

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COMMISSION
CITY OF EAST GRAND RAPIDS

Regular Meeting Held February 7, 2022

Commission President Hamrick called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the City Commission Chambers at the East Grand Rapids Community Center and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Commissioners Arendshorst, Hamrick, Pachla, Schulz, Schwartz and Wessely

Absent: Mayor Favale

Also Present: City Manager Charles; Deputy City Manager LaFave; City Attorney Huff; Parks & Recreation Director Melville; Finance Director Seath; Public Safety Director Herald; City Clerk Brower

2022-15. The agenda was approved as published.

2022-16. No public comment was received.

2022-17. City Manager Charles commended the Public Works Department for keeping the roads and sidewalks clear during the last several weeks of winter weather. He noted the streets bids had come in just under budget and would be under contract soon. Mr. Charles also reported the city's proposed financial advisor for the upcoming bond sale had recently changed firms; however the staff had done some research and was comfortable using the new firm to keep the bond sale moving forward.

2022-18. Chief Herald introduced Public Safety Officer Brian Duran who joined the department last month. City Clerk Brower administered the oath of office to PSO Duran and welcomed him to the City.

2022-19. Schedule public hearing for request to rename Franklin Street as Martin Luther King Jr. Street.

City Manager Charles requested the commission establish a public hearing date to formally consider the request to rename Franklin Street to Martin Luther King Jr. Street. He noted several community members were contacting the seven homes with Franklin addresses to explain the request prior to the public hearing.

2022-019-A. Arendshorst-Schwartz. That a public hearing be scheduled for Monday, February 21, 2022 to hear public comment on the request to rename Franklin Street to Martin Luther King Jr. Street and to use Franklin as the street's commemorative name.

Yeas: Arendshorst, Hamrick, Pachla, Schulz, Schwartz and Wessely – 6

Nays: -0-

2022-20. Chief Herald reviewed the Public Safety Department's quarterly report for the period ending December 31, 2021, and answered questions from the City Commission. He highlighted the department's community outreach programs and spoke about the ongoing data collection on traffic stops and traffic crashes.

Commissioner Arendshorst questioned whether the department could determine how many calls for service were from Blodgett Hospital. Chief Herald will look into this.

2022-21. Authorization to submit a grant application for "First Responder Training and Recruitment."

Chief Herald explained the State of Michigan is accepting grant applications for first responder training and his department would like to submit a request for fire skills training, interviewing techniques, crisis intervention, fire investigation and crime scene investigation, among others.

2022-021-A. Pachla-Arendshorst. That the Public Safety Department be authorized to submit a grant application to the State of Michigan for the First Responder Training and Recruitment grant program in an amount not to exceed \$100,000.

Yeas: Arendshorst, Hamrick, Pachla, Schulz, Schwartz and Wessely – 6
Nays: -0-

2022-22. Fireworks permit for July 4 Celebration.

Parks & Recreation Director Melville reviewed the permit requirements and the recommendation to use the same vendor as the last few years due to their past performance and familiarity with our area.

2022-022-A. Pachla-Schwartz. That a fireworks permit for the July 4 Celebration be approved as attached in Exhibit “A.”

Yeas: Arendshorst, Hamrick, Pachla, Schulz, Schwartz and Wessely – 6
Nays: -0-

2022-23. Contract for fireworks for July 4 Celebration.

Parks & Recreation Director Melville reported inflationary price increases were likely this year, but asked the commission to approve the contract up to the budgeted amount and the staff will work with the vendor to determine the best show possible for the contracted price.

2022-023-A. Schulz-Arendshorst. That a one-year contract with Great Lakes Fireworks in the amount of \$25,000 for the July 4, 2022 fireworks show be approved as requested.

Yeas: Arendshorst, Hamrick, Pachla, Schulz, Schwartz and Wessely – 6
Nays: -0-

2022-24. Arendshorst-Schulz. To approve the consent agenda as follows:

2022-024-A. Minutes of the regular City Commission meeting held January 18, 2022.

2022-024-B. Payroll disbursements of \$240,690.20; county and school disbursements of \$185,941.54, and total remaining disbursements of \$412,417.20.

2022-024-C. A contract with Good Earth Tree Care of Grand Rapids for tree maintenance services not to exceed \$20,000 with a three-year renewal option if the work is satisfactory.

2022-024-D. Preliminary minutes of the Library Commission meeting held September 27, 2021.

2022-024-E. Preliminary minutes of the Library Commission meeting held January 24, 2022.

Yeas: Arendshorst, Hamrick, Pachla, Schulz, Schwartz and Wessely – 6
Nays: -0-

The meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m., subject to the call of the Mayor until February 21, 2022.

Karen K. Brower, City Clerk

Attachments: A – Fireworks permit

Attachments listed above are available for inspection at the office of the City Clerk.