



**CITY OF WALLED LAKE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
(ELECTRONIC MEETING PLATFORM)
TUESDAY, AUGUST 18, 2020
7:30 P.M.**

The Meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Ackley.

ROLL CALL: Mayor Ackley, Mayor Pro Tem Ambrose, Council Member Costanzo, Council Member Lublin, Council Member Owsinek, Council Member Woods

There being a quorum present, the meeting was declared in session.

CM 8-4-20 TO EXCUSE COUNCIL MEMBER LOCH FROM TONIGHT'S MEETING

Motion by Lublin, seconded by Woods, UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED: To excuse Council Member Loch from tonight's meeting.

REQUESTS FOR AGENDA CHANGES:

Council Member Costanzo made motion to move audience participation to below approval of minutes. Motion died for lack of support.

Council Member Costanzo moved to add a second audience participation to just below approval of the minutes. Motion died for lack of support.

PRESENTATION:

1. Forestbrook Park Conceptual Presentation – Schafer Development

Spencer Schafer and Steve Schafer of Schafer Development provided a proposal to council for a new residential development. Mr. Schafer said he wanted to share with council a conceptual plan located on the southeast corner of Decker Road and Pontiac Trail. Mr. Schafer explained this conceptual plan has already been submitted to the Planning Commission. Mr. Schafer explained the development footprint is flat and does not have a lot of trees. Mr. Schafer explained there is an older home on one parcel surrounded with a lot of crabapple trees and the home is in a deteriorated condition. Mr. Schafer explained the development is in the RM-1 Multiple Family zoning district and they are proposing apartment units three stories each. Mr. Schafer said they are proposing a Planned Unit Development (PUD). Mr. Schafer explained their proposal consists of 57 units over three acres with approximately 46% being kept as preserved open space. Mr. Schafer explained this development will have a well-balanced buffer to

the north and southeast, just about all the trees will be preserved. Mr. Schafer said they are proposing to remove 36 trees, but landscape plans provide for 91 trees in total creating a well landscaped street scape. Mr. Schafer explained their proposal also holds focal point with enhanced landscape, park benches, and sidewalks. Mr. Schafer provided a PowerPoint and it was shared on screen with the participants and audience of the meeting. Mr. Schafer said the entrances will be from Pontiac Trail and Decker Road. Mr. Schafer explained they will keep the building in the footprint and preserve the existing trees. He explained the preservation keeps the buffer with the enhancements and develops the property in the least intrusive way. Mr. Schafer said the roof pitch was designed to have nine-foot ceilings to create spacious open floor plans. The landscaping took into account safety considerations and architectural considerations to create the best product possible. Mr. Schafer explained the garages and their location with all units will be ADA compliant providing for multigenerational living units.

Council Member Owsinek explained the Planning Commission had a preliminary review last week and it was enlightening and explained his actions to bring forth to the council for a preliminary review.

Council Member Lublin opined that the project has a lot of merit and he supports the project. Lublin opined that the residential areas to the south have a lot of dense trees that will separate the development from those residential homes.

Mayor Pro Tem Ambrose explained his support especially keeping a lot of the mature trees and green zone buffering. He said it looks like a nice development. He thanked Mr. Schafer for the presentation.

Council Member Woods said great job with the detail, green zone buffering for the residents to the rear, creation of sidewalks, keeping new development with current open space and creating more of a public space.

Council Member Costanzo asked if the residents who are near the property will be informed.

Mr. Schafer explained that his group was asked to present to council and planning commission to inform the public. Mr. Schafer explained his group will be sending out mailers and with assistance from the city will be setting up a meeting via zoom to engage the residents as early as possible if approved by council.

City Manager Whitt explained that to keep the nearby property owner and resident informed the city administration intends to facilitate the discussion on the project, holding administrative meetings to obtain public input. Manager Whitt suggested that council begin to move forward with a PUD template for the Forestbrook Park PUD agreement. City Manager Whitt explained the developer will be meeting with the people and again recommended instructing city administration and staff to move forward with a template PUD.

Mayor Ackley said she agreed and that the amenities of the development look good. She explained it would be appropriate for council to turn over to administration to move forward with a template PUD agreement.

City Manager Whitt explained anything that is sent out will come back before council for approval.

CM 8-5-20 MOTION TO INSTRUCT CITY ADMINISTRATION TO MOVE FORWARD WITH PREPARING A PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT (PUD) AGREEMENT FOR THE FORESTBROOK PARK PROPOSAL

Motion by Lublin, seconded by Ambrose, UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED: To instruct city administration to move forward with preparing a Planned Unit Development (PUD) agreement for the Forestbrook Park proposal.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes (6) Costanzo, Lublin, Owsinek, Woods, Ambrose, Ackley
Nays (0)
Absent (1) Loch
Abstain (0)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. Regular Council Meeting July 21, 2020

CM 8-6-20 MOTION TO APPROVE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF JULY 21, 2020

Motion by Owsinek, seconded by Lublin, UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED: To approve regular council meeting minutes of July 21, 2020.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes (6) Lublin, Owsinek, Woods, Ambrose, Costanzo, Ackley
Nays (0)
Absent (1) Loch
Abstain (0)

2. Special Council Meeting August 5, 2020

CM 8-7-20 MOTION TO APPROVE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF AUGUST 5, 2020

Motion by Ambrose, seconded by Lublin, CARRIED: To approve special council meeting minutes of August 5, 2020.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes (5)	Lublin, Owsinek, Woods, Ambrose, Ackley
Nays (1)	Costanzo
Absent (1)	Loch
Abstain (0)	

COUNCIL REPORT:

Mayor Pro Tem Ambrose said there was a DDA meeting August 11th via zoom. Mayor Pro Tem Ambrose explained the DDA board discussed financial support for of the access bridge to connect the public safety campus to the Walled Lake Trailway. Mayor Pro Tem Ambrose explained this will be the beginning of the travelers in Walled Lake to support the city and local businesses. Mayor Pro Tem Ambrose explained last Friday the Walled Lake Community Playhouse, (JET Theater) provided an outdoor performance and it was well received. Great job and this is the start to many other events.

Council Member Owsinek explained he was part of the Public Safety Expansion Committee appointed by the Mayor and they concur with placing an access bridge over the Greenaway drain. Council Member Owsinek opined that this access bridge will be far less costly than the expensive bridge placed over M-5 in Commerce Township. Council Member Owsinek said since the DDA is going to participate in funding the access bridge so he would like to see the city also participate and provide a match with the DDA, providing half the funding. Councilman Owsinek explained the access bridge over the Greenaway drain provides for further walkability within the city. Council Member Owsinek suggested funds for the city's portion come from the general fund to participate on the cost sharing with the DDA for the access bridge to the public safety campus extension.

CM 8-8-20 MOTION TO APPROVE CITY OF WALLED LAKE PARTICIPATE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE DDA AND PROVIDE HALF THE COST OF THE BRIDGE INCLUDING INSTALLATION WITH FUNDS FROM THE GENERAL FUND FOR THE BRIDGE TO BE PLACED OVER THE GREENAWAY DRAIN

Motion by Owsinek, seconded by Lublin, CARRIED: To approve City of Walled Lake participate in partnership with the DDA and provide half the cost of the bridge including installation with funds from the general fund for the bridge to be placed over the Greenaway Drain.

Discussion

Council Member Lublin explained the access bridge is an important part of bringing the Walled Lake Trail users into the city's farmer's market and to the city's businesses. Council Member Lublin said the motion for funding should also include installing the access bridge.

Council Member Owsinek explained this Walled Lake Trailway is part of the city's linear parks and a part of the Parks and Recreation endeavor, he opined that funding for the access bridge could also come from the Parks and Recreation Commission fund as well.

Mayor Pro Tem Ambrose explained from conceptual views, this access bridge design was most cost effective, it would be a prefabricated bridge and set in place rather than a build out of a bridge.

Mayor Ackley emphasized that it would provide a means for Walled Lake Trail travelers to come into the city to visit local businesses.

Council Member Costanzo explained he has made it known he opposes this project. Council Member Costanzo said to use forfeiture funds will jeopardize this funding source as well as take money away from our DDA when there are more pressing needs in the downtown district. Council Member Costanzo said there is a trailway head at the depot site, closer to downtown to help support our businesses. Council Member Costanzo explained he would rather sell the property get this property on the tax roll generating tax revenue. Council Member Costanzo said the city spent \$1.12 million dollars to purchase this property. Council Member Costanzo said this lot is not in the best shape and he is opposed the project.

Mayor Ackley opined she is opposed to selling a piece of property for less than two thirds what the city would make on the sale. Mayor Ackley explained the site had to be remediated and the city would run into the same problem the schools district has with their property. Mayor Ackley said Council Member Costanzo is misleading the public into thinking the city would make \$1.1 million for selling this city property.

Council Member Owsinek explained funding from the DDA and general fund does not involve any drug forfeiture monies. Council Member Owsinek said to place an access bridge will enhance the public safety and farmers' market site. Council Member Owsinek explained the intent is to provide access to a memorial for police, fire and military service personnel and some of those funds will come the forfeiture fund.

Mayor Ackley said it has also been suggested the city acquire the old junior high property for public use. Mayor Ackley said the city has a piece of property that one might say benefits to the community. Mayor Ackley explained there are areas for people to eat and shop near here. Mayor Ackley said there is no area at the depot site to host any event once the people start parking there. Mayor Ackley explained this is an ideal situation.

Mayor Ackley opined that the site it will host a memorial for police, fire, and military service personal.

Council Member Costanzo explained this public safety campus expansion was not proposed with a war memorial. Council Member Costanzo opined that this project was presented, it was no cost to taxpayer dollars. Council Member Costanzo said there is already a trailhead.

Mayor Ackley corrected Council Member Costanzo's statement stating that the memorial was always part of this proposal even before the committee was appointed over a year ago.

Council Member Woods said he has done his homework on this property and explained the city would be at risk if the city were to ever sell this property. The city will not gain any return on selling this property that is in comparison to the properties down the street. Council Member Woods explained the event that was held on Friday by the Walled Lake Community Theater (JET Theater) could not be done at the depot property it is too small. Council Member Woods explained that the city needs to be proactive to the properties that connect to the trail and he agrees with installation of the access bridge.

Mayor Pro Tem Ambrose explained that the city will develop a plan and submit it to the Department of Justice, if approved, the city may be able to reimburse these funds to the DDA and City. Mayor Pro Tem Ambrose pointed out that Council Member Costanzo has not been here to see this in the past, but the Department of Justice will provide guidance to the city and so far and the DOJ has approved the city's use of forfeiture funds for other projects.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes (5)	Owsinek, Woods, Ambrose, Lublin, Ackley
Nays (1)	Costanzo
Absent (1)	Loch
Abstain (0)	

Council Member Lublin said the property at Maple and Pontiac Trail, the old high school site, holds six acres and he recently spoke with realtor Mr. Randy Thomas. Council Member Lublin explained they are still waiting for approval from the state on mediation clean up. Council Member Lublin explained there are interested parties looking at this property.

Council Member Owsinek thanked Council Member Lublin for his participation on the Library Board and explained the appointment of Margaret Schwartz is due to vacancy from Ms. Gretchen Benyi who has since passed. Council Member Owsinek said Ms. Benyi served the library board very well in her years of dedication.

Council Member Lublin concurred and said Ms. Benyi will be missed she was wonderful for sure.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

1. Departmental / Divisional Statistical Reports

- a. Police
- b. Fire
- c. Finance
 - Warrant
- d. Code Enforcement

CM 8-9-20 TO RECEIVE AND FILE THE DEPARTMENTAL / DIVISIONAL STATISTICAL REPORTS

Motion by Owsinek, seconded by Woods, UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED: To receive and file the departmental / divisional statistical reports.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes (6) Woods, Ambrose, Costanzo, Lublin, Owsinek, Ackley
Nays (0)
Absent (1) Loch
Abstain (0)

City Manager Whitt said the DDA and Parks and Recreation Commission both provided support for installation of an access bridge. Manager Whitt said the DDA has a new managing director in absence of Assistant City Manager Pesta and that person is Ms. Hana Jaquays. City Manager Whitt explained there has been a dramatic change to the Farmer's Market, it is also growing, and it is due in part to Ms. Jaquays management. Manager Whitt said Ms. Jaquays did a great job with the DPW in putting together the Walled Lake Community Playhouse (JET Theater) event this past Friday. City Manager Whitt thanked Council Member Bennett Lublin for his work with JET Theater and the recent play. City Manager Whitt said the city expects to do more events with Walled Lake Community Playhouse also known as Jet Theater. City Manager Whitt explained developing this site will be a multifunctional asset to the city. City Manager Whitt explained the bridge is going to be approximately \$75,000. Manager Whitt agreed Council Member Woods to get those businesses along the trail to open up their businesses to the trail.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

City Attorney Vanerian said on July 27, 2020 the city received an initiatory petition for a charter amendment similar to what was received this time last year. City Attorney Vanerian explained any charter amendment has to go through a series of statutory reviews. City Attorney Vanerian explain the sponsors were requesting it be placed on the November 2020 ballot. City Attorney Vanerian explained the City Clerk has 45 days to canvass the petition and said it did not make the August 11, 2020 deadline. City Attorney Vanerian said the proposal may make it on to next November's ballot. He said the initiatory petition essentially seeks to amend the city charter to limit the voter abilities to vote for the candidate of their choice by imposition of term limits. Attorney Vanerian said the petition seeks to make the term limits retroactive. City Attorney Vanerian explained the prior petition to term limit the city manager, was disapproved by the Governor and Attorney General. City Attorney Vanerian said because it is an initiatory petition, council has the right to place an explanatory caption if they wish.

Council Member Costanzo asked the city attorney if the term limiting petition which he was forwarded to the state.

City Attorney Vanerian said yes and explained the petition was submitted by the attorney and it appears it is the same group that was sponsoring the city manager term limits so they are familiar with the process and how long it takes. City Attorney Vanerian explained the attorney for the group did send to the Governor's office and there was email correspondence provided back from the Governor's office indicating they were not ready to review. City Attorney Vanerian explained there are still several statutory requirements that have to be completed.

City Manager Whitt stated that in the interest of transparency that the term limiting petitions had been submitted on July 27, 2020 and the lawyer that represents disenfranchised marijuana applicant is the same lawyer that submitted the term limiting petition for the mayor and city council members. City Manager Whitt explained that in speaking of transparency and based on the questions, the people involved in this council term limiting petition process to term limit most members on council, meaning current council members could not run again, one of those individuals involved in the term limiting drive is Council Member Costanzo.

Council Member Costanzo said point of order, saying that the Manager Whitt had given inaccurate information.

City Manager Whitt called out Council Member Costanzo stating it is a fact Councilman Costanzo and his family signed the term limiting petition and Councilman Costanzo was a circulator of those petitions. City Manager Whitt explained the lawyer handling this petition is also handling the disenfranchised marijuana people that have been denied a city license and opined there is a connection between the groups. City Manager Whitt explained that interested parties can view who signed and circulated the petition.

Council Member Costanzo denied his involvement and then stated that he did not start the petition; anyone can circulate a petition. Council Member Costanzo said the petition process was called grass roots activism and explained that he happens to believe in term limits his opponents. Council Member Costanzo admitted signing said the term limiting petition but asserts he did not start the petition to term limit the mayor and council members and he opined he was acting on his constitutional rights.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Second Reading C-354-50 Amendment to Chapter 51, Article 21, Section 21.49 Residential Design Standards

CM 8-10-20 MOTION TO APPROVE SECOND READING C-354-20 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 51, "ZONING", OF TITLE V, "ZONING AND PLANNING", OF THE CITY OF WALLED LAKE ZONING ORDINANCE, TO AMEND ARTICLE 2.00, SECTION 2.02 "DEFINITIONS", AND ADOPTING A NEW SECTION 21.52 "RESIDENTIAL DESIGN STANDARDS

Motion by Owsinek, seconded by Woods, UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED: To table second reading C-354-20 an ordinance to amend Chapter 51, "Zoning", of Title V, "Zoning and Planning", of the City of Walled Lake Zoning Ordinance, to amend Article 2.00, Section 2.02 "Definitions", and adopting a new Section 21.52 "Residential Design Standards.

Council Member Woods said there are some good things within the ordinance such as defining the dwelling however when it comes to distance there is ambiguity within those sections and opined that items in this section needed to be clarified. Council Member Woods suggested council table and have the Planning Commission tighten up the language to avoid any ambiguity.

Mayor Ackley agreed and explained she is not satisfied with parts of this ordinance as well and have the ordinance come back to council after another review by the Planning Commission.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes (6) Ambrose, Costanzo, Lublin, Owsinek, Woods, Ackley
Nays (0)
Absent (1) Loch
Abstain (0)

2. Second Reading C-355-20 Amendment to Chapter 70 Adopting Article V Parking on City Right of Way and City Property

Council Member Owsinek said he has been speaking with different people and there is more input to be had on this ordinance. Council Member Owsinek suggested tabling this ordinance for further input from the taxpayers and business owners.

CM 8-11-20 MOTION TO TABLE SECOND READING C-355-20 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 70, "STREETS, SIDEWALKS AND OTHER PUBLIC PROPERTY", BY ADOPTING A NEW ARTICLE V, ESTABLISHING "PARKING ON CITY PROPERTY" OF THE CITY OF WALLED LAKE CODE OF ORDINANCES; AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE CITY MANAGER TO ENFORCE PARKING ON MUNICIPAL PROPERTY

Motion by Owsinek, seconded by Ambrose, UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED: To table second reading C-355-20 an ordinance to amend Chapter 70, "Streets, sidewalks and other public property", by adopting a new Article V, establishing "Parking on City Property" of the City of Walled Lake Code of Ordinances; authorizing the administration of the City Manager to enforce parking on municipal property.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes (6) Costanzo, Lublin, Owsinek, Woods, Ambrose, Ackley
Nays (0)
Absent (1) Loch
Abstain (0)

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Proposed Resolution 2020-27 City of Walled Lake Retiree HealthCare Corrective Action Plan

Finance Director Barlass explained the reason this resolution is before council is because the city was contacted by the State Treasury's office advising a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) for the Walled Lake Retiree Health Care Plan is required to be submitted to the state. She further explained that Public Act 202 of 2017 requires a local unit to annually calculate the funded ratios of each retirement system using state determined uniform actuarial assumptions and report to the Department of Treasury. If the State Treasurer determines an underfunded status of a local unit of government, the state will provide an oversight of that local unit by way of requiring a CAP. Finance Director Barlass explained the city has a zero percent funding status for OPEB at this time, but this is not an unusual scenario for municipalities. She said her memo outlines several options for a CAP for Council to choose from.

Council Member Lublin said if the city can achieve 40% funding then there is no need to submit this corrective action plan.

Finance Director Barlass explained the city needs to report every year but the city would not be required to also submit a corrective action plan.

Council Member Lublin explained the last two years the rate of return has been very small, he said he understands the forms.

Council discussed options.

Finance Director Barlass asked for clarification if council wished to continue with current reimbursement process coming from general fund.

CM 8-12-20 TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2020-27 A RESOLUTION FOR THE CITY OF WALLED LAKE'S RETIREE HEALTH CARE PLAN TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY AS REQUIRED UNDER PUBLIC ACT 202 OF 2017 FOR APPROVAL OF A CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN AND CONTINUE TO REIMBURSE FROM GENERAL FUND

Motion by Lublin, seconded by Owsinek, UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED: To approve resolution 2020-27 a resolution for the City of Walled Lake's retiree health care plan to be submitted to the Michigan Department of Treasury as required under Public Act of 2017 for approval of a corrective action plan and continue to reimburse from general fund.

Discussion

City Manager Whitt said he supports the city to continue to do what they have been doing to continue the funding. City Manager Whitt said the city has always paid for these and it is in their contracts that were provided to these people. City Manager Whitt explained the city would be over \$20 million in debt if adjustments had not been made by his administration and the current council majority. City Manager Whitt said he is not in favor of setting money aside in a trust.

Mayor Ackley said she agreed and explained the prior employees have it in their contracts for this. She said she too is opposed to a trust where the city has no control.

City Manager Whitt said the city has always paid and will not stop paying for the retiree healthcare per contracts.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes (6) Lublin, Owsinek, Woods, Ambrose, Costanzo, Ackley
Nays (0)
Absent (1) Loch
Abstain (0)

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Council Member Woods said he and other council members attended the JET Theater show on Friday and it was well attended by 150 to 200 people or so. Council Member Woods said he received a lot of good feedback. Council Member Woods said great job to Hana Jaquays and DPW for assisting JET for the event. He explained this shows how the city can utilize this property for the positive. Council Member Woods thanked the fire department for their efforts with recent fire rescue assistance in Commerce and offered condolences to those that were affected by the fire. He said a lot of people do not realize what happens when our city department is providing mutual aid, it is impressive how coverage is not affected.

Council Member Owsinek said those that utilize the Public Safety annex will be able to use the city facilities washroom, drinking fountain, etc. He explained the businesses along the trail will benefit from the access as well. Council Member Owsinek said there is a strip of land approximately 40 feet of land behind a complex along the trail and it appears it is unclaimed by anyone this could be a great adjunct to the trail. He said the city needs to find out about this land, it would help create a continuous strip to the linear park.

Council Member Lublin said he is excited by the Public Safety Campus expansion plan and with it many future events that will take place including nice landscaped grounds, sidewalks and a bridge to the city's linear park. He said most importantly though the police and fire memorial. He said funding will come from the forfeiture funds according to the DOJ rules and regulations.

Council Member Costanzo said the line has been crossed for the third time since May, at city council meetings with ethnic slurs directed at him. Council Member Costanzo said these are intended to insult and are part of an ongoing pattern against him. Council Member Costanzo said he is disappointed this behavior has been allowed to continue at meetings. He said this needs to stop it is not only distasteful it is unprofessional and does not look good for those who are doing it. Council Member Costanzo said council can agree to disagree and he would prefer to focus on solving problems not garbage of name calling and ethnic slurs. Council Member Costanzo asked council to stop with the slurs because he will no longer accept this treatment.

Mayor Pro Tem Ambrose said he echoed the positive comments on the public safety campus expansion and its benefits to our residents and businesses. Mayor Pro Tem

Ambrose said this improvement moves the city forward to a better city. He thanked everyone involved in moving forward in a positive direction.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Ackley said she also echoes the appreciation of city staff and city manager. Mayor Ackley said the DDA went on record earlier praising the efforts of Ms. Jaquays for doing her job as well as Mrs. Pesta's while she is out. Mayor Ackley said Finance Director Barlass always has her nose to the grindstone the City Clerk and her efforts with the recent elections and current requirements. Mayor Ackley said the DPW, Fire and Police are a fantastic group of people and their character is above and beyond, they do their job every day not expecting a pat on the back. Mayor Ackley gave a thank you to all the staff.

1. Proposed Resolution 2020-28 Accepting Mayor's Nomination to Appoint Margaret Schwartz to the Library Board

CM 8-13-20 MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2020-28 A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE MAYOR'S NOMINATION TO FILL A VACANCY ON THE WALLED LAKE LIBRARY BOARD PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE CITY CHARTER; MAKING AN APPOINTMENT TO THE WALLED LAKE LIBRARY BOARD FOR AN UNEXPIRED TERM

Motion by Lublin, seconded by Ambrose, UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED: To approve resolution 2020-28 a resolution accepting the Mayor's nomination to fill a vacancy on the Walled Lake Library Board pursuant to the requirements of the City Charter; making an appointment to the Walled Lake Library Board for an unexpired term.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes (6) Lublin, Owsinek, Woods, Ambrose, Costanzo, Ackley
Nays (0)
Absent (1) Loch
Abstain (0)

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Dawn Davies, Smith Street, Algonac – said Councilman Costanzo said several times he was concerned over the financial aspect of the public safety camp. She said when you read through the equitable sharing guide a lot of it can be left to interpretation on what is permissible and what is not. She said what is clear to her is that any type of construction, expansion, or improvement must be submitted and approved. She said she sent an email August 5th and Mr. Brian Boykin from equitable sharing program responded. She

explained she asked Mr. Boykin if the city had submitted any plans for public safety campus expansion. She said Mr. Boykin also had a conference call with Police Chief Shakinias.

Mr. Neal Wolfson, 565 Winwood Court – said congratulations on the city’s first public event in the public safety campus expansion area. He said he heard the event was a roaring success. He thanked everybody for all their hard work.

Gerald Millen, 103 E. Walled Lake – asked why the audience member from Algonac was so interested in Walled Lake’s local politics. Mr. Millen said Councilman Costanzo was a hypocrite and that Councilman Costanzo is connected to the misfits who post all kinds of derogatory things on Facebook. Mr. Millen said he wished to file a formal complaint against Council Member Costanzo for behavior unbecoming of a council member. Mr. Millen said a sitting council member uses social media platforms to mislead the tax paying public of Walled Lake they should remove themselves from that office. Mr. Millen said Councilman Costanzo has his own agenda and that is to destroy Walled Lake. Mr. Millen said last week his attorney’s questioned Councilman Costanzo and it was identified that Councilman Costanzo was the administrator of Facebook pages pretending to be the representative of the Walled Lake Facebook page. Mr. Millen said this is unethical and definitely not transparent. Mr. Millen said Councilman Costanzo uses fake city pages to make the citizens believe the things he wants them to believe while hiding behind the disguise of the city. Mr. Millen explained Councilman Costanzo pretends to be friends with council members but posts inappropriate things about them on Facebook. Mr. Millen said Councilman Costanzo has threatened to contact the Department of Justice for a facility that is zero \$0 to the taxpayer unlike the trail. Mr. Millen said reporting a fake claim is punishable as a crime.

Emily Bertollini – 191 Neptune Drive – said she spoke at last meeting and her comments were not fully noted in regard to lack of decorum and lack of respect for others. She said she is concerned about the city manager’s contract because it creates a golden parachute. She explained she understands the ballot language from the petition; it is disappointing to hear council talk about active residents in the city somehow being out for revenge by initiating these petitions. She said she takes exception to the Mayor’s comment that for a small city we have a great council. Ms. Bertollini said disparaging comments were made about people who may not want to walk a little way because there is no parking for city events. She said we are in the middle of a pandemic and that may limit people’s lung capacity and there are disabled persons not able to walk. She said she is disappointed there is not back and forth communication with audience for comments. She said she agrees public comment should be provided at beginning of meeting as she has personal insight into some of the properties downtown that are being considered for redevelopment. Ms. Bertollini said is glad Councilman Costanzo stood up and spoke out on the ethnic slurs at the last meeting. She said she is making a formal complaint against council and the city manager for not holding up Robert’s Rules or Order.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 9:23 p.m.



Jennifer A. Stuart, City Clerk
approved 9-15-20

Linda S. Ackley, Mayor

History: Chapter 6, The Council: Procedure and Miscellaneous Powers and Duties: *Section 6.7 (a) A journal of the proceedings of each meeting shall be kept in the English language by the Clerk and shall be signed by the presiding officer and Clerk of the meeting.*