to get through a year rife with new challenges. Additionally, he sympathizes with restaurants and businesses that have been forever changed. With perseverance, we will survive and thrive.

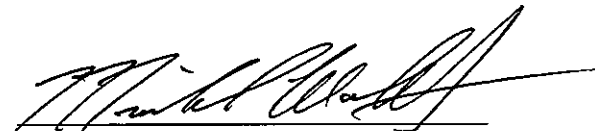
EXECUTIVE SESSION

CO-12-179-20 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, Lawler v. City of Hazel Park. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.


CO-12-180-20 Motion to accept the recommendations of Administration regarding Pending Litigation: Motion by LeCureaux, second by McFall, to accept the recommendations of Administration regarding pending litigation from Closed Session. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT – 7:47 p.m.

CO-12-181-20 Motion to Adjourn: Motion by LeCureaux, 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).