

**CITY OF CHARLOTTE
COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS**

**Special Meeting
May 24, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER:

By Mayor Armitage on Monday, May 24, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

Councilmembers: Baker, Weissenborn, VanStee, Dyer, McRae & Mayor Armitage. All reported their remote meeting location as being in the City of Charlotte, County of Eaton and State of Michigan.

Staff: Manager LaPere, Deputy Clerk Densmore

EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBERS:

Councilmembers: Hoogstra

Motion by Baker, second by Dyer to excuse absent member.

Carried. 6 Yes. 0 No. 1 Absent

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No members of the public offered comment.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion by Weissenborn, second by Dyer to approve the agenda as published. Carried. 6 Yes. 0 No. 1 Absent

PUBLIC HEARING:

A. Public Hearing on WRI Grant Application

Manager LaPere gave brief overview of the grant.

Public hearing opened at 7:10m

Public hearing closed at 7:12pm

B. Public Hearing on Special Assessment Roll

Public hearing opened at 7:12pm

The following were in opposition of Special Assessment:

Jodi Whitehead of 420 Horatio St.

Abdul-Ghani Mekkaoui, business owner of 640 Lansing St.

William Thrush of 1015 N. Cochran Ave.

Pat Lemon of 707 Treetop Trail

Leisa Eldred of 310 High St.

Kristin Golding of 419 Pleasant St.

Andrea Smith of 899 State St.

Angela Wardell of 447 N. Clinton St.

Jessica Larkin of 1041 Northway Dr.

Val Nelson of 405 Forest St.

Kathleen Huntley of 512 Foote St.

Nicole Christenson of 317 E. Shaw St.

Anthony Russo of 324 Beech St.

The following are landlords who own within the City and are in opposition of Special Assessment:

Matt Bruch of 2217 Narrow Lake Rd. Charlotte, MI 48813

312 E. Henry St.

238 State St.

116 W. Harris St.

617 Pleasant St.

419 Pleasant St.

525 Warren Ave.

616 Warren Ave.

810 S. Clinton St.

136 S. Clinton St.

119 S. Clinton St.
447 N. Clinton St.
758 Pearl St.
436 S. Sheldon St.
217 S. Sheldon St.
335 John St.
323 E. Seminary St.
225 S. Oliver St.

Rod Auten of 4136 N. Shaytown Rd. Vermontville, MI 49096

123 Van Lieu
634 S. Sheldon St.
640 S. Sheldon St.
423 Pleasant St.
425 Pleasant St.

The following were in support of Special Assessment:

Ben Phlegar of 425 Horatio St.

Public hearing closed at 8:01pm

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTIONS:

A. Consider Resolution No. 2021-075 Approving WRI Grant Application

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-075

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE A WATER RELATED INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT APPLICATION

WHEREAS, the Michigan Strategic Fund has invited Units of General Local Government to apply for its Water-Related Infrastructure (WRI) Competitive Funding Round; and

WHEREAS, the City of Charlotte desires to request \$2,000,000 in CDBG funds to make improvements to the city's water system along Lansing Street from Hall Street to a location approximately 300-feet northeast of Butternut Drive; and

WHEREAS, the City of Charlotte commits local funds from its Water and Sewer Fund in the amount of \$200,000; and

WHEREAS, the proposed project is consistent with the local Community Development Plan as described in the Application; and

WHEREAS, the proposed project will benefit all residents of the project area and 51.76% percent of the residents of the City of Charlotte are low- and moderate-income persons as determined by an income survey approved by the Michigan Economic Development Corporation; and

WHEREAS, local funds and any other funds to be invested in the project have not been obligated/incurred and will not be obligated/incurred prior to a formal grant award, completion of the environmental review procedures and a formal written authorization to obligate/incur costs from the Michigan Economic Development Corporation.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Charlotte hereby designates the Public Works Director as the Environmental Review Certifying Officer, the person authorized to certify the Michigan CDBG Application, the person authorized to sign the Grant Agreement and payment

requests, and the person authorized to execute any additional documents required to carry out and complete the grant.

The foregoing resolution offered by Council member Baker and supported by VanStee. Council discussed. Carried 6 Yes. 0 No. 1 Absent.

B. Consider Resolution No. 2021-086 Confirming the Special Assessment Roll

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-086

A RESOLUTION TO CONFIRM THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT ROLL FOR THE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE CHARLOTTE FIRE DEPARTMENT AND TO LEVY AND TO COLLECT THE TAXES AND TO PROVIDE FOR ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS

WHEREAS, the City Council has initiated the process for and, in adopting Resolution 2021-057, has established a district to provide for the purchasing of equipment and for the operation and maintenance of the Charlotte Fire Department, pursuant to 1951 P.A. 33, as amended; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has caused the Assessor to prepare an assessment roll spreading the total amount to be assessed against each parcel for fire protection for the fiscal year 2021; and

WHEREAS, the City Council, after due and legal notice, has reviewed the special assessment roll prepared for the purpose of defraying the cost of operating and maintaining the Charlotte Fire Department as follows:

For the purchase of fire motor vehicles, apparatus and equipment and for the funding, on an annual basis, for the operation and

maintenance of the Charlotte Fire Department.

and

WHEREAS, the City Council deems said special assessment roll to be fair and equitable as reported to it by the Assessor;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. Said special assessment roll shall be designated "Special Assessment Roll No. _____," and the district against which it is spread shall be designated "Special assessment District No. _____"

2. Said Special Assessment Roll No. _____, in the amount of \$828,615, as prepared and reported to the City Council, shall be and the same is hereby confirmed.

3. The special assessment will defray eighty-five percent (85%) of the estimated cost of \$974,841 for the City's portion of the fire protection services. Each property subject to the assessment shall be assessed 3.745 mills per annum. The first 1.745 mills shall be collected on the July 2021 tax roll and the remaining 2 mills shall be collected on the December 2021 tax roll.

4. The assessments made in special assessments roll are hereby ordered and directed to be collected, and the City Clerk shall deliver said special assessment roll to the City Treasurer, with his warrants attached, commanding the Treasurer to collect the assessments therein in accordance with the directions of the City Council with respect thereto, and the Treasurer is directed to collect the amounts assessed as the same become due.

5. The City Council may appropriate annually that sum necessary for the maintenance and operation of the fire department, as provided by law.

6. All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this resolution be and the same hereby are rescinded.

The foregoing resolution offered by Council member VanStee and supported by Baker. Council discussed. Carried 6 Yes. 0 No. 1 Absent.

Mikayla Densmore, Deputy City Clerk

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Pat Lemon expressed feeling on reasoning for Special Assessment.

Kathleen Huntley inquired about future plans to prevent the need for another Special Assessment.

William Thrush expressed concern on budget and the way money is being moved around.

Jessica Larkin inquired about possible pay freeze to help with budget issue.

Abdul-Ghani Mekkaoui inquired about the financial plan the City has in place.

Jeff Christenson expresses understanding of the decision needing to be made but now encourages City to move forward from here.

Leisa Eldred wonders why the City doesn't try to contract some services with Eaton County to cut even more costs. Expresses concern in regards of who is being assessed the Special Assessment.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Mayor Armitage addressed questions asked earlier in the meeting.

City Manager LaPere addressed questions regarding budget concerns.

ADJOURNMENT:

Baker moved, supported by Dyer to adjourn the meeting at 9:12 p.m. Carried. 6 Yes. 0 No. 1 Absent.

Mayor Armitage