

**CITY OF CHARLOTTE COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS**  
**111 E. Lawrence Ave., Charlotte, MI 48813 (517) 543-2750**  
**Regular Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.**  
**January 13, 2025**  
***Amended 1.27.25***

**CALL TO ORDER:**

By Mayor Lewis on Monday January 13, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:**

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

City staff in attendance; City Clerk LaRocque, and City Manager Hillard

**INVOCATION:**

Andy Shaver – Real Life Church

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Led by Lewis

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

- a. December 23, 2024 Regular Council Meeting Minutes

**Motion** by Chin supported by Scott to approve the December 23, 2024 Regular Council Meeting Minutes. Carried; Yea 7; Nay 0; Absent 0

**ABSENCE OF COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

All present

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Don Sovey, resident: Don commended the city on its positive achievements and recommended leadership training. He provided the council with a handout titled "10 Leadership

Mistakes That Burn Out Your Team" and highlighted trainings available through the Michigan Municipal League (MML).

JoDee Pruden, resident: JoDee expressed confidence in the city's continued progress and encouraged teamwork among all members.

Elena Reed, resident, Independent Bank Manager: Elena is grateful for the installation of a speed radar on High St.

Lothar Konietzko, resident: Lothar appreciated the speed radar installation on High St. and in light of recent micromanagement allegations, and potential negative repercussions on the city thereof, he provided the Council with a handout titled "Advanced On-Site Training – Building a High Functioning Leadership Team" from MML.

John Laupp, resident: John emphasized the importance of advancing projects in light of recent city business growth.

Andy Shaver, non-resident, business owner and Pastor at Real Life Church: Andy shared his leadership perspective with the Council and expressed gratitude to Fullerton for supporting the City Manager.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

**Motion** by Chin supported by Rodriguez to approve the agenda. Carried; Yea 7; Nay 0; Absent 0

**COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- a. City Manager Report with departmental reports, Hillard highlighted items from his written report

b. Councilmember Committee Reports

Chin – EATRAN – Chin announced the new board members; Chairperson is Mary Clark from Delta Township, Vice-Chairperson is Rob Piercefield from ~~the Northwest Quadrant~~ Sunfield Twp.; and a new member is Keith ~~Mulder, Grand~~ Ledge-Barber. Ridership continues to increase. Working to accommodate the Amazon plant that is expecting to add another 100 third shift employees.

Scott – CARC met last week. They are experiencing a “re-boot” and working on filling board positions. They meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of month at 6 pm in the Annex at First Congregational Church.

Christensen – Camp Frances board meeting is scheduled for tomorrow night at 6:30 at the cabin. The next Planning Commission meeting will be held February 4, 2024 at 7 pm

Fullerton – Park Board has been very busy. The Oak Park preliminary design public input meeting is scheduled at 6 pm February 4<sup>th</sup>, invitational letters have been mailed to surrounding addresses. The board is also considering the following; a request received to turn the (Bennett Park) tennis courts into a parking lot (to accommodate for the CJO football field); a proposal for a nature trail from Hall St. to Packard St.; and deliberations on the bleachers at Bennett Park CJO Football field. Fullerton also reported that the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission has funded a plan for the development of an intergovernmental trail beginning at the old Penn Central Rail Road starting in Vermontville through Charlotte to (potentially) Eaton Rapids.

Rodriguez – DDA next meeting will be held on Jan 28<sup>th</sup>

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

- a. Approval of Claims and Expenditures totaling \$1,510,811.99

- b. Approval of Resolution 2025-01 – Annual Poverty Exemption for 2025
- c. Approval of Resolution 2025-02 To Designate Street Administrator (MDOT)
- d. Approval of Letter of Understanding (LOU) POLC Vacation Time

**Motion** by Chin supported by Christensen to approve consent agenda item a, b, c, d. Carried by roll call vote; Yea 7 Nay 0; Absent 0

**BUSINESS AGENDA:**

No business agenda items

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

No public comment

**STAFF COMMENTS:**

No comments

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

Christensen expressed gratitude to meeting attendees and highlighted recent community events, including the successful CFD Christmas dinner and awards. He reminded everyone about the upcoming Steam Punk raffle on January 25th at the Senior Center and acknowledged Helping Hands for their recent donation from Fox 47. He also announced the Charlotte Aquatic Center Winter Ball on February 7th and 8th, now open to all elementary-aged children.

Fullerton paid tribute to Bill Foster, recognizing his significant contributions to CFD and Rural Fire. Fullerton noted Foster's personal donation for the entrance at the West Side Fire Station to Reynolds road, which will be named The Bill Foster Alley in his honor.

Duweck thanked the audience for their attendance and voiced agreement with the Council's direction.

Scott commended the CFD annual report and thanked the audience for their supportive comments.

Chin provided updates on legislative matters from the MML and expressed appreciation for the invitation to the CFD Christmas dinner. He attended and provided photography services for the Senior Citizen Christmas Program.

Rodriguez appreciated attendees and noted the positive tone of their comments, recognizing the accomplishments of the city's good team. He encouraged helping elderly neighbors with snow shoveling.

Lewis thanked attendees for braving the cold weather to participate and appreciated the constructive tone of the comments. He acknowledged Fire Chief Christiansen's annual report and praised the dedication of the 34 VFD volunteers. Lewis recognized Fullerton for his role in developing and training the VFD. He also noted the dedication of three VFD members who attended 150 runs. Lewis announced plans for a pre-budget meeting and upcoming discussions with Michigan Can Lines representatives.

**ADJOURN:**

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary LaRocque, City Clerk