

CITY OF HUNTINGTON WOODS
REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COMMISSION
MINUTES
December 7, 2021
7:30 p.m.
In-Person Meeting – City Hall

Mayor Paul called the Meeting to order at 7:37 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor Paul, Commissioner Olsman, Commissioner Jenks

ABSENT: Mayor Pro Tem Elder (excused), Commissioner Rozell (excused)

City Staff Present: Interim City Manager Wollenweber,
Finance/Treasurer Director Rowland, City Clerk Barckholtz and City
Attorney Rosati

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Commissioner Jenks and seconded by Commissioner Olsman
to approve the December 7, 2021 agenda as presented.

Ayes: Paul, Jenks, Olsman

Nays: None

Absent: Rozell (excused), Elder (excused)

The Motion Carried.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Commissioner Olsman and seconded by Commissioner Jenks
to approve the December 17, 2021, Consent Agenda.

Ayes: Paul, Olsman, Jenks

Nays: None

Absent: Elder (excused), Rozell (excused)

The Motion Carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

None

COUNTY COMMISSIONER AND ELECTED OFFICIAL REMARKS

State Senator Moss and State Representative Wise

- Presented various highlights of the General and School aid budgets. Noted the budget included an investment in childcare, funded Michigan Re-Connect, new investments in drinking water, funding revitalization grants, more money into infrastructure, wage increase for daycare workers and the largest investment into K-12 education ever. This also included closing the funding gap for the first time with a baseline for every student now set at \$8700.
- Introduced the Climate Resilience Plan that can be found on Senator Moss's website, www.senatedems.com/moss.
- Senator Moss encouraged residents to reach out to him with any issues concerning DTE and power outages.
- Noted in reference to the Oxford High School tragedy, there is legislation awaiting approval that offer solutions to combat the gun violence with common sense gun laws. Both the House and Senate have increased the Gun Violence Caucus and will continue to push for these changes.

Charlie Cavell- Oakland County Commissioner

- The County is offering free mental counseling in response to the Oxford High School tragedy.
- COVID cases continue to go up in the County and provided the current data for context.
- The County Commission will be meeting to set forth specific policies and procedures on how to grant money for water and sewer infrastructure for Oakland County communities.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

None

RESOLUTION R -225-2021:

Matter of accepting the 2020-2021 Financial Statements as presented by City Auditor Maner Costerisan Certified Public Accountants.

Finance Director Rowland highlighted multiple key points of the audit that would not be noted during auditor's presentation:

1. Due to COVID monies, there was an additional \$621,000 increase in the fund balance for the General Fund.
2. Passing Act 345 last year, there was 3.4 million dollars in capital improvements completed, pension funding went from 62% to 69% funded and OPEB went from 14% to 21% funded.

Aaron Stevens from Maner Costerisan went over key areas of the City of Huntington Woods Annual Comprehensive Financial Report as presented to the City Commission.

Moved by Commissioner Jenks and seconded by Commissioner Olsman to accept the 2020-2021 Financial Statement as presented by City Auditor Maner Costerisan Certified Public Accountants.

Commission Comments:

Paul: Thanked Finance Director, Tim Rowland, for all his hard work preparing for the audit.

Jenks: Thanked and congratulated Finance Director, Tim Rowland, on a job well done.

Ayes: Paul, Olsman, Jenks

Nays: None

Absent: Elder (excused), Rozell (excused)

The Motion Carried.

Ordinance No. _____:

Matter of consideration of an Ordinance to Amend Chapter 40, Zoning, Article 6, General Provisions, Section 40-6.04, Height and Area Regulations and Exceptions; and to Provide Penalties for Violations Thereof.

Hank Berry, Zoning Administrator, noted that the proposed changes include the deletion of the requirement stating a generator cannot be placed more than three feet away from a dwelling or principal building. This is a conflict between homeowner wishes, design and the Building Code which states that power generators cannot be within five feet of an openable window as the exhaust could potentially be drawn back into the residence through the window. By design, most homes have windows and patios at the rear of the property and the requirement of no more than three feet creates impracticality and becomes unsightly. The change in the ordinance would allow placement in the yard at the owner's choice as long as the generator remained out of the required setbacks and would allow flexibility to be compatible with existing hardscape and landscape. It will also reduce the number of side placements which require neighbor approval. The second change would allow the City Manager to appoint a designee, planning/zoning or building official, to approve placement expediting the process for residents.

Moved by Commissioner Olsman and seconded by Commissioner Jenks to waive the first reading and adopt an Ordinance to Amend Chapter 40, Zoning, Article 6, General Provisions, Section 40-6.04, Height and Area Regulations and Exceptions; and to Provide Penalties for Violations Thereof.

Ayes: Paul, Olsman, Jenks

Nays: None

Absent: Rozell (excused), Elder, (excused)

The Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION R-226-2021:

Matter of consideration to receive and file the Planning Commission Annual Report.

Moved by Commissioner Olsman and seconded by Commissioner Jenks to receive and file the Planning Commission Annual Report.

Ayes: Paul, Jenks, Olsman

Nays: None

Absent: Rozell (excused), Elder (excused)

The Motion Carried.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

- Noted this is the eighteenth year the City has received the GFOA Award and thanked Finance Director Rowland for all his hard work on the audit.
- Veregy has been reviewing City plans and facilities after Commission approval of the Memorandum of Understanding in October.
- The City is working on converting street lighting to LED.
- The Environmental Sustainable Committee is meeting on December 16, 2021 at City Hall.
- The City has replaced JS Clarke Agency with Manquenvance for healthcare consulting.
- The Library Director position has been posted on various sites throughout the state and will be open until December 31, 2021.
- There will be a reception in honor Anne Hage's retirement on January 9, 2022 at the library from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- The City is applying for a grant for the latchkey program that could help boost pay, add equipment as well as subsidies for parents.
- The City will be meeting with the engineers about upcoming street projects in 2022 on Thursday.
- Wished everyone a Happy Hanukkah and Merry Christmas.

ADJOURNMENT:

Moved by Commissioner Jenks and seconded by Commissioner Olsman to adjourn the regular City Commission meeting.

Ayes: Paul, Jenks, Olsman

Nays: None

Absent: Elder (excused), Rozell, (excused)

The Motion Carried, meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Heidi Barckholtz, City Clerk

Robert F. Paul, III, Mayor