CITY OF CHARLOTTE COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
111 E. Lawrence Ave., Charlotte, MI 48813 (517) 543-2750
Regular Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.
January 27, 2025

CALL TO ORDER:

By Mayor Lewis on Monday January 27, 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, City Attorney Revore and City Manager Hillard

INVOCATION:

Randy Royston – New Hope Community Church - absent

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Led by Lewis

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

a. January 13, 2025 Regular Council Meeting Minutes

Motion by Rodriguez supported by Scott to amend the January 13, 2025 meeting minutes to reflect changes to the names reported on the EATRAN board in Chin's Committee Report; Carried; Yea 7; Nay 0; Absent 0

Motion by Scott supported by Fullerton to approve January 13, 2025 meeting minutes, as amended; Carried; Yea 7; Nay 0; Absent 0

ABSENCE OF COUNCIL MEMBERS:

All present

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Jodee Pruden, Resident; Shared comments on snow clearing from downtown sidewalks

Nicole Christensen, District 12 Eaton County Commissioner; Read letter on behalf of Amanda Thompson Director of Helping Hands and noted the need for warming stations.

Dan Daly, non-resident, spoke in support of turning the Bennett Park tennis courts into a parking lot for the football field.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion by Duweck, supported by Scott to approve adding items d. Email Discussion and e. Communication Committee Discussion, to the business agenda. Carried; Yea 7; Nay 0; Absent 0

COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

a. City Manager Report with CPD report

Manager's report will now appear on each meeting agenda

b. City Attorney Report

Received as submitted

c. Councilmember Committee Reports

Christensen - the Planning Commission's next meeting is scheduled for February 4, 2025. The Camp Frances board recently received a generous $1,950.00 donation from Women Giving Together. The board is also reviewing the VRBO reservation system for potential improvements. There was a question raised regarding whether construction projects require City Council approval or if they can be approved independently. Additionally, a fundraiser will be held on Tuesday, February 6th, from 4:00 PM to 9:00 PM at Applebee's. The next committee meeting will be on Tuesday, February 11th, at 6:30 PM.

CONSENT AGENDA:

a. Approval of Claims and Expenditures totaling $648,821.50

b. Approval of Resolution 2025-03 to confirm the appointment of DPW Director, Stephanie Whitney

c. Approval of firefighter gear grant purchase order/change order

Motion by Christensen supported by Chin to approve consent agenda items a, b, c. Carried; Yea 7 Nay 0; Absent 0

BUSINESS AGENDA:

a. Recommendation for the approval of a Land Use Agreement between the City of Charlotte and the Army National Guard

Motion by Duweck supported by Fullerton to approve the Land Use Agreement between the City of Charlotte and the Army National Guard. Carried; Yea 7; Nay 0; Absent 0

b. Bennett Park Tennis Courts Discussion

Motion by Fullerton supported by Christensen to authorize the City to proceed with the Park Board's recommendation to remove the tennis court nets and posts at Bennet Park, transfer the boards to Charlotte Public Schools, and utilize available mill-and-fill to cover designated areas for the creation of a parking lot. Carried by roll call vote; Yea 7; Nay 0; Absent 0

c. Street Maintenance Program Review Discussion

Interim DPW Director, John Brady from Spalding DeDecker presented the Council with a thorough PASER and street maintenance program, outlining a plan for mill-and-fill repairs on several streets. Estimated cost is $1.15 million. This proposal serves as the foundational framework for his Capital Improvement submission.

d. Email Discussion

Council agreed that any communications received from residents should be forwarded to the City Manager for review.

e. Communication Committee Discussion

Rodriguez created a Committee Request Form as a template for use for ad-hoc committees. He will employ its use in his Communication Committee

Motion by Rodriguez, supported by Duweck to adopt the Committee Request Form. Carried; Yea 7; Nay 0; Absent 0

PUBLIC COMMENT:

JoDee Pruden, resident. Offered follow up comments on various agenda items.

STAFF COMMENTS:

No comments

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Christensen thanked meeting attendees. He thanked the CFD and Real-Life Church for their efforts in assisting those in need during the cold weather. He mentioned the success of the Senior Center’s Steam Punk Raffle, which had 150 attendees and will become an annual event. Christensen also expressed concerns about the potential impacts on the City if the Eaton County proposal fails.

Fullerton had no comments.

Duweck provided the visitation and funeral details for Connie Dyer, mother of former Councilmember Brandon Dyer. He also expressed his satisfaction and excitement with the street maintenance plan.

Scott expressed gratitude that two important issues had been discussed and resolved: road maintenance and addressing citizen inquiries. His offices hours are 10 to noon on Tuesdays at Evelyn Bay.

Chin reported on the MML (Michigan Municipal League) state legislative updates, noting especially heavy truck restrictions and its potential impact.

Rodriguez attended the Airport Advisory Board meeting and reported that five projects are on track to be completed this year.

Lewis no comments

ADJOURN:

Motion by Christensen supported by Rodriguez to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m. Carried; Yea 7; Nay 0; Absent 0

Respectfully submitted,
Mary LaRocque, City Clerk