

Regular Meeting of the Howell City Council
Monday, August 27, 2018
Howell City Council Chambers – Lower Level
611 E. Grand River
Howell, Michigan 48843
517-546-3502

1. CALL TO ORDER

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, Jan Lobur, Steven Manor, Michael Mulvahill, Andrew Yost and Mayor Nick Proctor.

Council Members Absent: None.

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

Others in Attendance: Police Chief George Basar, DPS Director Erv Suida, Finance Director Catherine Stanislawski, Community Development Director Tim Schmitt, DPW Operations Manager Mike Luce, WWTP Operations Manager Mike Spitler, Parks & Cemetery Supervisor Jason McClanahan, Assessor Joey Lentine, Assessor II Ashley Backus, John and Caron Davis, Aaren Currie, Richard Olrich, Nicholas King, Michelle Rivera, Maria McEvoy, Susie Hill, Eric Myers.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. APPROVED MINUTES

MOTION by Lobur, SUPPORT by Ellis, “To approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the City Council held August 13, 2018.” MOTION CARRIED (6-0).

MOTION by Ellis, SUPPORT by Lobur, “To approve the minutes of the executive session of the City Council held August 13, 2018.” MOTION CARRIED (6-0).

4. CITIZENS’ COMMENTS

- Eric Myers, 734 E. Grand River, (owner of 102, 106, 108 N. Elm St.), expressed concern with the rental registration inspection recently performed on his rental properties. Multiple city departments were represented and multiple violations were cited requiring the first phase of corrections within 3 weeks. He stated these were older buildings and he was being criminalized due to the age of the buildings. Mr. Myers requested a little more leniency with the timeline. City Manager Charles indicated the violations were life safety issues and since the Building Official categorized them as immediate danger to the tenants, there is a tight timeline for repairs. Council encouraged the property owner to work

with City staff and requested staff provide an update this week. Council also indicated they have been pushing staff to address some of these serious building violations noting they want the citizens to be safe. Mr. Myers stated he was trying to complete the work himself due to limited financial resources however he was making progress.

5. REPORTS – COUNCIL MEMBERS SERVING ON COMMISSIONS

- Member Lobur reported on the Planning Commission meeting held August 15, 2018. Received an update on current development projects throughout the City, and trees being removed from the McPherson Mansion property. Approved the site plan for exterior alterations for the McPherson Mansion Carriage House. Reviewed the request from City Council on using the International Property Maintenance Code (IPMC) standards for all structures and recommended the City Council move forward with the process. Recommended the adoption of the Livingston County 2018 Master Plan.
- Member Ellis reported on the Howell Area Recreation Authority meeting held August 21, 2018. The authority continues to operate the Howell Aquatic Center without a Management Agreement however they are making progress on negotiating a compromise for a new agreement with a lower level incentive component. The owner of the building currently leased for the HIVE Teen Center is actively marketing the property for sale; the remainder of the 3 year lease agreement would be honored if the building is sold. Preliminary results from the Melon Festival show increased participation and revenue raised. Registrations for fall soccer are at the highest participation level to date and swim lessons are at 66% of capacity. Mayor Proctor congratulated the Howell Recreation Authority for a successful Melon Festival.
- Mayor Proctor reported on the DDA meeting held August 22, 2018. Pure Michigan will be in town tomorrow morning at the Opera House; they are focusing their market strategy on the Howell/Brighton area. The final Food Truck Tuesday is scheduled for September 4th & the final Food Truck Rally is September 29th. Representatives from Michigan Main Street will be back in town September 18, 2018 at 3:00 pm to work with the Howell Main Street Board pursuant to the Great American Main Street award.
- Mayor Proctor reported on the Howell Area Fire Authority meeting held August 15, 2018. Approved the millage rate for 2018 (L4029); and received a report on the main station expansion which is expected to be completed for the October Open House.

6. COUNCIL CORRESPONDENCE

- A. Kevin Adamo, Resignation from the DDA Board. MOTION by Ellis, SUPPORT by Mulvahill, “To accept the resignation from Kevin Adamo from the DDA Board.” Council expressed their appreciation for his service noting he was a great contributor to the Downtown. MOTION CARRIED (6-0).
- B. Adam Merkel, Resignation from the DDA Board. MOTION by Ellis, SUPPORT by Lobur, “To accept the resignation from Adam Merkel from the

DDA Board.” Member Ellis & Mulvahill indicated they worked with Mr. Merkel on the DDA Board and noted he has been making great contributions to the City for many years and they wish him well in his future endeavors. MOTION CARRIED (6-0).

- C. Teal Ribbon Request, National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month. MOTION by Yost, SUPPORT by Lobur, “To approve the request to tie teal ribbons on light posts for the month of September on Grand River between National & the Library and Michigan Avenue between Sibley & Clinton to highlight National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month.” Volunteer Maria McEvoy stated Tie Michigan Teal is bringing awareness to Ovarian Cancer, the silent disease, noting her Mom died at the age of 39 from this disease. Member Yost also expressed his personal experience with the disease and strong support for the request. MOTION CARRIED (6-0).
7. **APPROVED – CIVIC EVENT APPLICATIONS:**
- A. Wake Up Livingston Walk for Recovery, September 23, 2018. MOTION by Ellis, SUPPORT by Lobur, “To approve the civic event application submitted by Wake Up Livingston for the Walk for Recovery scheduled for September 23, 2018 incorporating staff comments and contingent upon receipt of certificate of insurance.” MOTION CARRIED (6-0).
- B. NARA National Championship Dog Competition, October 13-14, 2018. MOTION by Ellis, SUPPORT by Lobur, “To approve the civic event application submitted by North American Ring Association for the National Championship Dog Competition scheduled for October 13 & 14, 2018, with set up and practice sessions scheduled for October 11 & 12, 2018, incorporating staff comments and contingent upon receipt of certificate of insurance.” Nicholas King, Von Der King Kennels & Training (event host), stated NARA is a not for profit organization, and the competition will include his own dogs as well as teams from Mexico, France and all over the United States. The dogs that will be competing are the elite of elite dogs including obedience and police type dogs. There are no fees to the public and they will be able to observe and interact with the police dogs. Council questioned clean-up of waste and parking for the event. Mr. King stated there will be a designated break area for the dogs that will be cleaned up and he is working with the Recreation Authority on designated parking. MOTION CARRIED (6-0).
8. **DISCUSSED – NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH**
- Mayor Proctor provided background on the origin of the request from a Council Member in the Chicago area who lost a family member to suicide. Mayor Proctor read the proposed Proclamation and requested Council’s consensus for proclaiming the month of September as National Suicide Prevention Month. Member Ellis reviewed statistics representing 1,400 suicide deaths annually in Michigan and also noted his personal experience with suicide. Member Ellis stated the more people

- talk about it, the more people can be helped. John Davis, 907 Meadowlark, thanked the City for their consideration noting that 22 Veterans per day commit suicide. MOTION Manor, SUPPORT by Ellis, "That the City Council fully support the Mayor's Proclamation proclaiming the month of September as National Suicide Prevention Month." MOTION CARRIED (6-0).
9. **APPROVED – OFFICER DELEGATE FOR MERS ANNUAL MEETING**
MOTION by Lobur, SUPPORT by Mulvahill, "To appoint Jane Cartwright as officer delegate and Shea Charles as officer alternate to the annual meeting of the Municipal Employees Retirement System." MOTION CARRIED (6-0).
10. **AWARDED BID/PURCHASE – WWTP ULTRAVIOLET SYSTEM PURCHASE, SUEZ TREATMENT SOLUTIONS, \$208,000**
MOTION by Manor, SUPPORT by Ellis, "To purchase the Aquaray 40 HO System from Suez for the purchase price of \$208,000." MOTION CARRIED (6-0).
11. **APPROVED - PAYMENT OF BILLS**
MOTION by Ellis, SUPPORT by Mulvahill, "To approve the payment of bills ending August 27, 2018 in the amount of \$534,318.51 and payroll to cover the period ending September 1, 2018." MOTION CARRIED (6-0).
12. **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**
- Requested a special meeting be scheduled for September 5, 2018 to interview candidates and appoint a City Council member to replace Scott Niblock who resigned effective August 26, 2018. A budget work session could also be held on the same night. MOTION by Mulvahill, SUPPORT by Yost, "To schedule a special meeting of the City Council for Wednesday September 5, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. to interview candidates and appoint a City Council Member and hold a budget work session." MOTION CARRIED (6-0).
 - The City will hold the first public informational meeting on the Headlee Override Ballot proposal this Wednesday August 29, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. Additional sessions will be held in September and October. The informational webpage is active; www.cityofhowell.org/headlee.
 - An ordinance amendment to prohibit minors from vaping will be scheduled on the September 10, 2018 meeting agenda for introduction.
 - The McPherson Street house is scheduled for demolition Friday morning. Notices to neighboring properties will be going out tomorrow.
13. **OLD BUSINESS**
- Mayor Proctor asked Council Members to start thinking about potential ramifications if the Headlee Override does not pass which could include potential service cuts that will right size the City's structural deficient.
 - Mayor Proctor questioned designation of parkland at Howell Memorial Cemetery. Community Development Director Schmitt updated Council on the survey process which including a correction to the Rolling Oaks plat.

- Mayor Proctor questioned the status of the Redevelopment Ready Communities process. Community Development Director Schmitt indicated he was working on scheduling the required presentation.
- Member Manor indicated all infrastructure projects were removed from the 2018/2019 budget prior to adoption. At the September 5, 2018 work session he will be suggesting that the City focus on preserving services as much as possible and further reduce infrastructure expenses.
- Member Mulvahill questioned the status of the plan for the Headlee Override proposal.

14. NEW BUSINESS

- Mayor Proctor questioned the status of the recycling market. DPS Director Suida indicated that the recycling markets are dwindling, however the City has a 10 year contract with Advanced Disposal Services that will be honored for recycling services. He also spoke of the importance of preparing materials properly for recycling to eliminate contamination of loads and encouraged residents to follow the directions for proper recycling. If a load is over 40% contaminated, it cannot be recycled.

15. ADJOURN

MOTION by Manor, SUPPORT by Lobur, “To adjourn the regular meeting of the City Council at 8:12 p.m.” MOTION CARRIED (6-0).

Nick Proctor, Mayor

Jane Cartwright, City Clerk