



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

**Regular City Commission Meeting  
 November 15, 2016**

Having been duly publicized, Mayor Metzger called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

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

**Public Discussion**

Mr. John Ganis, 44 Fairwood, noted that the Environmental Committee hosting a talk on Monday at the Community Center about his book on climate change called "America's Endangered Coasts: Photographs from Texas to Maine." Commissioner Scott noted that citizens can be added to the Environmental Committee email list by writing to [p.ridgeenvironmental@gmail.com](mailto:p.ridgeenvironmental@gmail.com) to receive notifications of upcoming events.

Ms. Amanda Wahl, 27 Fairwood, reported on Foundation progress. The passcode system at the Rec Center should be ready for the holidays. It is estimated that the system will allow the Rec Center to be open an hour earlier and stay open until midnight. There will be some safeguards in place so that if you have a health issue you can push a button to call 911. In the next couple of months, the Foundation will identify the theme of the auction and what it will support.

Mr. Robert Sakat, 8 Fairwood, applauded the Women's Club for the lasagna dinner.

Ms. Jean Russell, 62 Devonshire, noted that the 50+ Club trip to Pewabic tile company was very successful and she would like to plan another trip.

**Governmental Reports**

Sergeant Robert Reid, Pleasant Ridge Police Department, noted that there are still a lot of identify thefts reported. He recommended keeping an eye on your reports, bank accounts, credit cards, and getting identity theft protection. The problem of losing packages from porches is in the process of being resolved. Other communities are still experiencing this problem. Discussion regarding how identity theft protection works.

**City Commission Liaison Reports**

Commissioner Perry reported that the Planning/DDA Committee did not meet in October and that they are combining the November and December meetings due to the holiday schedule. Next meeting is Monday, December 12th. Discussion regarding possible new meeting schedule. No new schedule has been decided upon at this time. Discussion regarding RTA vote - down by 19,000

votes. Mayor Metzger noted that this is the last region in the country without a regional transit system. Discussion regarding Seattle and other cities that recognize that the cost of regional transit is an investment that is vital to the growth of any metropolitan area.

Commissioner Scott gave an update on the Historical Commission. He thanked Commissioner Foreman for attending the meeting in his absence. Date for the next Home and Garden tour is June 10th. Some residents will be asked to open their homes or backyards for this event. Next meeting is December 7th.

Commissioner Krzysiak reported on the Recreation Commission. The October meeting was cancelled. No Thanks and Giving Artists Market this year due to lack of interest and vendors. Request for those with talent or interest in crafts to reach out to the Recreation Commission to try to reestablish this event. Discussion regarding how notice is going out that the event has been cancelled. Participation in these events seems to be down all over. Commissioner Scott noted that several subcommittees have openings - Historical Commission, Recreation Commission and Planning/DDA.

Commissioner Foreman reported on Ferndale Public Schools. Ferndale High School Golden Eagle Marching Band has won their 9th State Championship in the last 13 years. Took home 1st Place in Flight Four, Outstanding Music Performance, Outstanding Visual Performance and Outstanding General Effect. The Just 4 Kicks adult talent show was held last Saturday. It raised over \$2000 for camp scholarships for students to participate in the outdoor education component of the curriculum. Elementary school restructuring has resulted in twice the number of students going into this program. Approximately \$2300 was raised and more will come in from DVD sales and T-shirt sales. Thanks to Commissioner Krzysiak and his wife who won the 50/50 raffle and donated the winnings to the program. Commissioner Krzysiak congratulated Commissioner Foreman on his performance and participation. This was the best year so far for funds raised. Discussion regarding how to learn about the event. Next Monday is the next School Board meeting.

**Consent Agenda**

**16-3280**

Motion by Commissioner Perry, second by Commissioner Scott, that the Consent Agenda, be approved, as listed.

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

**Gainsboro Park Update**

Assistant City Manager Scott Pietrzak reported that the project is 95 - 98% completed and the rest is scheduled to be completed in the spring. He presented before and after photographs of Flynn Field, the Maywood intersection, the DPW area, Gainsboro street and the Amherst intersection. Discussion held regarding cars attempting to turn onto Gainsboro. Ballards and a stop sign will be added. City will continue to monitor the situation and add more if necessary. Discussing regarding striping being added. Discussion regarding removing ballards for police/fire. Discussion regarding ballard being added to Maywood intersection as well. Additional photographs of the basketball and tennis area. Request was made for people to avoid walking on the hydroseed, the "blue grass." Additional work needed on the tennis courts but nets will be installed Thursday so courts will be

useable. Photographs of toddler play area noting that seating and wi-fi access will be added. Additional photos of the Kids Play Area, Greenspace, Community Garden and Kensington.

Highlights of project: New equipment at play structure including the first install in Michigan of a global motion piece. Different surface under handicapped accessible equipment, wood chips elsewhere. Expect wood chips to settle and dissipate some and will need to replace some in the future. Walking path connects from Dog Run through the parks to the Baseball Field. The path is approximately 4500 feet round trip. Planning on signage to indicate distances. New basketball equipment and gathering space bistro tables and chairs. New dog run and community garden area. Brick loss on wall behind park is MDOT's problem. Quote to fix it is higher than MDOT will reimburse. Other cities that have taken over maintenance of the wall are struggling with the cost. Wall is structurally sound and could be potential canvas for public art. Swales integrated with rip rap have been improved to filter water before it goes into the sewers. Grass and landscaping will be added that will further help dissipate the water. May try to make them bio-swales in the future. Halloween Hayride event and Movie in the Park event already showcased benefits and use of the park. Spring 2017 - tennis/basketball resurface; baseball diamond resurface; drinking fountain/misting station. Drinking fountain is multi-purpose providing drinks, bottle filling and pet watering. The Turtle will be moved in between the two playgrounds and rehabbed. Bike racks, trash cans and benches to be added in December.

Signs need to be taken down saying "no dogs in the park." Signs will be reposted when project is complete. Small gates for dog park will be done this year. Monitoring run off situation on Kensington. Street will be swept when everything is done. Snow will be cleared with sidewalk schedule. Discussion regarding two entrances to dog park and possibility of having a universal key card.

Thanks given to everyone involved in the getting the project done.

### **City Manager's Report**

City Manager Breuckman reported regarding Road Bond status. Referendum period passed with no referendum. Topographical work being done at Norwich and Hanover. Sewers will be inspected and cleaned between Thanksgiving and Christmas. Cambridge, West and Oxford sewers will be lined. Planning to award a bid in March then road bond process will proceed. Bond funding will come in March or April and start work in spring. Targeting 2018 for Ridge, Indiana and Bermuda Roads. Southbound Ridge has a new pole for radar speed control. Ridge Road narrowing at school will be rolled into the Ridge Road reconstruction project. City has partnered with Oak Park for sidewalk replacement and street patching work. Concentrating on the West side of town this year. Planning to fix the Woodward sidewalks in the spring. Reiterated that applications to serve on commissions are needed.

Upcoming events: Toddler Christmas Party; Christmas Tree Lighting on December 5th; Garden Club Holiday Greens Workshop at Community Center on December 7th; Home for the Holiday - Garden Club Fundraiser on December 10th; Bingo moved to this Thursday with full meal at 6:00, no cost. Intern's last week is in December.

**Other Business**

Commissioner Foreman noted that the Halloween Candy collection took in 82 pounds last year and 99 pounds this year. Jason Bandy guessed the right amount again. Thank you to everyone that donated.

Commissioner Krzysiak mentioned that the Book Club will meet Monday, November 28, and will be reading "The Brief and Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao" by Junot Diaz. He also mentioned that 1000 people have agreed to participate in a Unity Walk on November 20 committing to creating and maintaining a more inclusive America.

Mayor Metzger thanked Lee Hart and Charles Dunlap for assisting with Halloween at the park. It is expected to be an annual event. Pleasant Ridge voter turnout was 79.6%, the ninth highest in Oakland County. There was a 74.7% yes vote on the RTA, second highest after Huntington Woods. Discussion regarding voting in Lake Angelus. Discussion regarding correcting voter rolls. 2331 registered voters, 2550 citizens, 2100 eighteen and over. Difference comes from citizens who maintain their voter registration after having moved. Congratulations to Amy Drealan and workers for management of the election.

With no further business or discussion, Mayor Metzger adjourned the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

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Mayor Kurt Metzger

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Amy M. Drealan, City Clerk  
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