



City of Pleasant Ridge
23925 Woodward Avenue
Pleasant Ridge, Michigan 48069

**Regular City Commission Meeting
April 12, 2016**

Having been duly publicized, Mayor Metzger called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m.

Present: Commissioners Foreman, Krzysiak, Perry, Scott, Mayor Metzger.
Also Present: City Manager Breuckman, City Attorney Greg Need, City Clerk Drealan.
Absent: None.

Public Discussion

Ms. Gail Gerdan, 54 Ridge Road, representing the Environmental Committee, reported there is an event Monday, May 23, 7:00 p.m., Community Center, about native plants and a sale of native plants will be held Saturday, June 4, which is the same date of the Home & Garden Tour. April is earth month and the Environmental Committee's Facebook page has a number of listings focusing on green events. Ms. Gerdan provided information on chemical pesticides and encouraged residents to use natural organic products on lawns and gardens.

Mr. Ben Hamilton, 17 Wellesley, representing the Pleasant Ridge Foundation, mentioned that the Auction is May 21, starting at 5:30 p.m. Tickets will go on sale Monday, April 18, and are available online, Recreation Center, City Hall, and local residents with signs indicating they have tickets. The cost of the tickets is \$40/each until May 14; after that date, \$50/each. The theme is "Life's a Beach." Monies raised will assist the police department with the new in-car computers, new pool equipment/gazebo, 24-hour access system for the fitness center, supports for the updates at Roosevelt Park, and yearly scholarships. A Beach Bum Raffle will have 200 tickets available at \$100/each, offering a prize of \$10,000. Tickets will be available Monday, April 18, at the City Hall and Recreation Center. Donations are being accepted for the auction and the Foundation can be reached through City Hall, or the Website or Facebook page. A local resident has donated a '78 Cadillac that will be part of a Dream Cruise package. Chicken Shack will be providing the food for the auction, along with a donated prize of their food truck for a party of 50 for the auction. Axle Brewing is donating the beer for the auction. The Foundation has done a mailing to residents to promote membership. Mayor Metzger commended the Foundation for listing what the monies raised are being used for in the community. Mr. Hamilton mentioned that the Website will list what has been raised and what the Foundation has done for the community in the past. Commissioner Perry mentioned that the WA3 donated a tour of the Ford Highland Park Plant, along with paraphernalia.

Mr. Keith Cunningham, 9 Cambridge Blvd., representing the Pleasant Ridge Foundation, mentioned that the goal for this year's auction on May 21st is to have 400 people in attendance. Joining the foundation is a major part of the foundation's success, along with donations.

Ms. Jodi McGuire, 6 Woodside Park, representing the Pleasant Ridge Foundation, mentioned that there are postcards available in City Hall and the Recreation Center to join the Foundation for \$25. The 3rd Annual Ridge Resale will begin Saturday, April 16. Signs will be posted around the community promoting the Saturdays the resale shop is open. Donations are always accepted. The Foundation is partnering with Ferndale Public Schools for a proceed split that will include the marching band and fine arts. The resale will be open May 14, the same date as the city-wide sale; and again on June 11th. Information is posted on Craigslist, the Pleasant Ridge Facebook pages, and the *Ridger*. Suggestions are always welcomed for the Foundation.

Assistant City Manager Pietrzak, along with Mr. Hamilton, mentioned that the Polar Plunge is in the works depending upon the condition of the pool. Pietrzak also gave a heartfelt thanks to the Foundation for its donation for the gazebo by the pool.

Governmental Reports

Chief Kevin Sullivan, Ferndale Fire Department, reported that the department is updating its carbon monoxide monitors after recent tragedies in the city.

City Commissioner Liaison Reports

Commissioner Krzysiak reported that the Mom & Son Cosmic Date Night will be at Luxury Lanes, Tuesday, May 10, 6:00 p.m., and is for all ages. A parent meeting for the Pleasant Ridge Piranhas (swim) will be May 3. Movie screenings are held the second Thursday of every month starting April 14 at the Community Center. The next 50-plus road trip will be on April 19 to Belle Isle which includes lunch at Sinbad's on the River and a DNR tour of the island. Sign-up for youth baseball is taking place up to April 25. Practice begins in mid-May. A GUTS Skills Camp will be hosting a 6-session baseball camp for ages 6-12 starting April 27.

Commissioner Foreman reported that the Ferndale Education Foundation Auction will be held at the Magic Bag, Ferndale, Thursday, April 26th, 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.; tickets \$50.00/person; theme is the Grammys. An event, "Electrify Your Strings," on April 23, 7pm, Ferndale Auditorium, featuring Mark Wood, founding member of the Transiberian Orchestra, with a workshop on April 22nd for grades 5-12 orchestra students. Tickets are available for \$10 until April 20th online or \$15 at the door. A new play structure will be coming to Kennedy thanks to a donation by MDOT and the City of Oak Park. The next school board meeting is April 18, 7:00 p.m., at the high school.

Commissioner Perry reported that the Planning Commission/DDA did not meet in March due to the fact there was no agenda. The next Planning Commission/DDA meeting will Monday, April 25, 7:00 p.m.

Commissioner Scott on behalf of the Historical Commission reminded residents that the Home & Garden Tour will be held June 4th in which seven homes are participating. Next Historical Commission meeting is Wednesday, May 4. Commissioner Foreman inquired if another home could be added to the tour and Scott responded that it may be possible.

Consent Agenda

16-3251

Motion by Commissioner Foreman, second by Commissioner Perry, that the Consent Agenda be approved, as recommended.

Adopted: Yeas: Commissioner Foreman, Perry, Krzysiak, Scott, Mayor Metzger
 Nays: None.

Ordinance to Amend the Pleasant Ridge City Code Chapter 82 (Zoning), Section 82-6, Violations and Section 82-8 Fines and Imprisonment

City Manager Breuckman explained that this is the amendment to change zoning violations from misdemeanors to civil infractions.

Mayor Metzger opened the public hearing at 8:10 p.m.

With no comments or discussion, Mayor Metzger closed the public hearing at 8:11 p.m.

16-3252

Motion by Commissioner Foreman, second by Commissioner Scott, that Ordinance 417 amending Chapter 82 (Zoning) of the Pleasant Ridge City Code by amending Section 82-6 (Violations) and 82-8 (Fines and Imprisonment) be approved.

Adopted: Yeas: Commissioner Foreman, Scott, Krzysiak, Perry, Mayor Metzger
 Nays: None.

Ordinance 418 to amend the Pleasant Ridge City Code, Chapter 1 (General Provisions) Section 1-7[C] (General Penalty for Violations of Code and Ordinances; Continuing Violations); Chapter 18 (Businesses) Article III (Licensure of Landlords), Section 18-50 (Violations; Penalty) Article IV (Peddlers, Solicitors and Transient Merchants), Section 18-131 (Display); Chapter 28 (Civil Infractions), Article I, Section 28-10 (Penalties); Chapter 38 (Fire Prevention and Protection), Article 1 (In General) Section 38-3 (Smoke Detectors); Chapter 70 (traffic and Vehicles), by the addition of Article V (Parking Violations and Bureau and Parking Fines), Section 70-89 through Section 70-93; and Chapter 74 (Utilities) Article II (Water), Division 1 (Generally), Section 74-29 (Injury to Facilities).

City Manager Breuckman explained this amendment is to the City Code to reclassify misdemeanors to civil infractions and establishes penalties. City Attorney Need explained the reason for the changes are many, but a few are that it is easier and less expensive to prosecute a civil infraction over a misdemeanor, and civil infractions do not become part of a person's criminal history for employment reasons as a misdemeanor does. Also, more of the fine portion is retained by the City of a civil infraction.

Mayor Metzger opened the public hearing at 8:14 p.m.

With no comments or discussion, Mayor Metzger closed public hearing at 8:15 p.m.

16-3253

Motion by Commissioner Scott, second by Commissioner Perry, that Ordinance 418 regarding various Municipal Civil Infractions be approved.

Adopted: Yeas: Commissioner Scott, Perry, Foreman, Krzysiak, Mayor Metzger
 Nays: None.

Ordinance 419 to amend Chapter 74 (Utilities) of the Pleasant Ridge City Code by adding a new Article, Article V (Storm Water User Charge), including Sections 74-261 (Definitions), 74-262 (Storm Water Service Charges), 74-263 (Property Affected), 74-264 (Calculation of Charges), 74-265 (Billing), and 74-266 (Collection).

City Manager Breuckman explained that this proposal to amend the Ordinance has to do with lawsuits that have been brought against Ferndale, Birmingham, Oak Park, Dearborn, to name a few, based on how the city pays for storm water runoff treatment costs. The change to the recommended Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU) methodology is intended to mitigate the chances that a similar lawsuit could be brought against Pleasant Ridge. The proposed ordinance is based off of Berkley's that they have been using for years, and the only difference is that Pleasant Ridge will use a neighborhood averaging method for determination of charges. This is a zero-net revenue change. First full paragraph on page 2 of the ordinance, Section 70-261 "Definitions", defines the definition of an ERU drafted from Berkley's ordinance, and replacement language suggested is as follows: "All single family residential units in the city shall be assigned an ERU value based upon as set forth in Section 2.3 of the City's Storm Water Equivalent Residential Unit Apportionment Study, dated 3/24/16, which shall be amended or updated by resolution of City Commission from time-to-time."

Mayor Metzger opened the public hearing at 8:20 p.m.

Alfredo Avila, 125 Cambridge, wanted clarification on how the ERU's are to be calculated. Breuckman explained the engineering methodology is the same used to size pipes for runoff. Mr. Avila does not agree with the proposed calculations for the ratio of runoff, and Breuckman responded that there are many studies that show the rationalization in support of the proposed amendment to this ordinance. Commissioner Foreman thanked Mr. Avila for appearing at the hearing and commenting.

With no further comments or discussion, Mayor Metzger closed the public hearing at 8:33 p.m.

Commissioner Foreman feels this is the fairest method that uses the most relevant factors, that is, the size of the property and the area of runoff. This is a way to be proactive against a lawsuit that could become a problem for the City. There has been a tremendous amount of research and information provided by City Manager Breuckman to support the amendment to this ordinance.

Commissioner Krzysiak echoed Foreman's comments to Mr. Avila and thanked him for sharing his comments at the Public Hearing. Krzysiak also commended on the documentation presented on why and how the changes to the charges are being recommended. Krzysiak agrees that the ERU method is the most accurate way to charge for the 11 neighborhoods, but believes a per-parcel level is the better way to calculate the ratio. Breuckman explained that the city does not have the

manpower to evaluate each parcel every year, thus, the neighborhood theory via aerial photography is being recommended. Krzysiak questioned if there could be a window of opportunity for residents to contest their property's runoff calculation, and Breuckman explained that the differences may be rather small and the cost for the process may be problematic to the city in the long run. Foreman believes technology over time will improve the process and that the proposed ERU is the most sustainable. Mayor Metzger suggested that the per parcel evaluation could potentially pit neighbor against neighbor. Krzysiak is most concerned with residents who are on the low end of the neighborhood average. Commissioner Scott agreed the ERU is the most reasonable method to determine a resident's runoff. Foreman added that the neighborhood makes more sense so that the city is not constantly readjusting parcel amounts in order to make up the monies due for the treatment costs. Scott added that you must be fair and accurate to every resident. Commissioner Perry commented that if residents are given a window opportunity to challenge the calculations the cost to the city will be great. Krzysiak mentioned that the cost could be calculated in the budget. Scott added that in order to be fair with a parcel calculation that each property would have to be surveyed at a great expense. Perry supports the ERU recommendation.

16-3254

Motion by Commissioner Perry, second by Commissioner Scott, that Ordinance 419 regarding Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU) Storm Water Charges be approved as amended.

Adopted: Yeas: Commissioner Perry, Scott, Foreman, Mayor Metzger
 Nays: Commissioner Krzysiak

Approval of Gainsboro Park Design Plan

City Manager Breuckman explained that the plans include all the engineering and other fine details, and are ready to be sent out for bid. The City Commission will schedule a Special meeting for May 24 to award the bid. Commissioner Foreman inquired of Jason MacDonald, LivingLAB, as to the start time of construction after the bidding process. MacDonald indicated that the City dictates in the contract when construction can begin and a work schedule, along with a substantial completion date. Breuckman indicated there are several phases to the entire construction process. Commissioner Krzysiak commended LivingLAB for the proposed plans, and inquired what the procedure is if changes are to be made either adding or subtracting from the project. MacDonald explained that a contract change document is utilized and signed off by all parties. Krzysiak inquired about the existing turtle and MacDonald indicated it will be relocated to another area of the park.

16-3255

Motion by Commissioner Krzysiak, second by Commissioner Foreman, that the Gainsboro Park Design Plan be approved, and that bids be let for the project.

Adopted: Yeas: Commissioner Krzysiak, Foreman, Perry, Scott, Mayor Metzger
 Nays: None.

Request by the Pleasant Ridge Foundation for the City to donate certain items to its Annual Auction, Saturday, May 21, 2016.

Assistant City Manager Pietrzak mentioned that the City donates items every year for the auction, and this year's list of items includes: Community Center rental (residents only); Summer Fun Package (residents only); Private Pool Party (residents only); Name-A-Street; Police Ride Along; and Reserved Lounge Chair at the Pool from May 27 to September 5 (residents only).

16-3256

Motion by Commissioner Perry, second by Commissioner Scott, that the City Commission approve the items recommended by the City Administration as donations to the Pleasant Ridge Foundation for sale at its 2016 Annual Auction.

Adopted: Yeas: Commissioner Perry, Scott, Foreman, Krzysiak, Mayor Metzger
 Nays: None.

Agreement between the City of Pleasant Ridge and Oakland County Equalization Division for Property Assessing Services.

City Clerk Drealan indicated that the agreement with Oakland County Equalization Division is expiring June 30th, and the proposed new agreement has a 3-percent increase. This is the first increase request in 8 years for assessing services.

16-3257

Motion by Commissioner Foreman, second by Commissioner Scott, that the agreement with Oakland County Equalization Division Assistance Services for assessing services effective July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2019, be approved and that the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to sign the agreement.

Adopted: Yeas: Commissioner Foreman, Scott, Krzysiak, Perry, Mayor Metzger
 Nays: None.

City Manager's Report

City Manager Breuckman reported that the new street trees are being planted starting on West Cambridge. A number of residents who purchased trees will also have them planted in upcoming weeks. Approximately 70 were purchased.

Other Business

Commissioner Krzysiak would like to invite the community to the monthly Recreation Commission meetings as the Gainsboro Park renovation process continues. Meetings are the last Wednesday of the month, and the next meeting is April 27, 7:00 p.m.

Commissioner Krzysiak reported that the next book for the Book Club will be "All the Light We Cannot See" by Anthony Doerr and will be discussed on Monday, April 25th, at 7:00 p.m., Gainsboro Park.

Commissioner Perry mentioned that if anyone is interested in the Transit Authority millage and discussions, A Coalition for Transit (ACT) is seeking members to help educate people on the master plan of transit.

With no further business or discussion, Mayor Metzger adjourned the meeting at 9:25 p.m.

Mayor Kurt Metzger

Amy M. Drealan, City Clerk
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