

**City of Hazel Park  
City Council Meeting Minutes: March 9, 2021**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, a City of Hazel Park Regular City Council meeting was held on Tuesday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021 via *Zoom* video/telephone conferencing. Mayor Webb called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

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

Absent: None

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

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**CO-03-036-21 Motion to approve Revised Agenda:** Motion by McFall, second by Sullivan, to approve the Agenda as Revised. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

1. Proclamation Celebrating March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021 as International Women’s Day

City Manager Klobucher read the proclamation into record.

**CIVIC ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Oakland County Commissioner Charlie Cavell provided an update on COVID-19 vaccine distribution. Oakland County residents seeking more information can call (800) 848-5533 or visit [oaklandcountyvaccine.com](http://oaklandcountyvaccine.com).

Lois Reithel spoke about Neighborhood Enrichment, including the possibility of a citywide garage sale, Beautification Awards, Memorial Day parade, and Halloween festivities later this year.

City Manager Klobucher praised County Commissioner Cavell for working to ensure that Oakland County residents have access to the COVID-19 vaccine.

Mayor Webb advised that annual yard waste collection begins on April 5<sup>th</sup>. There will be a Memorial Day parade in 2021, although the status of a fair is undetermined at this time due to uncertainty regarding the availability of the carnival company. Councilmember Sullivan added that the current restrictions on food and beer consumption are fairly strict. City Manager Klobucher stated that while the Memorial Day fair is not guaranteed, other alternatives are being considered.

**PUBLIC DISCUSSION**

Jesse Robertson spoke regarding Boards & Commissions, the Hazel Park Historical Commission, and the City Council.

## CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approve City Council Meeting Minutes 2/23/2021
2. Pending Business Licenses (Informational)
3. Invoice Approval List
4. Res. #03-009-21: Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network Membership
5. Appointment of Magistrate for 43<sup>rd</sup> District Court - Madison Heights Division

**CO-03-037-21 Motion to approve Consent Agenda Items #1-5:** Motion by LeCureaux, second by McFall, to approve the Consent Agenda. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

## ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

1. Ordinance to Add Title 18 - Human Rights, 1<sup>st</sup> Reading

**CO-03-038-21 Motion for approval of Title 18 – Human Rights, on 1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** Motion by Londo, second by Sullivan, to approve the Ordinance to Add Title 18 – Human Rights, upon 1<sup>st</sup> Reading, following discussion. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Ord. to Amend Title 5 – Health and Safety, by Adding Ch. 5.30, Food Trucks, 1<sup>st</sup> Reading

**CO-03-039-21 Motion for approval of Amending Title 5 – Health and Safety, by Adding Ch. 5.30, Food Trucks, on 1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** Motion by LeCureaux, second by Sullivan, to approve the Ordinance to Amend Title 5 – Health and Safety, by Adding Ch. 5.30, Food Trucks, 1<sup>st</sup> Reading, with amendments, following discussion. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

## BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

**CO-03-040-21 Motion to appoint Adam Duberstein to Historical Commission:** Motion by McFall, second by Londo, to appoint Adam Duberstein to the Hazel Park Historical Commission. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

## TABLED ITEMS – None

## NEW BUSINESS

1. Resident Communications

City Manager Klobucher advised that software options are currently being investigated for residents to report issues, including *SeeClickFix* or the creation of a custom app. *Munetrix* is also being considered for its financial and budgeting programs.

Mayor Webb and City Manager Klobucher recognized longtime resident and former Mobile Communications Support Unit and Hazel Park Schools employee Domenica “Minnie” Denardis, who recently passed away.

## **COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS**

Water Dept. Superintendent Tim Young advised that supposedly “flushable” wet wipes do not break down effectively in sewer lines and should instead be thrown away. City Manager Klobucher raised the topic of water billing, to which Superintendent Young added that the Water Dept. will attempt to assist people in finding sources of unexpected usage and that the water shutoff moratorium will be ending on March 31, 2021. Councilmember Sullivan and Superintendent Young advised that unusual usage is monitored on a monthly basis for the benefit of residents, so that potential leaks can be caught relatively early.

## **COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY ATTORNEY - None**

## **COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY MANAGER**

City Manager Klobucher stated that although Hazel Park has had some good news recently, systemic problems still exist when it comes to municipal finance and property tax structure in the state of Michigan. Moreover, rising legacy costs and aging infrastructure present two major financial challenges. It’s more important than ever to understand that the solutions to these problems can only come from Lansing. For example, the “uncapping” of taxes that is triggered when a property sells means that taxes can vary wildly from house to house. However, the City doesn’t benefit from those increased values because of the consequent Headlee rollbacks to the community-wide tax rate. Mayor Webb stated that Proposal A of 1994 was a financial band-aid that has persisted to the current day. City Manager Klobucher added that municipal revenue sharing was slashed by one-third throughout the 2000s and, despite the City working hard to deliver value to residents, it remains an uphill battle.

## **COMMUNICATIONS FROM MAYOR & COUNCIL**

Councilmember Londo expressed how grateful he was to introduce the Human Rights Ordinance, and was appreciative of Councilmember Sullivan, City Manager Klobucher, and City Attorney Schwartz for their assistance. At present, there are bills in the Michigan legislature and ballot petitions being circulated to include sexual orientation and gender identity as protected Civil Rights classes. He also recognized International Women’s Day.

Councilmember McFall thanked Councilmembers Londo and Sullivan, as well as City Attorney Schwartz, for their work on the Human Rights Ordinance. The legislation reflects the true ethos of the “Friendly City.” He reminded everyone to continue to support local businesses and restaurants and, in the spirit of International Women’s Day, congratulated the many female business owners and entrepreneurs of Hazel Park.

Councilmember Sullivan thanked Councilmember Londo and City Attorney Schwartz for the Human Rights Ordinance. Along with the designation of Pride Month, this is another important step for the recognition of the LGBTQ+ community in Hazel Park. She wished all of her fellow women a happy International Women’s Day, and advised that unfortunately COVID-19 has adversely impacted women’s rights in a very substantive way.

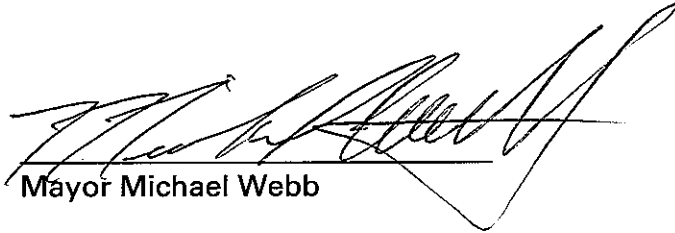
Mayor Pro Tem LeCureaux is glad to see the development of the Human Rights Ordinance, which reminds everyone what kind of place Hazel Park is. He also recognized the many volunteers whose hard work allows the City to function as well as it does.

Mayor Webb thanked his fellow Councilmembers for safeguarding the diversity of Hazel Park. It shows the world who we are and who we would like to become, namely a community of closeness and togetherness. He is proud to live here and represent the interests of his fellow residents.

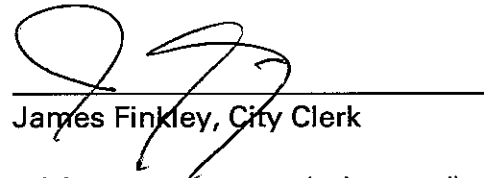
**EXECUTIVE SESSION - None**

**ADJOURNMENT – 7:02 p.m.**

**CO-03-041-21 Motion to Adjourn:** Motion by Londo, second by LeCureaux, 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).