

Regular Meeting of the Howell City Council
Monday February 8, 2016
Howell City Council Chambers – Lower Level
611 E. Grand River
Howell, Michigan 48843
517-546-3502

1. The regular meeting of the Howell City Council was called to order by Mayor Nick Proctor at 7:00 p.m.

Council Members Present: Robert Ellis, Jeff Hansen, Jan Lobur, Steven Manor, Michael Mulvahill, and Mayor Nick Proctor.

Council Member Absent: Scott Niblock

Also Present: City Manager Shea Charles, City Attorney Dennis Perkins, and City Clerk Jane Cartwright.

Others in Attendance: Police Chief George Basar, Finance Director/Treasurer Catherine Stanislawski, DPS Director Erv Suida, Community Development Director Tim Schmitt, DDA Director Cathleen Edgerly, Kate Litwin, Scott Henman, Alex Smith, Donald Parker, Tom Richardson, Carolyn Randall, Bruce Cadwallender, Jacqueline Stewart.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

3. **APPROVED MINUTES:**

MOTION by Ellis, SUPPORT by Lobur, “To approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the City Council held January 25, 2016.” MOTION CARRIED (6-0).

MOTION by Ellis, SUPPORT by Lobur, “To approve the minutes of the executive session held January 25, 2016.” MOTION CARRIED (6-0).

4. **CITIZENS’ COMMENTS**

- Bruce Cadwallender, 13943 S. Scribner-Perry, volunteer for the Lansing Area Chapter of Citizens’ Climate Lobby, requested a community letter of endorsement for their legislative proposal Carbon Fee & Dividend. The proposal charges a fee on carbon based fuels and returns the revenue to households as a monthly dividend to reinvest in the economy. Carolyn Randall, Lansing Chapter President, stated they are a non-partisan organization solely focused on the Carbon Fee & Dividend and urged Council to endorse the proposal or support climate change noting that any action would be appreciated.
- Don Parker, 502 Chandler, District 5 Livingston County Commissioner, gave a synopsis of the State of the County address given last week. Items to note

included a 22% reduction in foreclosures; adoption of a \$33 million General Fund budget; 25% reduction in building permit fees; expanded Livingston County Jail is open & renovation of the old facility is under way; the Courthouse Amphitheater is also being renovated; and they have the lowest tax rate of all 83 counties in Michigan. Commissioner Parker also discussed the challenges of funding the MERS pension system, regionalization of Michigan Works, and the unfunded mandate of immunization waivers pushed down to the County Health Department. Council discussed the importance of education for immunizations, discrepancy in funding for public safety within the County suggesting an operating millage to fund police services, the need for a transportation authority, ice rink options for the Amphitheater, and problems associated with emergency housing services. Commissioner Parker stated the challenges associated with County wide public safety millages that cannot be prorated to service the varying needs and demographics of each community noting that contracting for police services is the most ideal method. He also noted that the proposed ice rink would have provoked deed restrictions associated with the courthouse property in order to provide liability coverage. Mayor Proctor thanked Commissioner Parker for attending the meeting and stated he would like to schedule bi-annual County updates on the agenda. Commissioner Parker stated it was an honor to represent the District and thanked City Council for all their work.

5. REPORTS – COUNCIL MEMBERS SERVING ON COMMISSIONS

- Mayor Proctor reported on the January Howell Area Fire Authority meeting. The Board discussed banking collateral for their funds, proposed legislation regulating fireworks and the awards ceremony scheduled for February 10, 2016.
- Mayor Proctor reported on the January 27, 2016 DDA Board meeting. New President Brian Walker chaired his first meeting, Heather Ruby was appointed Vice President, received Committee Reports, and discussed the Applause Awards scheduled for April 19, 2016. DDA Director Edgerly also encouraged attendance at the Lunar New Year celebration scheduled for February 20, 2016.

6. COUNCIL CORRESPONDENCE

- J. J. Lewis, Letter of Resignation from LOCC. MOTION by Lobur, SUPPORT by Manor, “To accept the resignation of J. J. Lewis from the LOCC.” MOTION CARRIED (6-0).

7. PRESENTATION – CITY OF HOWELL WATER QUALITY

DPS Director Suida presented a report on the City of Howell Water System. He also met with Howell Public Schools today to present the same report and will have it posted on the City’s website tomorrow. The report detailed the Marshal Aquifer ground water source, breakdown of the treatment process including corrosion control at the 3.1 MGD plant built in 1992, and capacity of ground & elevated storage tanks. The Lead & Copper Rule established in 1991 requires the

- monitoring of lead and copper with tests taken at the customer tap, and public education provided by the water quality report published annually. The City of Howell has sampled more tap sites than required since 1992 with results well under the actionable limit set by the EPA under the Safe Drinking Water Act. All water meters have been changed out and the system is fully compliant with all lead free fittings. Leaching is controlled using a Sodium Hexametaphosphate additive which provides a coating on metal pipes to reduce corrosion and deposits. Tests are performed daily to assure that the water system after treatment is non-corrosive. The annual flushing of water hydrants also clears out any deposits in the system. The City of Howell Water System is well funded, uses trained licensed operators, and most tests are completed in house at the City's certified lab. The water source hasn't changed and 11 miles of water mains have been replaced. Council indicated it was important for citizens to know about their water system and thanked staff for taking a proactive approach.
8. **APPROVED – RESOLUTION NO. 16-03, RUBBISH RATE**
MOTION by Ellis, SUPPORT by Lobur, “To adopt Resolution No. 16-03, Rubbish Rate effective February 1, 2016.” MOTION CARRIED (6-0).
 9. **APPROVED – RESOLUTION NO. 16-04, SUPPORT OF HOWELL MAIN STREET NON-PROFIT STATUS**
MOTION by Hansen, SUPPORT by Manor, “To adopt Resolution No. 16-04, Support of Howell Main Street Non-Profit Status.” Council commended the DDA for continuing the process. MOTION CARRIED (6-0).
 10. **APPROVED – W. GRAND RIVER STREET LIGHTING LED UPGRADE**
MOTION by Ellis, SUPPORT by Hansen, “To approve the conversion of West Grand River Street lights to LED Lights through DTE at a cost of \$6,262.” City Manager Charles stated this project would require a budget amendment. Staff will also be working with DTE to develop a capital plan on additional street light replacements and there is a potential of grant funds. Community Development Director Schmitt indicated LED is a clearer, crisper form of light; they are also directional so they can be aimed more effectively and have a longer life. DPS Director Suida stated the 3 lights on Byron Road near Voyager Elementary School are the new LED lights. MOTION CARRIED (6-0).
 11. **APPROVED – MCPHERSON PARK DR. TEDF GRANT, LOCAL MATCH REQUIREMENT**
MOTION by Ellis, SUPPORT by Lobur, “To utilize the Major Street fund balance to cover the required 20% match for the Transportation Economic Development Fund grant (estimated to be approximately \$66,800) to resurface portions of McPherson Park Drive.” MOTION CARRIED (6-0).

12. AWARD BID/PURCHASE – BULLET PROOF VESTS, NORTHEASTERN UNIFORM \$13,668

MOTION by Manor, SUPPORT by Ellis, “To approve the purchase of seventeen (17) Second Chance SUMMIT SM02 Level II Bullet Resistant Vests in the amount of \$13,668.” MOTION CARRIED (6-0).

13. APPROVED PAYMENT OF BILLS

MOTION by Hansen, SUPPORT by Lobur, “To approve payment of bills ending February 8, 2016 in the amount of \$460,960.38 and payroll to cover the period ending February 20, 2016.” Member Mulvahill stated his plans to abstain since his employer was included in the list of payments. City Attorney Perkins stated there was not a direct financial gain as an employee therefore the abstention was not necessary. MOTION CARRIED (6-0).

14. BOARD/COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS:

A. DDA Board, Scott Henman, term ending 01/02/2017. MOTION by Hansen, SUPPORT by Manor, “To confirm the Mayor’s appointment of Scott Henman to the DDA Board for a term ending 01/02/2017.” Mr. Henman introduced himself and stated he felt called to engage in service to the community. MOTION CARRIED (6-0).

B. Rental Board of Appeals, terms ending 01/28/2019. MOTION by Manor, SUPPORT by Lobur, “To confirm the Mayor’s appointment of Jerel Douglass & Brian Atkinson to the Rental Board of Appeals for terms ending 01/28/2019.” MOTION CARRIED (6-0).

15. CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

- Retreat Preparation. The follow-up session is scheduled for February 11, 2016 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Howell Carnegie District Library. Council stated their preference for a shorter lunch break.
- MML Capital Conference is scheduled for March 22 & 23, 2016 in Lansing. The reduced rate expires February 23rd; attendance was encouraged.
- Based on the feedback received, the conversion to Advanced Disposal has been positive overall. DPS Director Suida and his staff were commended for their work to provide a smooth transition.
- A Federal District Court Judge granted a preliminary injunction blocking enforcement of the 60 day rule associated with PA 269. This action was very critical for school districts and municipalities with a proposal on the March 8th ballot.

16. OLD BUSINESS

- Mayor Proctor reported on the recent trip to ~~Otis~~ Otta City Japan & Bangkok (Thailand) at the request of Thai Summit. City Manager Charles and himself toured their facilities and discussed further expansion options. Thai Summit is very supportive of their investment in Howell.

- MOTION by Lobar, SUPPORT by Manor, “To excuse Member Niblock from the February 8, 2016 meeting due to business travel.” MOTION CARRIED (6-0).

17. NEW BUSINESS

- Member Manor questioned the status of gas station at Grand River & Barnard. Community Development Director Schmitt indicated the station sold last September and an Architect is working on plans to reopen however they have not been submitted.

18. ADJOURN

MOTION by Hansen, SUPPORT by Ellis, “To adjourn the regular meeting of the City Council at 8:31p.m.” MOTION CARRIED (6-0).

Nick Proctor, Mayor

Jane Cartwright, City Clerk