

CITY OF CHARLOTTE COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
111 E. Lawrence Ave., Charlotte, MI 48813 (517) 543-2750
Regular Council Meeting
September 05, 2023

CALL TO ORDER:

By Mayor Armitage on Tuesday September 05, 2023, 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Mayor Armitage, Mayor Pro-Tem Weissenborn, Council members Chin, Rodriguez, Van Langevelde, Duweck and Dyer. A quorum was met.

City staff in attendance; Acting City Manager Brentar, Deputy City Clerk Middaugh.

INVOCATION:

Victor Williams – New Hope Community Church

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Led by Armitage

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- a. August 21, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes
- b. August 23, 2023 Special Meeting 5:30 p.m.
- c. August 23, 2023 Special Meeting 6:00 p.m.

Motion by Dyer supported by Weissenborn to approve the August 21 and both August 23 meeting minutes. Carried; Yea 7; Nay 0; Absent 0

ABSENCE OF COUNCIL MEMBERS:

All present

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Jeff Christensen, resident, submitted a request to Council to approve street closures for a block party to be held October 7 from 4 to 8 pm

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion by Van Langevelde supported by Weissenborn to approve the meeting agenda with the addition of business item c. Approval of block party street closure. Carried; Yea 7; Nay 0; Absent 0

COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- a. City Attorney report was received
- b. City Manager report was received
- c. CFD report for August, 2023 was received
- d. Council member committee reports

Van Langevelde – Parks Advisory Board. City and surrounding township residents are encouraged to participate in a survey in regards to the 5-Year Parks Master Plan seeking input regarding use of the park systems. Information is available on the City's website and fliers are being sent home with school students. An online link will be added in the comment section of the video of tonight's meeting posted on the City's Facebook page.

Duweck – Participation was sparse in the Community Stakeholder meetings in relation to the City's Master Plan development. He intends to hold Beckett & Raeder accountable to ensure greater public awareness and participation in the project.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- a. Approval of Claims and Expenditures totaling \$188,069.50

Motion by Van Langevelde supported by Dyer to approve consent agenda item a. Carried by roll call vote. Yea 7; Nay 0; Absent 0

BUSINESS AGENDA:

- a. Approval of Interim City Manager contract

The contract language was modified to allow the Council to extend the contract beyond December 31, 2023 under the same terms and conditions, if necessary. Also, Mr. Bell was in the meeting audience via ZOOM and answered Council questions.

Motion by Chin supported by Dyer to approve City Manager Contract with noted addition. Carried; Yea 7; Nay 0; Absent 0

- b. Discussion on salary range for City Manager.

Motion by Chin supported by Dyer to approve a salary range of \$120k to \$150k for the City Manager position. Carried by roll call vote; Yea 6; Nay 1 (Rodriguez); Absent 0

- c. Approval of a block party October 7th

Motion by Van Langevelde supported by Dyer to approve the block party on October 7th, conditional on the proper review and approval of city administration. Carried; Yea 7; Nay 0; Absent 0

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Nicole Christensen – resident – requests the city to address an issue with a tree in the city right-of-way in her front yard. Various incidences of falling branches have caused costly damage; her insurance company may file suit against the city if further damage occurs and no action has been taken by the city

to remediate it. She is hoping the city will address the issue before any further damage occurs.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Chin – would like an update on the following; PASER street report; waterline replacement bids and details about the Safer grant. He would like to explore the feasibility of reclassifying Lincoln St. between Henry and Sheppherd to eliminate truck traffic. And noted a Coffee Hour presented by Senator Anthony and Representative Witwer coming to City Hall.

Duweek – no comment

Dyer – He has been instrumental in the planning of the Budget Town Hall meeting with Sen. Anthony and Rep. Witwer to be held at City Hall on Monday September 11 at 6:00 p.m. He hopes everyone had a good Labor Day and looks forward to Frontier Days this weekend with the parade at 10:00 a.m. Saturday.

Weissenborn – Commended Charlotte Public Schools as a bright spot in our community and welcomed back students who started school today and hopes everyone has a safe and good year.

Rodriguez – He wondered about increasing lighting in the area of Pleasant St. to keep the area safe. He hopes Frank (Walsh Municipal Services) will bring City Manager candidates who fall into mid to lower pay range (as approved by Council) as he is uncomfortable with the high end of the salary range.

Van Langevelde – Thank you to Chief Brentar for serving a dual role as Police Chief and acting City Manager and welcomes Mr. Bell (on Sept. 18th) as the new Interim City Manager. She wishes everyone a safe and happy Frontier Day weekend.

Armitage – A Council Workshop meeting is scheduled September 13th to discuss the Eaton Area EMS contract. He noted his daughter was able to hold a python snake at the

Festival of Oddities event this past weekend in Charlotte and noted the event brought a lot of people to the area. He thanked City services for the clean up efforts during the recent storm and marveled how Charlotte seemed to be in a protected bubble with power outages and downed trees and heavy damage to areas all around us. He thanked Rep. Witwer for hearing his son's presentation during a recent visit at the State Capitol and then providing them a tour. He noted that all constituents are welcomed at the Capital – you don't have to be the Mayor of a city.

ADJOURN:

Motion by Chin supported by Dyer to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 p.m. Carried; Yea 7; Nay 0; Absent 0

Mayor Michael Armitage

Mary LaRocque, City Clerk