



**CITY OF WALLED LAKE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 15, 2022
7:30 P.M.**

Confidential Assistant Ms. Hana Jaquays welcomed participants to the hybrid meeting. Ms. Jaquays introduced city staff and board members attending the meeting; City Officials, City Attorney Vanerian, City Clerk Stuart, Deputy City Clerk/HR Administrator Gross, DPW Superintendent Ladd, Police Chief Shakinas, Deputy Police Chief Kolke, Fire Chief Coomer and DDA Board Member Millen, and distinguished guest Fire Chief James Dundas from Commerce Township. Ms. Jaquays introduced Rob Wedis with Merge Live who provided our video and live streaming.

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

Invocation by Mayor Pro Tem Lublin.

PLEDGE TO FLAG & INVOCATION

ROLL CALL

Mayor Ackley, Mayor Pro Tem Lublin, Council Member Ambrose, Council Member Fernandes, Council Member Loch, Council Member Owsinek

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

OTHERS PRESENT

City Manager Whitt, Confidential Assistant Jaquays, Police Chief Shakinas, Deputy Police Chief Kolke, Fire Chief Coomer, City Attorney Vanerian, DPW Superintendent Ladd, Deputy Clerk Gross, DDA Board Member Millen and City Clerk Stuart.

**CM 03-01-22 MOTION TO EXCUSE COUNCIL MEMBER WOODS
FROM TONIGHT'S MEETING**

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

REQUESTS FOR AGENDA CHANGES

Mayor Ackley explained she had a nomination and appointment to the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) to be added to agenda under Mayor's Report.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Commerce Township Fire Chief Jim Dundas said it is an honor to meet everyone this evening. Fire Chief Dundas explained they recently constructed a new fire station, Fire Station three on Welch Road, and this area is one of their busiest areas to cover. During construction the fire members did not have another station within the area to house. Fire Chief Dundas explained Commerce Township and Walled Lake fire departments have a strong working relationship. Fire Chief Dundas said Walled Lake has a very good Fire Chief and he has had a long-time relationship with Fire Chief Coomer. Fire Chief Dundas said Walled Lake has a good fire department. Fire Chief Dundas explained conversation was had with City Manager Whitt by Fire Chief Coomer and Commerce was invited to share quarters with Walled Lake while Commerce Fire Station Three was being rebuilt. Fire Chief Dundas explained Walled Lake and Commerce have a strong mutual aid collaboration. Fire Chief Dundas said on behalf of Commerce Township Fire Department and the Commerce Township Board of Trustees, he presented Fire Chief Coomer with a framed picture of the two community's fire personnel servicing a mutual aid fire together. Fire Chief Dundas explained he looks forward to continuing the working relationship with Walled Lake.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Regular Council Meeting of February 15, 2022

CM 03-02-22 MOTION TO APPROVE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 15, 2022

Motion by Lublin, seconded by Ambrose, UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED: To approve regular council meeting minutes of February 15, 2022.

Roll Call Vote

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

COUNCIL REPORTS

Mayor Pro Tem Lublin reported on the Walled Lake Library as the liaison to council. Mayor Pro Tem Lublin explained the visitor and circulation count have remained steady even during COVID. The library recently received a grant through the Ben Franklin Institute. Mayor Pro Tem Lublin explained the library is working with the schools to increase library card holders. Mayor Pro Tem Lublin said the library has a healthy relationship with our neighboring libraries of Wixom, Milford, and Commerce Township.

Mayor Pro Tem Lublin explained realtor Mr. Randy Thomas, who is representing 615 N. Pontiac Trail, the school property said the property is still waiting on environmental approvals. Mayor Pro Tem Lublin explained it is not abnormal for a one-year observation, once that happens, the state will develop some type of restrictions such as no wells, or water extraction, or no basements. Mayor Pro Tem Lublin said soon, the property would be on the market.

Council Member Fernandes reported on the recent Parks and Recreation Commission meeting as the liaison to council. Council Member Fernandes said a lot of great things are going on within the city. Council Member Fernandes explained the summer concert series is being finalized with concerts on Wednesday evenings at Sims Park and April 16th is the Spring Egg Hunt.

Mayor Ackley explained we no longer have the benefit of having the DDA chairman on board of council and asked how DDA updates will be provided to council.

City Manager Whitt explained Managing Director Jaquays will be providing reports.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

1. Departmental / Divisional Statistical Reports

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

**CM 03-03-22 MOTION TO RECEIVE AND FILE THE
DEPARTMENTAL / DIVISIONAL STATISTICAL
REPORTS**

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

Roll Call Vote

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

City Manager Whitt explained the Spring Egg Hunt is ready to go even if the weather is not satisfactory there is a plan B to host inside.

Deputy Clerk Gross said the Spring Egg Hunt begins at 11am.

City Manager Whitt explained the summer concert series will be hosted at Sims Park. City Manager Whitt explained Ms. Gross is the recording secretary for the Parks and Recreation Commission and de facto park administrator for the city. She is also working on the band agreements for the summer concerts.

City Manger Whitt said DPW Superintendent Ladd will provide an update on the parks and equipment.

DPW Superintendent Ladd explained Ventura LLC is the company who will be installing equipment at Riley Park. Mr. Ladd explained the equipment is paid for and is being stored until install. Mr. Ladd explained motions were taken this week to remove the old equipment to prep the land for the new equipment to be installed in a few weeks.

DDA Managing Director Jaquays explained there are many road improvements that will be happening very shortly within the city. Ms. Jaquays explained the resurfacing of Pontiac Trail through the Oakland County Tri Party Program is scheduled. Ms. Jaquays explained the tri party program is a program funded through three separate organizations the Oakland County Board of Commissioners, the Oakland County Road Commission and the cities, villages, and townships within Oakland County. Ms. Jaquays explained Pontiac Trail will be addressed from E. West Maple Road all the way up to city limits. Ms. Jaquays explained the DDA, and city are inviting business along Pontiac Trail to participate in a public private partnership for sidewalk improvements within the Pontiac Trail area.

DPW Superintendent Ladd explained the work on Pontiac Trail from E. West Maple all the way to west side towards the City of Wixom is approximately three miles. Mr. Ladd explained Pontiac Trail will have an overlay process, mill and cap the road while also addressing and raising the structure to meet the elevations, removing dips and bumps. Mr. Ladd explained this approach does not hamper traffic too much.

City Manager Whitt explained sidewalks are necessary. City Manager Whitt explained we are starting with the discussions of sidewalks with the business' that abut Pontiac Trail as the road is overlaid, sidewalks could be addressed simultaneously.

DPW Superintendent Ladd explained new ADA compliant mats need to be repaired and/or replaced.

City Manager Whitt explained this is the beginning, to identify the sidewalks needing attention, not all will be done but we can identify them. City Manager Whitt explained the city is partnering with businesses to see what they may want to do for sidewalk improvements. If the business owner is there and they are willing to contribute, this is the time to step up for a public private partnership. City Manager Whitt explained, Walled Lake business owner and DDA Board Member Mr. Millen has been the first to step up as he always is. City Manager Whitt explained there are other owners in the downtown area

that have an interest and there is a meeting scheduled tomorrow to meet with them. City Manager Whitt explained the question is what the city will fund.

Mayor Ackley explained she and the City Manager surveyed some areas of the city on Sunday. Mayor Ackley explained the area by the Walled Lake Villa and Pontiac Trail was discussed. Mayor Ackley explained council has a big job to prioritize and move this forward as Decker Road now has a nice new sidewalk other area should as well.

Council Member Fernandes said as somebody who has been on the DDA prior to joining council, sidewalks are something the DDA talked about for along time. Council Member Fernandes explained the citizens, west of the city sign, on the north side of Pontiac Trail, need to be served with sidewalks as well. Council Member Fernandes asked if an analysis of the sidewalks have been done.

City Manager Whitt said no, that is the next step. City Manager Whitt said DDA Chairman Blair suggested walking the areas. City Manager Whitt explained when an intersection is placed, the start of a sidewalk is required. These areas may be more difficult for new sidewalk placement. City Manager Whitt explained the city went through a prior process of acquiring property through a resolution of necessity for sidewalk placement and the city paid the property owners. City Manager Whitt explained if this is the approach council wishes to take, there will be additional fees involved. City Manager Whitt asked if a special assessment district is something to consider.

Council Member Loch said she has been stuck in traffic behind school buses on Pontiac Trail and witnessed the bus unloading, it would be beautiful to have sidewalks for those children.

City Manager said he agrees.

Mayor Pro Tem Lublin said he concurs with the need for sidewalks. Mayor Pro Tem Lublin explained roads have been improved without raising property taxes and this needs to continue with the sidewalks as well. Mayor Pro Tem Lublin opined there has not been any new debt incurred with the actions or activity of this council.

Council Member Owsinek said this has been a continuing theme of this council for the past 12 years and they have been continually improving roads and sidewalks bit by bit. Council Member Owsinek said this is a continuation of what council has been doing, he strongly supports this activity and glad to be part of it.

City Manager Whitt said a lot of credit is due to the prior DDA Chairman and DDA board, by declaring the Decker Road area as a gateway to the city, it led to the sidewalk improvements along Decker Road.

DPW Superintendent Ladd explained in the council packet there is a resolution requesting approval of the MDOT contract for the reconstruction of Decker Road it

includes infrastructure stormwater control, pulverization of existing asphalt and repaving of the road to match existing elevations. Mr. Ladd explained the GLWA 14 Mile Road is a redundancy line that will provide water in case the 42 main breaks or needs repair because it is an aging pipe.

City Manager Whitt said there is also work going on downtown at the beach area.

Mayor Ackley asked about the GLWA 14 Mile Road project and the Decker Road project, if the plan for timing is that Decker Road will not start until 14 Mile Road is completed.

DPW Superintendent Ladd explained it is being coordinated for the completion of the Decker Road rehabilitation and completion of the GLWA 14 Mile project at the same time.

City Manager Whitt explained Mr. Ladd has been directed to coordinate as best he can with the entities involved.

DPW Superintendent Ladd explained the plan is to coordinate not to close Decker Road for construction, having Novi Road and Decker Road to remain open.

DPW Superintendent Ladd explained Mercer Beach Phase I has started. Mr. Ladd explained this project will be environmentally terrific for the lake, the storm pipe will be relocated, and a storm sceptor will be placed. Mr. Ladd explained the storm sceptor will help with the water by removing heavy metals before the water enters the lake. Mr. Ladd explained the timeline on the beach project, the start of the second phase should be by June 30th.

CORRESPONDENCE None

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

City Attorney Vanerian explained the city's zoning ordinances could be improved upon as it is apparent the language in the ordinances could be better than what they currently are. Attorney Vanerian explained he does not want to add or take away but make clearer and he asked for approval from council to move forward with making the legal revisions.

Mayor Ackley asked if these changes would go before the Planning Commission first and then to Council.

Attorney Vanerian explained the proposed changes would go before Planning Commission for public hearing and then before council for first and second reading.

CM 03-04-22 MOTION TO DIRECT THE CITY ATTORNEY TO REVIEW AND PROVIDE LEGAL REVISIONS AND UPDATES TO THE CITY'S ZONING ORDINANCES

Motion by Loch, seconded by Lublin, UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED: To direct the City Attorney to review and provide legal revisions and updates to the city's zoning ordinances.

Roll Call Vote

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

NEW BUSINESS

1. Proposed Resolution 2022-12 Defer Special Meeting Requirements for the Budget Presentation and Adoption

CM 03-05-22 MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2022-12 A RESOLUTION RESCHEDULING THE FISCAL YEAR BUDGET PRESENTATION SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING OF MONDAY, MAY 16, 2022 TO THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF TUESDAY, MAY 17, 2022 AND TO RESCHEDULE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING FOR BUDGET ADOPTION ON MONDAY, JUNE 13, 2022 TO THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF TUESDAY, JUNE 21, 2022 AT 7:30 P.M.

Motion by Loch, seconded by Fernandes, UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED: To approve resolution 2022-12 a resolution rescheduling the fiscal year budget presentation special council meeting of Monday, May 16, 2022 to the regular council meeting of Tuesday, May 17, 2022 and to reschedule special council meeting for budget adoption on Monday, June 13, 2022 to the regular council meeting of Tuesday, June 21, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.

Roll Call Vote

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

2. Proposed Resolution 2022-13 Healthcare Benefit Renewal for Full-time Employees for Plan Year 2022-2023

CM 03-06-22 MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2022-13 A RESOLUTION APPROVING A HEALTH CARE BENEFIT PACKAGE FOR FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES FOR THE PLAN YEAR APRIL 1, 2022 TO MARCH 31, 2023

Motion by Loch, seconded by Ambrose, UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED: To approve resolution 2022-13 a resolution approving a health care benefit package for full-time employees for the plan year April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023.

Roll Call Vote

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

3. Proposed Resolution 2022-14 Healthcare Benefit Renewal for Eligible Prior Employees of the City of Walled Lake

CM 03-07-22 MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2022-14 A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN APPROPRIATION FOR HEALTHCARE FOR PLAN YEAR APRIL 1, 2022 TO MARCH 31, 2023 FOR ELIGIBLE PREVIOUS EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF WALLED LAKE

Motion by Owsinek, seconded by Loch, UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED: To approve resolution 2022-14 a resolution approving an appropriation for healthcare plan year April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023 for eligible previous employees of the City of Walled Lake.

Discussion

Mayor Pro Tem Lublin asked if there is a time these people can be switched into Medicare or a Medigap rider to save the city money. This is something discussed in the past.

City Manager Whitt said yes, the council has a great deal of authority.

Roll Call Vote

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

4. Proposed Resolution 2022-15 Decker Road Rehabilitation Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) Agreement

CM 03-08-22 MOTION TO APPROVE 2022-15 A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CONTRACT AGREEMENT FOR THE DECKER ROAD REHABILITATION PROJECT BETWEEN THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND THE CITY OF WALLED LAKE AND DIRECTING CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE SAID CONTRACT

Motion by Loch, seconded by Lublin, UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED: To approve resolution 2022-15 a resolution approving the contract agreement for the Decker Road Rehabilitation project between the Michigan Department of Transportation and the City of Walled Lake and directing City Manager to execute said contract.

Roll Call Vote

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

5. Traffic Control Order 22-01 Exit Only from 861 N. Pontiac Trail

Police Chief Shakinas explained the property in question is occupied by Lume and Maher, two developments on a smaller parcel. Chief Shakinas explained there has been a lot of traffic entering Spring Park and parking behind the building and all exit onto Pontiac Trail. Chief Shakinas explained conversation was had with Lume and the best way to address it is to place two exit signs at the Pontiac Trail drive, and a sign on the northeast entrance along Spring Park. Chief Shakinas said Lume will provide payment for this project and the signs will be placed by DPW and will be enforced by the city.

CM 03-09-22 MOTION TO APPROVE TRAFFIC CONTROL ORDER 22-01 EXIT ONLY FROM 861 N. PONTIAC TRAIL

Motion by Lublin, seconded by Loch, UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED: To approve traffic control order 22-01 Exit Only from 861 N. Pontiac Trail.

Roll Call Vote

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS None

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Council Member Fernandes said she is very excited about all the things happening in this city. Council Member Fernandes said this council is a great ambassador to the city and its residents. Council Member Fernandes said the new playground equipment is exciting. Council Member Fernandes said thank you to DPW Superintendent Ladd.

Council Member Ambrose said the road improvements are very exciting, as well as the updates to Riley Park, and the discussion of sidewalks is very important. Mr. Ambrose said Thursday is St Patrick's Day and Casey's in Walled Lake will be hosting an event and invited all to come.

Council Member Loch said thank you to the city staff commenting the city has an excellent staff working diligently and it is showing with all the projects this year. Council Member Loch said she is really excited about the projects.

Council Member Owsinek said thank you to all the city staff, especially DPW Superintendent Ladd commenting the parks are nicely kept and the roads are always salted. Council Member Owsinek said thank you to Mr. Schrader who is working on the finances while Mrs. Pesta is out.

City Manager Whitt said Mr. Schrader is not replacing but is filling in for Mrs. Pesta. City Manager Whitt said Mr. Schrader will be here for a bit.

Mayor Pro Tem Lublin said he commends the city departments and city administration; the team is doing a fine job.

MAYOR'S REPORT

- 1. Receive and File Resignation from Downtown Development Authority Board Member Pat Wlodarczyk**

**CM 03-10-22 MOTION TO RECEIVE AND FILE RESIGNATION
LETTER FROM DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY BOARD MEMBER PAT WLODARCZYK**

Motion by Fernandes, seconded by Lublin, UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED: To receive and file resignation letter from Downtown Development Authority Board Member Pat Wlodarczyk.

Discussion

Council Member Fernandes said Board Member Wlodarczyk was the individual who encouraged her to become a member of the DDA, she was a dedicated member.

Roll Call Vote

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

CM 03-11-22 MOTION TO SEND LETTER OF APPRECIATION TO MRS. WLODARCZYK FOR HER SERVICES AND DEDICATION TO THE DDA AND CITY

Motion by Lublin, seconded by Owsinek: UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED: To send letter of appreciation to Mrs. Wlodarczyk for her services and dedication to the DDA and City.

Roll Call Vote

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

2. Proposed Resolution 2022-16 Mayor's nomination and appointment of Mital Amin to the DDA

Mayor Ackley explained that Mrs. Amin is a resident of the city in the downtown area and is active in the downtown.

CM 03-12-22 MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2022-16 A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE MAYOR'S NOMINATION TO FILL A POSITION ON THE DDA PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE CITY CHARTER, MAKING AN APPOINTMENT TO THE DDA FOR AN UNEXPIRED TERM

Motion by Fernandes, seconded by Lublin, UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED: To approve resolution 2022-16 a resolution accepting the Mayor's nomination to fill a position on the DDA pursuant to the requirements of the City Charter, making an appointment to the DDA for an unexpired term.

Roll Call Vote

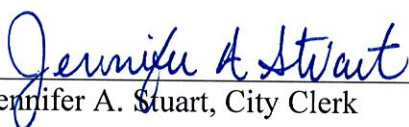
Ayes (6) Ambrose, Fernandes, Loch, Lublin, Owsinek, Ackley
Nays (0)
Absent (1) Woods
Abstain (0)

Mayor Ackley said it is good to hear all the great things happening within the city. Mayor Ackley asked about the cone on Pontiac Trail and Walled Lake Drive.

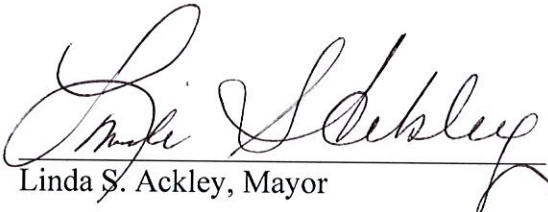
DPW Superintendent Ladd explained he met on site with the foreman from Oakland County Road Commission who is going to do the rehabilitation of the catch basins on Pontiac Trail. Mr. Ladd explained the city projects were discussed with the foreman and the meeting was to the city's benefit because the county witnessed firsthand the dangerous areas that are in need of repair

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m.



Jennifer A. Stuart, City Clerk



Linda S. Ackley, Mayor

Approved 4/19/22

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.