

CITY OF HUNTINGTON WOODS
REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COMMISSION
MINUTES
Tuesday, February 2, 2021
7:30 p.m.
Remote Meeting – Not at City Hall

Mayor Paul called the Meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor Paul, present in Huntington Woods, Mayor Pro Tem Olsman, present in Huntington Woods, Commissioner Rozell present in Huntington Woods, Commissioner Elder, present in Huntington Woods, Commissioner Jenks, present in Huntington Woods.

ABSENT: None

City Staff Present: City Manager Sullivan, City Attorney Rosati and Finance/Treasurer Director Rowland.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Commissioner Rozell and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Olsman to approve the February 2, 2021 agenda as amended with the removal of item five, Boards, Commissions and Committee Appointments, and the proclamations for Robert Wittenberg and Helaine Zack.

Ayes: Paul, Olsman, Jenks, Elder, Rozell

Nays: None

Absent: None

The Motion Carried.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Commissioner Jenks and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Olsman to approve the February 2, 2021 Consent Agenda as amended moving Consent Agenda item number 1 and 2, to Items of Business, 1-A.

Ayes: Paul, Olsman, Rozell, Jenks, Elder

Nays: None

Absent: None

The Motion Carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Paul noted the resignation of Corri Starr from the Arts and Garden Board.

Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Olsman and seconded by Commissioner Jenks to accept the resignation of Corri Starr from the Arts and Garden Board with thanks for time served.

Ayes: Paul, Olsman, Rozell, Jenks, Elder

Nays: None

Absent: None

The Motion Carried.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER AND ELECTED OFFICIAL REMARKS

State Representative Regina Weiss:

- Introduced herself as the newly elected State Representative for the 27th District.
- Noted she will be serving on the House Appropriations Committee as well serving on the subcommittee under the House Appropriations for Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, Environment Great Lakes and Energy as well as serving as the Minority Vice Chair for School Aid.
- Under Appropriations there is supplemental funding coming in from federal funding that needs to be appropriated back into the communities for rent support, small business support, school funding and vaccination roll out. The Appropriations Committee will be taking a look at bills that are only allocating a fourth of those federal funds for these needs. She will be strongly advocating for along with, offering amendments in the house for a full release of those federal funds for the relief and support needed in the communities due to COVID.
- She is available for questions or concerns at reginaweiss@house.mi.gov, office phone (517)-373-0478 or visit the website and utilize the online communication form under Regina Weiss.
- She will be hosting a virtual community conversation on February 24, 2021 via Face Book live. Senator Moss will also be in attendance.

Oakland County Commissioner Charlie Cavell:

- Noted that he serves on the Health and Safety Committee. Through that, Oakland County has allocated ten million dollars to COVID response to accelerate equitable vaccine distributions.
- He also serves on the Economic Development Committee. Three million dollars was recently released for a restaurant relief package for local communities.
- Oakland County with the increase in vaccination delivery to the County, has partnered with Meijer's as an additional distribution site for the vaccines. As the vaccine deliveries increase, local communities such as Huntington

Woods could become partnering vaccination locations. He will continue to discuss this possibility with other Oakland County officials.

- The County is working on assisting home bound residents to receive the vaccine.
- The County will be utilizing the CDC's Social Vulnerability Index that creates a formula to help assist determine who is socially vulnerable in Oakland County. This will further better assist the vaccine distribution process for the County's most vulnerable population.
- The County to date has received their largest weekly delivery of vaccinations in the amount of eleven thousand. The County has the capacity to distribute twenty thousand and is continually asking the federal government for a larger delivery of vaccines.
- The overall County has distributed over one hundred thousand vaccines with approximately eighty percent being distributed by private companies such as Beaumont, Ascension and Henry Ford and twenty percent being distributed by Oakland County.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Zack Witus – Chair of the Huntington Woods 4 Black Lives

Addressed racism within the City of Huntington Woods and the need for transparency within the Huntington Woods Public Safety Department concerning ticket data.

Brandon Mar – Member of Huntington Woods 4 Black Lives

Addressed the need for pro-active policing and asked that the City Commission look into proactive services to further support the community in preventing future violence.

Emma Draker – Member of Huntington Woods 4 Black Lives

Addressed the need for proactive legislation, better adequate mental health support and changes to the Huntington Woods Public Safety Department funding to reduce future gun violence and school shootings.

Gail Linden – 25840 Concord Rd.

Questioned the Commission why residents are no longer allowed to break down larger boxes and set next to the recycling bin on pick up day.

Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Olsman and seconded by Commissioner Rozell to suspend Public Comments until after the reading of the proclamation for Judge Gubow.

Ayes: Paul, Olsman, Elder, Rozell, Jenks

Nays: None

Absent: None

The Motion Carried.

PROCLAMATIONS:

Mayor Pro Tem Olsman read the proclamation honoring Judge David Gubow for his years served in the 45B District Court.

* At this time there were no more public comments.

Mayor Paul read the proclamation proclaiming February 2021 as Black History Month.

RESOLUTION R -171 -2021:

Matter of consideration to approve MKSK Studios as the consultant for the Master Plan update and that the City Commission authorize the City Manager to enter into an agreement for their services.

Moved by Commissioner Jenks and seconded by Commissioner Elder to approve MKSK Studios as the consultant for the Master Plan update and that the city Commission authorize the City Manager to enter into an agreement for their services.

Commissioner Comments:

Elder: Noted that she liked MKSK and their technical experience through the certification process and feels they are qualified because of their familiarity with the area. She also appreciated that they have made pro active efforts to address diversity, equity, and inclusion in their business practices.

Ayes: Paul, Olsman, Rozell, Elder, Jenks

Nays: None

Absent: None

The Motion Carried.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

Regular Meeting Minutes of January 5, 2021 & Special Meeting Minutes of January 5, 2021.

Mayor Paul noted that the regular meeting minutes of January 5, 2021 should reflect that all Commissioners were present in the City of Huntington Woods during roll call as well as the submittal of corrected special meeting minutes for January 5, 2021.

Moved by Commissioner Rozell and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Olsman to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of January 5, 2021 and the Special Meeting Minutes of January 5, 2021 as amended.

Ayes: Paul, Olsman, Rozell, Jenks, Elder

Nays: None

Absent: None

The Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION R -172 -2021:

Matter of consideration to approve the formation of the Anti-Racism Advisory Committee.

Moved by Commissioner Elder and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Olsman to approve the formation of the Anti-Racism Advisory Committee.

Commissioner Comments:

Elder: Thanked the Commission for their support and the City Manager for her hard work on the Anti-Racism Plan. She is excited and in favor of the formalization of the Anti-Racism Advisory Committee.

Ayes: Paul, Olsman, Elder, Jenks, Rozell

Nays: None

Absent: None

The Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION R -173 -2021:

Matter of a resolution opposing Michigan Senate Bill #0017 – Contracts of Public servants with Public Entities.

Commissioner Rozell presented his concerns with the bill that would allow full time public safety officers and command to serve on local governing boards with a population less than forty thousand. The original bill allows paid on call or volunteer but not full-time employees. This new bill creates supervision problems and would allow the full-time officer to participate in negotiations as a member of the governing board and vote on establishing their own paid benefits. He as a Commissioner, not speaking for the Commission, sent a letter opposing this bill and asked that the Commission go on record noting that this is bad public policy.

Moved by Commissioner Rozell and seconded by Commissioner Jenks to approve a resolution opposing Michigan Senate Bill #0017 – Contracts of Public Servant with Public Entities.

Commissioner Comments:

Jenks: Noted his strong opposition to Michigan Senate Bill #0017 and that he contacted the Michigan Municipal League asking that they take a strong position against the bill.

Paul: Made note for the record that if approved, Manager Sullivan will prepare a resolution that will be sent to Senator Moss, Representative Weiss and the Michigan Municipal League.

Ayes: Paul, Olsman, Elder, Jenks, Rozell

Nays: None

Absent: None

The Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION R -174 -2021:

Matter of consideration to set a public hearing on March 2, 2021 for the 2021 CDBG program year.

Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Olsman and seconded by Commissioner Elder to set a public hearing on March 2, 2021 for the 2021 CDBG program year.

Ayes: Paul, Olsman, Rozell, Elder, Jenks

Nays: None

Absent: None

The Motion Carried.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

- Public Works is getting an early start on road construction and water main replacement work. Kingston between Coolidge and the dead end has been pulverized. There is an eblast for residents on that street going out with construction information and updates. To be added to the eblast, residents can call the DPW.
- The Recreation Center is holding a Big Truck Parade on Tuesday February 16, 2021 at 10:00 which includes DPW and Public Safety vehicles as well as Berkley's municipal trucks as a thank you to those departments for working so hard as a front-line workers during the pandemic. They are encouraging residents to make signs and dress up.
- Mary Gustafson, Parks and Recreation Director, is retiring and the City will be hosting a Zoom send off for her Friday, February 5th. People can participate by contacting the Recreation Department for the Zoom link. Tracy Shanley will be replacing Mary as the Recreation Director.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Ayes: Paul, Olsman, Jenks, Elder, Rozell

Nays: None

Absent: None

The Motion Carried, meeting adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

Heidi Barckholtz, City Clerk

Robert F. Paul, III, Mayor