



23925 Woodward Avenue
Pleasant Ridge, Michigan 48069

Pleasant Ridge Public Hearing and Regular City Commission Meeting
Tuesday, June 12, 2012

Having been duly publicized, Mayor Castelli called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

Present: Mayor Castelli, Commissioners Bushey, Krzysiak, Perry, Rubino.
Also Present: City Manager Ball, City Attorney Cooper, City Clerk Allison.
Absent: None.

Minutes

12-2849

Motion by Commissioner Bushey, second by Commissioner Rubino, that the minutes of the Public Hearing and Regular City Commission Meeting held Tuesday, May 8, 2012, be approved, as presented.

Adopted: Yeas: Commissioners Bushey, Rubino, Krzysiak, Perry, Mayor Castelli.
Nays: None.

May 2012 Disbursement Report

12-2850

Motion by Commissioner Rubino, second by Commissioner Bushey, that the May 2012 Monthly Disbursement Report, be approved, as listed.

Adopted: Yeas: Commissioners Rubino, Bushey, Krzysiak, Perry, Mayor Castelli.
Nays: None.

Governmental Reports

Commissioner Helaine Zack, Oakland County Commissioner, gave an update on events related to the County.

Ms. Karen Twomey, Ferndale Public School Board Member, gave an update regarding events related to the Ferndale Public Schools.

City Commission Liaison Reports

Commissioner Krzysiak, gave an update regarding the Recreation Commission. discussed the Community Pool opening, good start to the pool season, Pleasant Ridge Swim team upcoming events, swim lesson begin on June 18th, Summer Program also begins on June 18th and the baseball teams are in full swing.

Commissioner Bushey, gave an update regarding the Planning Commission/DDA. Welcome new Commissioner Kevin McCutcheon, results from priorities workshop discussed, workgroups formed, Kids Fun Night Concert will be held July 25th, outdoor dining public hearing scheduled June 25th.

Commissioner Rubino, gave an update regarding the Historical Commission. Home and Garden tour held June 9th, well over 300 people attended the event, special thanks to all the volunteers who helped on that date, and planning for fall events continues.

Commissioner Perry gave an update regarding the Ferndale Public Schools, she attended the annual June Fair. She also gave an update regarding Regional Transportation issues.

Mayor Castelli requested Manager Ball discuss the upcoming 45th District Court consolidation encompassing the Cities of Berkley, Huntington Woods, Oak Park, Pleasant Ridge, and Royal Oak Township.

Consent Agenda

12-2851

Motion by Commissioner Bushey, second by Commissioner Rubino, that the Consent Agenda, be approved, as listed.

Adopted: Yeas: Commissioners Bushey, Rubino, Krzysiak, Perry, Mayor Castelli.
 Nays: None.

Supplemental Appropriations #A-2012-009 through A-2012-018
12-2852

Motion by Commissioner Rubino, second by Commissioner Bushey, that Supplemental Appropriations #A-2012-009 through #A-2012-018, be approved, as listed.

Adopted: Yeas: Commissioners Rubino, Bushey, Krzysiak, Perry, Mayor Castelli.
 Nays: None.

2012–2013 Combined City Budget, Millage Rates, 2013–2017 Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan

Mayor Castelli opened the public hearing at 8:29 p.m.

Commissioner Perry commented on the Deficit Reduction Plan for the Water and Sewer Department, since the funding in that department was less, did the City meet the requirement of the plan.

Manager Ball commented that the City was able to eliminate Water and Sewer Department Deficit Reduction Plan, sooner than expected, within the last fiscal year.

With no further comments or discussion, Mayor Castelli closed the public hearing at 8:31 p.m.

12-2853

Motion by Commissioner Rubino, second by Commissioner Bushey, that the 2012-2013 Combined City Budgets and 2013-2017 Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan be approved and that the Budget Resolution be adopted, including the levying of 11.4248 mils for the General Fund Operating, 2.4124 mils for Infrastructure Improvements, 1.7134 mils for Solid Waste and Disposal, 0.3700 mils for Library Services, 1.2722 mils for Community Center Complex Operations, and 1.0000 mils for Community Center Complex Debt Service be approved, as recommended.

Adopted: Yeas: Commissioners Rubino, Bushey, Krzysiak, Perry, Mayor Castelli.
 Nays: None.

Ordinance #400 Combined Water and Sewer Rates

Mayor Castelli opened the public hearing at 8:42 p.m.

Peter Samoray, 43 Maywood, questioned whether a dual meter system will be discussed for implementation in the fall. He understands other communities are looking at dual systems

Mayor Castelli commented that the review for the fall will be to look at how to spread the fixed costs across all the properties. A dual system would be cost prohibitive for the City to implement.

Mr. Frank Stutcher, 85 Amherst, likes the idea of fixed cost allocation. Also questioned if the fixed cost could be used as a tax credit on individuals Federal Income Tax filing.

Mayor Castelli commented that the fixed costs are not an ad-valorum tax and are not deductible.

Manager Ball explained this allocation is being considered for the fall so that public hearings and informational meetings can be held prior to this system being adopted.

Mr. Bill Hartman, 31 Elm Park, commented he has done some research into the water rate issue. He has data regarding moving some of the fixed costs. Mr. Hartman provided his documents to the City Commission, and then reviewed the information in his analysis. He feels that raising the rates will discourage water consumption and he details in his analysis an alternative structure. Much of the fixed costs have nothing to do with water usage, but are currently charged by usage.

Manager Ball commented that Mr. Hartman's analysis is not an apples to apples analysis since his documents include information related to the City of Berkley's breakdown, however, the City of Berkley has spent considerable funds so that the commercial properties pay an increase cost over residential properties.

Ms. Jane Makulski, 110 Elm Park, questioned if the City of Berkley is the only city using an alternative billing system, since she reads in the newspapers that all other communities are seeing an increase, similar to the City of Pleasant Ridge.

Manager Ball commented the City of Berkley is the only city using its formula. All the other communities bill based on consumption, same as Pleasant Ridge. The City Commission has determined they would like to explore other alternatives.

Ms. Tracey Armstrong, 89 Oakdale, questioned how will the flyer the City created, related to the water rates, and be distributed. Also any residential education on conservation would be beneficial.

Commissioner Perry commented that she understood the reason for the proposed increase b is glad the City will be looking into was to reduce costs in water bills

With no further comments or discussion, Mayor Castelli closed the public hearing at 9:13 p.m.

12-2854

Motion by Commissioner Perry, second by Commissioner Bushey, that Ordinance #400 regarding the combined water and sewer rates be adopted, as recommended.

Adopted: Yeas: Commissioners Bushey, Rubino, Mayor Castelli.
 Nays: Commissioners Perry, Krzysiak.

Accounting Services Agreement 2012-2015 – Plante Moran

12-2855

Motion by Commissioner Bushey, second by Commissioner Rubino, that the agreement with Plante Moran for financial accounting services effective July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2015, be approved, and that the City Manager be authorized to sign the agreement.

Adopted: Yeas: Commissioners Bushey, Rubino, Krzysiak, Perry, Mayor Castelli.
 Nays: None.

Comcast Franchise Agreement - Comcast

12-2856

Motion by Commissioner Rubino, second by Commissioner Bushey, Uniform Video Service Local Franchise Agreement, pursuant to PA 480 of 2006, between Comcast of the South, Inc., and the City of Pleasant Ridge, be approved, as recommended, and that the City Manager be authorized to sign the agreement.

Adopted: Yeas: Commissioners Rubino, Bushey, Krzysiak, Perry, Mayor Castelli.
 Nays: None.

Comcast Franchise Agreement – WideOpenWest (WOW)

12-2857

Motion by Commissioner Perry, second by Commissioner Rubino, that the Uniform Video Service Local Franchise Agreement, pursuant to PA 480 of 2006, between WideOpenWest Michigan, LLC, and the City of Pleasant Ridge, be approved, as recommended, and that the City Manager be authorized to sign the agreement

Adopted: Yeas: Commissioners Perry, Rubino, Bushey, Krzysiak, Mayor Castelli.
 Nays: None.

Rodent Control Program

12-2858

Motion by Commissioner Bushey, second by Commissioner Rubino, that the rodent control program, be approved, as recommended.

Adopted: Yeas: Commissioners Bushey, Rubino, Krzysiak, Perry, Mayor Castelli.
 Nays: None.

Planning/DDA Appointment – K. McCutcheon

12-2859

Motion by Commissioner Bushey, second by Commissioner Rubino, that the appointment of Mr. Kevin McCutcheon to the Pleasant Ridge Planning Commission/Downtown Development Authority, to fill an unexpired term, term to expire December 31, 2013, be approved as recommended.

Adopted: Yeas: Commissioners Bushey, Rubino, Krzysiak, Perry, Mayor Castelli.
 Nays: None.

Public Discussion

Mr. Jay Foreman, 79 Maplefield, asked about an installation of a City sidewalk on Kenberton between Maplefield and Oakdale.

Manager Ball commented that the City looked into installing a sidewalk on Kenberton when the road was reconstructed several years ago. The cost was prohibitive at that time, since the cost would be the responsibility of the homeowners. A sidewalk could be installed on the south side only. The City would need a cost estimate and residents in that area would be asked for feedback. The City Commission directed the City Manager to explore the cost of a sidewalk and if an easement exists at that property.

Ms. Jean Russell, thanked the City Commission support for Ridge Roots (the Pleasant Ridge Community Garden).

Mr. Frank Stutcher commented about the installation of a basketball court at Gainsboro Park. He brought this to the City Commission over 60 days ago and would like a follow-up. He commented that he has a broken sidewalk which is in need of replacement, as well as broken curbing.

Manager Ball commented that there is nothing new to report and she plans on meeting with the Recreation Commission and Police Department regarding this issue. Although he has mentioned this sidewalk at meetings, he has still no contacted her. She would like to review the condition of the sidewalk at his property and will set up a meeting with the homeowner to inspect.

Mayor Castelli commented that a sidewalk program will not be implemented this year.

Mr. Bill Hartman, 31 Elm Park, commented that he has concerns regarding the EVIP grant which the City Commission adopted at the May 2012 City Commission Meeting. He feels that the City represented that there would be a 100% reimbursement for a feasibility study, however, the State of Michigan guidelines indicated that a feasibility study is funded at 25%. Mr. Hartman said the City Manager has either deceived the residents or deceived the State. He questioned what percentage that the City will be reimbursed would be and what is the true scope of the study.

Manager Ball commented that this study is a workload study and not a feasibility study and the City will be reimbursed at 100%.

City Manager's Report

Maywood Construction Project will begin after July 4, 2012

Tuesday, June 26, 2012, Maywood Reconstruction Project resident meeting.

City has planted over 108 trees in part by the Foundation, DTE grant and citywide garage sale event.

City Manager will meet with a company who offers an insurance policy on residential water and sewer lines.

Other Business

Commissioner Krzysiak requested an update regarding Polar Environmental.

Manager Ball responded that there has been no additional information since the last City Commission Meeting.

Commissioner Perry commented about a resident that she spoke with and their concerns regarding yard art.

Manager Ball commented there is an ordinance in place for yard art. She will send the ordinance to Commissioner Perry.

With no further business, Mayor Castelli adjourned the meeting at 10:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ralph A. Castelli, Jr., Mayor

Amy M. Allison, City Clerk