



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR ROMULUS CITY COUNCIL MEETING

December 14, 2020

Romulus City Hall Council Chambers, 11111 Wayne Rd, Romulus, MI 48174

MEETING HELD ELECTRONICALLY VIA ZOOM MEETING/TELECOMMUNICATION

Pledge of Allegiance

Led by Councilperson Wadsworth

Roll Call

Present: Kathy Abdo, John Barden, Tina Talley, William Wadsworth, Eva Webb, Virginia Williams

Absent / Excused: Celeste Roscoe

Administrative Officials in Attendance:

LeRoy Burcroff, Mayor

Ellen L. Craig-Bragg, Clerk

Stacy Paige, Treasurer

Administrative Staff in Attendance:

D'Sjonaun Hockenhull - Deputy Clerk; Julie Wojtylko - Chief of Staff; Julie Albert - Director of Assessing & Financial Services; Kevin Krause - Director of Fire & Emergency Services; Roberto Scappaticci - Director of Public Works; Robert McCraight - Director of Public Services; Carol Maise - City Planner; Robert Pfannes - Police Chief; Stephen Dudek - Technology Director; Stephen Hitchcock - City Attorney

1. Agenda

- A.** Moved by **Eva Webb**, seconded by **Kathy Abdo** to accept the Agenda as presented.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Talley, Wadsworth, Webb, Williams

Nays - None

Motion Carried Unanimously

2. Minutes

- A. Res. #20-332** Moved by **William Wadsworth**, seconded by **Eva Webb** to approve the minutes from the regular meeting held on December 7, 2020 as amended to reflect the correct term dates under Clerk's Report Item 6B.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Talley, Wadsworth, Webb, Williams

Nays - None

Motion Carried Unanimously

- B. Res. #20-333** Moved by **Kathy Abdo**, seconded by **Tina Talley** to approve the minutes from the Special Meeting - Closed Session held on 12/7/2020 @ 7:00pm to discuss union negotiations.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Talley, Wadsworth, Webb, Williams

Nays - None

Motion Carried Unanimously

3. Petitioner

No petitioners for this meeting.

4. Chairperson's Report, John Barden, Mayor Pro-Tem

- A. Res. #20-334** Moved by **Eva Webb**, seconded by **Kathy Abdo** to adopt a resolution, introduced by Treasurer Paige, commemorating Nick Jarbou.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Talley, Wadsworth, Webb, Williams
Nays - None

Motion Carried Unanimously

Councilperson Wadsworth urged residents, who can, to consider donating to some charitable organization during this holiday season. He gave a list of some charitable organizations within the community.

Moved by **Tina Talley**, seconded by **Kathy Abdo** to approve the Chairperson's Report.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Talley, Wadsworth, Webb, Williams
Nays - None

Motion Carried Unanimously

5. Mayor's Report – LeRoy D. Burcroff, Mayor

- A.** Clerk Bragg read a letter from Judge David Parrott into the record.

Res. #20-335 Moved by **William Wadsworth**, seconded by **Kathy Abdo** to adopt a memorial resolution for the family of Geraldine Chevalier.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Talley, Wadsworth, Webb, Williams
Nays - None

Motion Carried Unanimously

Res. #20-336 Moved by **Eva Webb**, seconded by **Tina Talley** to concur with the administration and adopt the Resolution for the City of Romulus Poverty Exemption for 2021 to be used by the Board of Review to approve or deny poverty exemptions.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Talley, Wadsworth, Webb, Williams
Nays - None

Motion Carried Unanimously

- B. Res. #20-337** Moved by **Tina Talley**, seconded by **Kathy Abdo** to concur with the administration and consent to temporarily extend Honeywell Services Contract monthly for the HVAC systems for the City of Romulus with a one year extension at a cost of \$93,824.00.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Talley, Wadsworth, Webb, Williams
Nays - None

Motion Carried Unanimously

- C. **Res. #20-338** Moved by **William Wadsworth**, seconded by **Tina Talley** to concur with the administration and adopt the resolution to incorporate the street system in the Preserves Subdivision (South of Ecorse) into the local road network. Upon this action, the street system would become public, the City would collect Act 51 revenue from the State of Michigan, and the City would legally resume snow plowing required.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Talley, Wadsworth, Webb, Williams

Nays - None

Motion Carried Unanimously

- D. **Res. #20-339** Moved by **Eva Webb**, seconded by **Tina Talley** to concur with the administration and award Bid ITB 20/21-05 to the most responsive bidder, Davenport Masonry, Inc., for phased structural façade repairs of the north elevation of Fire Station #4 located at 28777 Eureka Road in the amount of \$131,250.00 with an additional \$15,000.00 contingency to cover unforeseen work for a total of \$146,250.00.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Talley, Wadsworth, Webb, Williams

Nays - None

Motion Carried Unanimously

6. Clerk's Report – Ellen L. Craig-Bragg, Clerk

- A. **Res. #20-340** Moved by **Virginia Williams**, seconded by **William Wadsworth** to adopt a resolution thanking Judge David Parrot for his years of service as judge of the 34th District Court.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Talley, Wadsworth, Webb, Williams

Nays - None

Motion Carried Unanimously

Res. #20-341 Moved by **Tina Talley**, seconded by **William Wadsworth** to approve the Introduction and First Reading of Amendments to City Code of Ordinance, Chapter VIII; Section 8-20, Section 8-212, Section 8-230(a); Section 8-246.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Talley, Wadsworth, Webb, Williams

Nays - None

Motion Carried Unanimously

- B. **Res. #20-342** Moved by **Eva Webb**, seconded by **Kathy Abdo** to approve the Second Reading and Final Adoption of Budget Amendment 20/21-11 DPW, introduced at the 12/7/2020 regular City Council Meeting, to recognize Grant Contribution from SEMCOG and reducing General Fund Balance of \$7,260.00.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Talley, Wadsworth, Webb, Williams

Nays - None

Motion Carried Unanimously

- C. **Res. #20-343** Moved by **William Wadsworth**, seconded by **Eva Webb** to approve the Second Reading and Final Adoption of Budget Amendment 20/21-12 Clerk, introduced at the 12/7/2020 regular City Council Meeting, to recognize grant revenue and expenditure for the grant awarded on September 23, 3030 for CTCL, Safe and Secure Election.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Talley, Wadsworth, Webb, Williams

Nays - None

Motion Carried Unanimously

- D. Attorney Hitchcock spoke on his communication with City Council in reference to the continuation of electronic meetings under Public Act 228 of 2020. He informed City Council that a possible resolution may be submitted to trigger a provision in the statute that would allow City Council meetings to continue to be conducted electronically.

7. **Treasurer's Report – Stacy Paige, Treasurer**

Treasurer Paige updated residents on a new service that will conveniently allow the telephonic and/or online payment for utility and tax bills. This service is available through the city website 24/7. Treasurer Paige reminded the listening audience that any inquiries or questions can be directed to her office.

8. **Public Comment** - Citizens are to limit their comments to three (3) minutes. All citizens wishing to speak will be heard.

CEO and publisher of Telegram News asked questions to City Council in reference to the approval of the bid awarded to Associated Newspaper at the 12/7/20 City Council meeting.

9. **Unfinished Business**

Councilperson Wadsworth added two additional organizations to donate to that he forgot to include under the Chairperson's Report. Councilperson Williams spoke to ways to donate to Forgotten Harvest. She also objected to the "Act of God" opinion from the City Attorney and objected to the official newspaper bid awarded to Associated Newspaper in response to the public comment of the CEO/publisher of Telegram News.

10. **New Business**

Councilperson Williams read the congratulatory resolution for Judge-Elect Lisa Martin into the record.

11. **Warrant**

- A. **Res. #20-344** Moved by **Kathy Abdo**, seconded by **Tina Talley** to approve Warrant #: 20-23 Checks presented in the amount of \$1,394,824.21.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Talley, Wadsworth, Webb, Williams

Nays - None

Motion Carried Unanimously

12. **Communication**

Councilperson Williams spoke on Council making a resolution to continue a moratorium on water shut-off until April of 2021. She also reminded residents that Forgotten Harvest will be at the Romulus High School on 12/15/20 from 12-3pm. Councilperson Talley commented on the conversation referencing the official newspaper bid and stressed the dangerous conditions and impact that COVID-19 presents and presented to everyone. Councilperson Talley also reminded residents that the Wayne Co. CARES Grant deadline is 12/15/20. She also thanked John Osborne of Osborne Concrete for donating thousands of dollars to the Romulus school district; which, with the collaboration of the owner of Motor City Meats, provided food certificates for a Christmas Bundle Package to students as well as to the Ministerial Alliance. She thanked everyone for their kindness. She also thanked Bryan O'Connor of the Fire Department for his coordination of the Mask-up Initiative in providing 250 masks to United Church of Faith Methodist, whom she forgot to mention in the last City Council Meeting. Councilperson Wadsworth added that John Osborne of Osborne Concrete has been a staple and contributor to the city for many years. Mayor Pro-Tem Barden commented on the need to patronize businesses in the city.

13. Adjournment

Moved by **William Wadsworth**, seconded by **Kathy Abdo** to adjourn the meeting at 9:07pm.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Talley, Wadsworth, Webb, Williams

Nays - None

Motion Carried Unanimously

I, Ellen L. Craig-Bragg, Clerk for the City of Romulus, Michigan do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of the minutes of the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council held on December 14, 2020.



Ellen L. Craig-Bragg, City Clerk
City of Romulus, Michigan