



City of Pleasant Ridge

23925 Woodward Avenue
Pleasant Ridge, Michigan 48069

Regular City Commission Meeting July 12, 2016

Having been duly publicized, Mayor Metzger called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m.

Present: Commissioners Foreman (telephonically), Krzysiak, Perry, Scott, Mayor Metzger.
Also Present: City Manager Breuckman, City Attorney Greg Need, Assistant City Manager Scott Pietrzak.

Governmental Reports

Ms. Tiffany Gunter, Regional Transit Authority, presented a PowerPoint on the millage proposal for the November 2016 ballot. The Regional Transit Authority covers Macomb, Oakland, Washtenaw and Wayne Counties. Bus Rapid Transit is proposed on Woodward Avenue (Detroit to Pontiac) [2022], Gratiot Avenue (Detroit to M-59)[2023], Michigan Avenue (Detroit to DTW)[2026], Washtenaw Avenue (Ann Arbor to Ypsilanti)[2026], and express services on Woodward, Gratiot, Michigan, and Washtenaw[2017-2018]. Regional Rail is proposed for Ann Arbor to Detroit, with stops in Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti, Wayne, Dearborn, and Detroit (New Center); connects to M-1 rail, local bus and dedicated feeder services; and connects to DTW via I-275 airport express from Wayne [all 2022]. Cross-County Connectors will solve the issues of disconnectivity on an east/west basis that include 8 Mile Road [2019], 9 Mile Road [2019], 12 Mile Road [2018], 15 Mile Road [2020], Fort/Eureka [2019], Grand River Avenue [2018], Greenfield Road [2018], Jefferson Avenue [2020], Plymouth Road [2021], and Van Dyke Road [2019]. Commuter Express is proposed on M-59 [2019], I-75 [2019], Ann Arbor to Canton [2018], and Ann Arbor to Plymouth [2018]. Local Express is proposed on Canal Road [2018], Dequindre Road Extension [2020], Ford Road Extension [2019], Groesbeck Highway [2021], Highland Road [2021], Middlebelt Road South [2019], Northville [2020], and Ypsilanti Connector [2018]. Airport Express is proposed for Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti [2017], Downtown Detroit [2017], Midtown Detroit and Macomb County [2021], Dearborn, Southfield, Troy [2021], and Wayne, Livonia Novi [2021]. Streetcars are proposed for 2017 from New Center to Downtown, and will also connect with the Regional Rail. Also, Paratransit and Mobility Management services are part of the proposal. A coordinated fare system is a goal that the RTA is working on.

Ms. Kajal Ravani, Michigan Environmental Council, highlighted ACT (A Coalition for Transit). A resolution in support was read by Mayor Metzger.

16-3269

Motion by Commissioner Perry, second by Commissioner Scott, that the Resolution in Support of A Coalition for Transit (ACT) be approved.

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

Sgt. Robert Ried, Pleasant Ridge Police Department, was available for questions on the item on the Consent Agenda involving IT Services/CLEMIS and asked the Commission to support the agreement. Sgt. Ried also warned residents that ID thefts are on the rise and to be aware of your credit reports and have computer security. Commissioner Foreman inquired if the Pleasant Ridge Police Department has attended any of the Oak-Tac training sessions, and Sgt. Ried responded that training will begin in August. Commissioner Krzysiak inquired about a community watch event and Sgt. Ried responded that it will be September 21st, at 6:30p. Chief

Nowak will have more information at the August meeting. Commissioner Krzysiak expressed gratitude to the officers serving in law enforcement especially in light of current events.

City Commissioner Liaison Reports

Commissioner Scott on behalf of the Historical Commission had nothing to report due to the summer break.

Commissioner Krzysiak mentioned that work has begun on the Gainsboro Park improvements and installation of the playground equipment. A Special Recreation Commission meeting will be held on July 13th to vote on equipment recommendations. City Manager Breuckman had a PowerPoint on the proposed plans for the 5-12 playground featuring the Evos Play Structure, Global Motion, Mobius Climber, Wee-Saw, Swings, and Boogie Board. This plan is pretty much within budget. Assistant City Manager Pietrzak mentioned the ice cream social is July 20th at the pool, 6:00 p.m. Commissioner Foreman inquired if the snack area is open for all participants at the pool and Pietrzak responded that it is.

Commissioner Foreman reported that there was no school board meeting in July and the next meeting will be August 15th, 7:00p, at the high school.

Commissioner Perry reported that the Planning Commission and DDA met June 27th. The DDA discussed the program guides for the façade improvement grant for the commercial properties along Woodward. The DDA reviewed the business district survey results with a response rate of 37-percent. A high overall satisfaction rate with city response and services was reported. Highest priorities are infrastructure improvements, especially sidewalks and streetscapes. The biggest impediments are lack of parking and the design of Woodward overall. The full results are on the City's Website under the DDA meetings packet. Next meeting is Monday, July 25th, 7:00p. Manager Breuckman mentioned that this meeting may be canceled due to lack of quorum.

Consent Agenda

16-3270

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

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

Gainsboro Park Play Structure Relocation

City Manager Breuckman explained why Commissioner Foreman is participating in the meeting via the iPad and approved as part of the Open Meetings Act.

Breuckman reported that the old Gainsboro play structure is no longer onsite and the options now are to reuse it somewhere else in town, donate for reuse somewhere else, or scrap/recycle. This structure is 15 years old, the Community Center structure is 17 years old, and their average lifespan is 25 years. A possible relocation is the park at the Community Center, but will take up majority of the available green space. Or, this play structure can replace the older existing one at the Community Center. A long-term concept plan should be considered for the Community Center and the park area. An estimated cost of the structure with community build, replacing woodchips, and other expenses could be about \$10,000.00. Decision points to be discussed are to prepare a concept plan for the Community Center park; preserve equal or greater open green space; professional oversight for installation; compliant safety surfacing; and funding. Mayor Metzger recommends having a long-term concept plan for the Community Center before deciding what to do with the equipment. Commissioner Foreman questioned the age range for the structure and Pietrzak responded it is 5-12. Commissioner Foreman questioned how long feasibly before enough monies would be available to follow

through on a concept plan. Breuckman responded it depends on what the overall concept plan is, whether you add a paver patio, extend out the building, etcetera. It is up to the City Commission on how it wants to spend money on what projects. Breuckman suggested idea conversations should start first, and then develop a concept drawing from the discussions. Pietrzak added that the existing play structure at the Community Center is showing signs of aging in that it has been there 17 years. Commissioner Perry mentioned that some residents have concerns whether the need for playground space is actually necessary, and that maybe an expansion for meeting space would be a better option. Commissioner Krzysiak mentioned that many residents came together to remove the existing structure and it should be preserved for the children in Pleasant Ridge. Breuckman added that funds would be available to develop a concept plan. Commissioner Scott mentioned that the Commission should take into consideration whether it would be better to eventually purchase new equipment instead of reusing the existing structure that may have a shorter lifespan. Pietrzak mentioned that he had contacted a company to see if it would be possible to remove the structure in order for it to be donated, but that company's schedule prevented them from even making a proposal. Commissioner Scott inquired the cost to extend the life of the existing equipment versus replacing it with the structure that was removed from Gainsboro. Lengthy discussion held. Foreman mentioned that the two structures are different in size and style. Mayor Metzger added that a plan for funding and voluntarism needs to be clearly laid out as part of this concept plan.

Mr. Tom Treuter, 11 Oakland Park, mentioned that a plan is needed with a consultant's opinion in order to go forward and be better organized. If the structure cannot be used in the City, then it should be donated.

Ms. Betty Howe, 31 Cambridge, recommended that the Recreation Commission should be in attendance at the Commission meeting to be a part of these discussions.

Commissioner Scott would like the Recreation Commission to make recommendations to the City Commission as to whether to reuse or donate the play structure that has been removed from Gainsboro Park. Commissioner Foreman suggested a joint workshop with the Recreation Commission to discuss this further.

16-3271

Motion by Commissioner Foreman, second by Commissioner Scott, that the City Commission and Recreation Commission have a joint workshop to discussion various options of the old Gainsboro Park play structure, and that City staff move forward on developing concept plan options based upon recommendations from the Recreation Commission.

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

City Manager's Report

City Manager Breuckman gave an update on the Gainsboro Park project. The main pathways through the park will be 10-ft. wide designed for two-way bike traffic. The secondary pathway will be 8-ft. wide. Concrete pouring will start within a week.

Breuckman mentioned the edge striping on Ridge Road provides 10-ft. wide travel lanes in an effort to slow down traffic. The line is 3-ft. from the curb and can provide a zone for bicyclists. A road speed study shows that travel speeds are declining: November 2014 at 28.5 mph to July 2016 at 25.1 mph. A solar-powered speed sign will be placed on Ridge in August to assist with these efforts. Commissioner Scott inquired if there are any developments from the Woodward proposed plans, and Breuckman reported that the City has met with MDOT to revise the concept plan for the curve coming into Main Street. The service drive revisions are still being discussed and have much more detail and expense.

Other Business

Commissioner Foreman mentioned that the Beautification Commission will be making its presentation at the September 13th meeting that will include a minimum of one business property and four residential homes.

Commissioner Krzysiak mentioned that Monday, July 25th, at Roosevelt Elementary, the school district will have a dedication to its new playground.

Commissioner Krzysiak reported that the next book for the Book Club will be “Arsenal of Democracy” by A. J. Baime and will be discussed on Tuesday, July 26th, 7:00 p.m., Hessel Park. Note the date change in order to not conflict with the playground dedication.

With no further business or discussion, Mayor Metzger adjourned the meeting at 10:30 p.m.

Mayor Kurt Metzger

Amy M. Drealan, City Clerk
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