

CITY OF CHARLOTTE COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
111 E. Lawrence Ave., Charlotte, MI 48813 (517) 543-2750
Regular Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.
September 09, 2024

CALL TO ORDER:

By Mayor Lewis on Monday September 09, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Mayor Lewis, Mayor Pro-Tem Duweck, Council members, Fullerton, Christensen, Scott, Rodriguez and Chin. A quorum was met

City staff in attendance; City Clerk LaRocque, City Manager Hillard, City Attorney Revore

INVOCATION:

Given by Pete Kroll – First Baptist Church

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Led by Lewis

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- a. August 26, 2024 Council Meeting Minutes 7:00 pm

Rodriguez requested a revision to Hillard's response to Duweck's Council Comments concerning the purchasing policy, being "~~he will be evaluating the policy~~ He welcomes the chance to evaluate the purchasing policy".

Motion by Chin supported by Scott to approve the August 26, 2024 Council Meeting Minutes, as amended. Carried; Yea 7; Nay 0; Absent 0

ABSENCE OF COUNCIL MEMBERS:

All present

PUBLIC COMMENT:

JoDee Pruden, resident. She expressed her opposition to allowing food trucks

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion by Duweck supported by Scott to approve the agenda. Carried; Yea 7; Nay 0; Absent 0

COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- a. City Attorney Report

Revore reported the SEIU contract is out for final signing, he is presently working on the cannabis overlay committee and the fire code

- b. Councilmember Committee Reports

Christensen – No Planning Commission meeting was held in September and the meeting for Camp Frances is tomorrow night.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- a. Approval of Claims and Expenditures totaling \$431,991.44
- b. Approval of Mayoral appointments

Motion by Duweck and supported by Christensen to approve the consent agenda items a and b. Carried; Yea 7 Nay 0; Absent 0

BUSINESS AGENDA:

- a. Consider approval of Resolution 2024-31 Code Enforcement and Rental Inspector Official Appointments

Motion by Scott supported by Fullerton to approve Resolution 2024-31 Code Enforcement and Rental Inspector Official Appointments. Carried by roll call vote; Yea 7; Nay 0; Absent 0

- b. Consider approval of Letter of Agreement with International Assn. of Fire Fighters (IAFF)

Motion by Chin supported by Scott to approve Letter of Agreement with International Assn. of Fire Fighters (IAFF). Carried. Yea 7; Nay 0; Absent 0

- c. Consider approval of Eaton Area Emergency Medical Services contract amendment

Motion by Scott supported by Fullerton to approve Eaton Area Emergency Medical Services contract amendment. Carried by roll call vote; Yea 6; Nay 1 – Rodriguez; Absent 0

- d. Consider approval of CDBG grant agreement between MSHDA and the City of Charlotte

Motion by Chin supported by Duweck to approve CDBG grant agreement between MSHDA and the City of Charlotte. Carried by roll call vote. Yea 7; Nay 0; Absent 0

- e. Consider approval of sole source purchase of Flock Safety cameras

Motion by Chin supported by Scott to approve sole source purchase of Flock Safety cameras. Carried by roll call vote. Yea 6; Nay 1 - Rodriguez; Absent 0

- f. Consider approval of Resolution 2024-32 street closures for the Charlotte High School Homecoming parade

Motion by Chin supported by Christensen to approve Resolution 2024-32 street closures for the Charlotte High School Homecoming parade. Carried. Yea 7; Nay 0; Absent 0

- g. Consider approval of Resolution 2024-33 street closures and no parking areas for the Charlotte Chamber of

Commerce the Almost Midnight Madness Downtown Trick or Treating event

Motion by Chin supported by Scott to approve Resolution 2024-33 street closures and no parking areas for the Charlotte Chamber of Commerce the Almost Midnight Madness Downtown Trick or Treating event. Carried. Yea 7; Nay 0; Absent 0

- h. Consider approval of Needful Things request for a food truck October 05, 2024

Motion by Scott supported by Fullerton to approve Needful Things request for a food truck October 05, 2024. Carried; Yea 5; Nay 2 – Christensen and Chin; Absent 0

- i. Consider approval of Charlotte Area CROP Walk request for a food truck at Bennett Park Pavilion on October 06, 2024

Motion by Duweck supported by Scott to approve Charlotte Area CROP Walk request for a food truck at Bennett Park Pavilion on October 06, 2024. Carried by roll call vote; Yea 6; Nay 1 – Christensen; Absent 0

- j. Discussion on Council members contacting the City Attorney with questions

Mayor Lewis rescinds his instructions to council to contact himself or the City Manager before contacting the attorney

PUBLIC COMMENT:

JoDee Pruden, resident. She would prefer to have the Community Development Director position filled by someone other than the City Manager to avoid overwhelming him, and is curious about how patient bills covered by insurance affect the EMS.

STAFF COMMENTS:

No comments

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Christensen expressed gratitude to all attendees. He explained his reason for voting against the food truck proposal, citing opposition to the policy. He commended the Frontier Days Board for organizing an outstanding event and great weekend for the City. He announced that the new Shell station is scheduled to have its grand opening at noon on September 12, encouraging everyone to attend. Furthermore, during Septembers Hunger Awareness Month, the Helping Hands organization will host a "Go Orange Day" event on September 15 from 4 to 8 PM at Otto and Vermontville Highway. Further details are available at the display in City Hall's front lobby.

Fullerton shared an incident where the fire department responded to a gas leak at a local gas station, finding that an out-of-town traveler had experienced their fuel pipe becoming unhooked, resulting in spilled gas. The CFD promptly responded to the leak and assisted the traveler with repairs. Additionally, when a semi passing through town experienced a diesel fuel leak, the CFD again responded swiftly and aided the driver with repairs. Both drivers later expressed their appreciation for the assistance provided by the CFD.

Duweck had no comment

Scott will have office hours at Fay's from 10 AM to noon tomorrow, will begin having conversations about housing, building houses, in the coming years.

Chin introduced Sabrina, a student journalist from MSU. He noted the provision in the citizen comment policy (2021-02) that allows for responses to comments. Raised a question about a home-based business located on Sheldon St. between Henry and Shaw and its potential zoning violation. Expressed gratitude to Attorney Revore for his diligent work on the union contracts and

asked whether the fire department has been keeping records of instances where runs were conducted due to ambulance unavailability and is interested in obtaining that information.

Rodriguez expressed dissatisfaction with the quality of the road repair patch at Amity and Sheldon Streets. He questioned whether the council would entertain granting a short-term variation to the parking ordinance to accommodate a single business. Rodriguez proposed establishing a Small Business Recognition Day to encourage citizens to support local businesses in Charlotte. He clarified his concerns regarding the Flock camera system and emphasized that his vote against it was a matter of following his conscience.

Lewis will be reaching out to each member regarding public comment procedures to gather thoughts and opinions. Attorney Revore provided two reasons for the no comment policy: first, not all information may be fully known, which could lead to incorrect obligations of city resources; second, in cases of controversial matters already in resolution processes, making comments could potentially interfere or increase liability if premature promises are made.

ADJOURN:

Motion by Christensen supported by Chin to adjourn the meeting at 8:46 p.m. Carried; Yea 7; Absent 0

Respectfully submitted,
Mary LaRocque, City Clerk