

City of South Lyon
Regular City Council Meeting
January 10, 2022

Mayor Pelchat called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Mayor Pelchat led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Councilmembers: Dilg, Kurtzweil, Kivell, Kennedy, Mosier, Hansen

Also present: City Manager Zelenak, Attorney Hamameh, Chief Sovik, Deputy Chief Weir, DDA

Director Mack, Finance and Benefit Administrator Tiernan, and Clerk/Treasurer Deaton

MINUTES

Councilmember Kennedy stated you need to add Dilg as the person that supported the motion on page 6.

CM 1-1-22 MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES

Motion by Kennedy, supported by Dilg

Motion to approve the minutes as amended

VOTE: MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

BILLS

CM 1-2-22 MOTION TO APPROVE THE BILLS

Motion by Kennedy, supported by Dilg

Motion to approve the bills as presented

VOTE: MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

AGENDA

CM 1-3-22 MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA

Motion by Dilg, supported by Kennedy

Motion to approve the agenda as presented

VOTE: MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CONSENT AGENDA

1. 2022 City Council Meeting Schedule
2. Lake Street Cruise-In 2022
3. Board of Review retirement- Gary Beasley
4. Board of Review appointment0 Judy Seybert
5. Budget Amendment

CM 1-4-22 MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Kurtzweil, supported by Kennedy

Motion to approve the consent agenda as presented

VOTE: MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

PUBLIC COMMENT- No comments were made

DISCUSSION- Downtown

Downtown Director Nate Mack stated the DDA board will be meeting this Thursday at 8:00 a.m. at City Hall. He then stated he received 13 resumes for the Farmers Market Manager and he will be setting up interviews soon. He stated the clock downtown will be fixed soon, and it should only take 2 weeks to complete. He then explained 3 members of the DDA will be joining a focus board with the schools to

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discuss what they would like to see as small business owners. The Oakland County Parks and Recreation grant is almost complete and we will find out if we are successful in April. Part of the requirements is 25% of matching funds from the city. He then stated the Main Street Oakland County Assessment will be taking place in February. We will be moving up in the program. He then stated he is working on the DTE charging stations. Councilmember Dilg stated she is involved with the local Civitan club and they are considering having a youth market, and maybe they can do something with the Farmers Market. Mr. Mack stated they normally do have some young entrepreneur's booth at the Market.

FIRE CHIEF REPORT

Deputy Chief Weir stated they had 1,053 calls by the end of 2021 which is a 20% increase from the previous years. He thanked all the firefighters for their hard work and dedication. They are working hard and he congratulated them on another successful year. He then congratulated Firefighter Tim McGillen who has been serving the South Lyon Fire Department since January 1998 and he has been elected Firefighter of the Year Award.

POLICE CHIEF REPORT

Chief Sovik stated their Cadet Allison Ciochon who has been with us since 2019, is leaving for the Schoolcraft Police Academy and she has a fantastic work ethic and will do a great job wherever she ends up. He then thanked her for her service.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

1. Administration Building Renovation- Presentation

City Manager Zelenak explained that we have been working with South Lyon Schools to make repairs and improvements to the building that is jointly occupied by both entities. South Lyon Schools have already received and approved bids for the upcoming repairs. The proposed work will be paid for in the 2022-2023 budget. Jeff Atkins of Barton Malow stated his company was hired to be the construction manager for the work. He then gave a presentation regarding the project. The building was built in 1998 and just as when your home gets older there are updates needed. He then explained we plan on replacing the roof, mechanical units, some windows, some exterior doors, along with work on the parking lot, some sidewalks, and exterior lighting. He then they went out for a public bid and the plan is for the roof and mechanical work to be completed in the spring, then in the fall we'll do the parking lot, sidewalks, windows and doors. Doing the more invasive work in the fall with the cooler temperatures will make this project not as invasive while the employees are working. He stated the cost is approximately 1.7 million dollars with the school paying 58.5% and the city paying 41.95%. Councilmember Kurtzweil asked if there has been any consideration on having the filters installed that filter out the coronavirus, there are a few different ones available. Mr. Atkins stated he isn't aware of any conversations regarding the filters have taken place, but they could always be replaced at a later time. Councilmember Kivell stated he hopes the mechanical climate control system in the auditorium will be looked at as well, it is very loud when it kicks on and you're trying to have a meeting. Mr. Atkins stated he will follow up on that. Councilmember Hansen asked if solar panels had been considered. Mr. Atkins stated that did not come up in conversations. City Manager Zelenak stated he will follow up in the future with Council to keep them updated.

2. Emergency purchase of new lift station pump for Trotter's Point lift station

Superintendent Varney stated the explosion-proof submersible pump for the lift station at Trotter's Point had a recent failure. The pump manufactured by Sulzer, formerly ABS was pulled and replaced so it could be taken to Detroit Pump for tear down and analysis. We currently do not have a spare and if there were a failure the station would require a pump to be rented at a substantial cost. There is a pump available for purchase through Detroit Pump and this is a budgeted expenditure that can be purchased in the amount of \$17,127.00 not including the freight charge. He then stated the purchase can be expensed using Equipment Miscellaneous account 592-557-977.

CM 1-5-22 MOTION TO WAIVE BID PROCESS

Motion by Kennedy, supported by Kurtzweil

Motion to waive Sec. 2-224 of the City of South Lyon City Code of Ordinances, approval of purchases or contracts over \$2,000; competitive bidding for purchases or bidding over \$5,000 because "no advantage to the city will result from competitive bidding.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Mosier- Yes
Hansen- Yes
Kurtzweil- Yes
Kennedy- Yes
Dilg- Yes
Kivell- Yes
Pelchat- Yes

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CM 1-6-22 MOTION TO APPROVE PURCHASE OF SULZER SUBMERSIBLE PUMP

Motion by Kennedy, supported by Kurtzweil

Motion to approve the purchase of a new explosion proof Sulzer submersible pump for the lift station at Trotter's Point for \$17,127.00 under line item 592-557-997

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Hansen- Yes
Kurtzweil- Yes
Mosier- Yes
Kennedy- Yes
Kivell- Yes
Dilg- Yes
Pelchat- Yes

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Purchase of SCBA equipment from Apollo Fire Equipment

Deputy Chief Weir stated in January of last year, Council approved approximately \$149,000 for the SCBA equipment which we have now taken delivery of. Since then, we found out we received a grant. With that grant, it was increased to 26 SCBA's. We currently have the 17 and we are on order for the remaining 9. Apollo Fire Equipment has sent us an invoice and they have been holding the invoice since January 2021 in hopes we would have received the FEMA dollars, which we haven't. They have sent us an invoice for the ones that we have currently as well as the ones on order. When we receive the FEMA grant monies, the city will be responsible for approximately \$18,200.00

CM 1-7-22 MOTION TO APPROVE PURCHASE OF 26 SCBA EQUIPMENT

Motion by Kivell, supported by Kennedy

Motion to approve the purchase of 26 SCBA equipment in the amount of \$182,000 under account line item 101-335-977-000

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Kennedy- Yes
 Kivell- Yes
 Dilg- Yes
 Hansen- Yes
 Mosier- Yes
 Kurtzweil- Yes
 Pelchat- Yes

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CM 1-8-22 MOTION TO APPROVE BUDGET AMENDMENT

Motion by Kennedy, supported by Dilg

Motion to amend the fiscal year 2021-2022 budget to increase the general fund, Fire Department expenditures by \$182,000 under account line item 101-335-000-977-000

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Kurtzweil- Yes
 Kennedy- Yes
 Dilg- Yes
 Kivell- Yes
 Hansen- Yes
 Mosier- Yes
 Pelchat- Yes

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. SRO agreement- South Lyon Community Schools

City Manager Zelenak explained that after the horrific events that occurred in the Oxford School District over a month ago, our officers have been providing additional security in the 2 middle schools in town. We have provided the service based upon the immediate safety need of the students and faculty. After the tragedy, there were numerous threats within the county and within South Lyon schools. He then explained that our staff have been working with the schools on an agreement to provide an SRO for the 2 middle schools in our jurisdiction. He then stated the SRO will provide the requested educational support, relationship building, role modeling, a resource for families, addressing safety & security and other support as outlined in the attached agreement. City Manager Zelenak then stated the agreement reflects the cost of having our officer within the middle schools. It is computed at the current rate of pay, including all benefits. There is no additional cost included for vehicles, computers, etc. The agreement covers December 8, 2021 – June 17, 2022 and the total is \$56,500.00 The schools will provide an office, computer, telephone, desk, chair, office supplies and secretarial assistance when necessary. The officer was provided training in the past and is familiar with the assignment. He then explained that there is currently no long-term agreement being discussed, but that could change in the future. He then explained the schools will pay directly to the city the agreed upon amount, which will then be deposited into the general fund because that is where the Police Departments funding comes from. No budget amendments will be necessary other than to add a line item for the revenue. Since the Officer has been in the school, the Police Department has received dozens of compliments and acknowledgements from staff, parents and administrators. The students have been very receptive to our officers. Councilmember Kennedy stated the money coming from the school district is going into the general fund and then allocated to the Police Departments budget to cover the cost of the wages, or will there be a budget amendment later on. Finance and Benefit Administrator Tiernan verified that we will do a budget amendment at the end of the

school year, the funding will go into account 101-642 which is police miscellaneous and then the expenditures will come out of the wage and benefit line item for the Police Department. Councilmember Kennedy stated he met with Ms. Tiernan earlier today and he asked for the cost of officer's investment actually consists of, meaning the wages, benefits and support we provide in the form of equipment, training and so forth. He then stated going through the discussion, she explained that is a difference between the GASB accounting requirements and those that take place in a cost accounting approach. It is not easy and very cumbersome to implement if that structure isn't already in place, and it requires a lot of detail and that is why most communities do not do that. He then stated we may want to look into that at a later date. Councilmember Dilg asked if the officer is on vacation, or on sick leave, do we have to replace him with a sub. Chief Sovik stated we currently provide the service of walking through all of the schools at different times of the day, as well as arrival and dismissal. If the SRO is off duty, we will just ramp up our walk throughs. Councilmember Dilg asked what will the process would be if the SRO quit or retired. Chief Sovik stated he doesn't see a concern about that, but if that happened, we would replace him with someone else. Councilmember Dilg asked who the SRO's supervisor would be. Chief Sovik stated he is the supervisor, but we see it as a partnership with the schools. Councilmember Dilg stated she endorses this whole heartedly and it is a wonderful thing and she appreciates him working on this contract, because there are psychologically and emotionally and physically important for our students and our staff and she appreciates it. Councilmember Kivell stated he was taken aback when this was revealed at the December 13th meeting because he would have thought a blurb might have gone out to inform people what was taking place. He then stated as a matter of not being blindsided by the public having a better understanding of what's going on than people on Council. That was disappointing. He further stated he supports the idea of having an SRO, but he is grappling with the notion that the school district is comprised of 8 municipalities and it will be our officer in there and we are having a revenue stream less than we pay to that officer. The difference is \$2,000. He finds it hard to believe the schools wouldn't give that to make us revenue neutral. Why hasn't that been pursued. Chief Sovik stated what isn't being taken into account is the fact our officer has some personal days and vacation days scheduled off, so if you presented the numbers that you presented, you are talking 6 days he will not be off. If you want to talk dollars and cents, we are making out in the deal. Councilmember Kivell stated it is marginal, which is why it wasn't looked at. Councilmember Kurtzweil stated she wants to applaud Chief Sovik for everything he has done putting the contract together. She has spoken with him, as well as the City Manager and Finance and Benefit Administrator Tiernan and it appears, it was all hands-on deck with this project. It is unfortunate the school board didn't plan on this SRO and they waited for a tragedy before they decided to replace the SRO. She further stated the parents and teachers are very proud of the 3 of them because she is sure they have been under a lot of pressure as well. She further stated maybe the school district will plan a little better in the fall. She applauded Councilmember Kennedy for looking at all the costs and she looked at the expenditure, and with any ledger the wages and benefits are the highest, and as the line items go down, generally so does the costs. She then stated given the time constraint, if we can cover the majority of the costs for 6 months, she looks at this as a business decision, it is a win, win for all parties. The schools get an SRO and the city is reimbursed for wages and benefits. She then stated a miniscule amount of money shouldn't be something to stop this contract. She further stated if the district doesn't like the number we present, they have other options, such as the Oakland County Sheriff's office, or Salem Township and see if they would charge less, or they could bid this out, this is their line item. She stated Councilmember Kivell provided some numbers that showed there should be \$1,999 higher than it is. She then stated the difference is 3.5% that may not be covered, and she will not turn this contract down because it isn't significant enough. Chief Sovik stated he was part of the meeting with Councilmember Kennedy earlier in the day and he appreciates that each councilmember brings something different to the table and you all make a whole council. He stated Councilmember Kennedy always looks

at the numbers to ensure they are fair and, in their conversations, which sometimes weren't perfect, but everyone was allowed to be heard. Councilmember Hansen stated as a husband of a teacher, this strikes home to him and he is very happy to see that this something the community has gotten behind.

CM 1-9-22 MOTION TO APPROVE CONTRACT

Motion by Kurtzweil, supported by Kennedy

Motion to approve the agreement between the City of South Lyon and South Lyon Schools to provide School Resource Officer in the schools for the remainder of the year

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Kurtzweil- Yes

Hansen- Yes

Mosier- Yes

Kennedy- Yes

Dilg- Yes

Kivell- Yes

Pelchat - Yes

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

BUDGET- No discussion was held

PUBLIC COMMENT- No comments were made

MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Zelenak stated at a future meeting we will be setting the budget meeting dates. He then stated he has interviewed candidates for the Fire Chief position and we will be doing background and reference checks in the upcoming week. He then reminded Council to get their lists of goals and objectives for the city for the 2022-2023 budget year. Councilmember Kurtzweil asked if the city has access to rapid covid testing. Finance and Benefit Administrator Tiernan stated we have an account with Healthy Urgent Care. There is one located in town, New Hudson and Novi. Our employees can get a rapid test at any time. If the employee is part time and doesn't have our insurance, the city will cover the charge for the test and they charge us a lower rate than the average citizen. Councilmember Kurtzweil stated she was concerned and wanted to make sure part time people are able to have access without paying for it. She then asked about PCRs. Ms. Tiernan stated that hasn't been requested as much, but it wouldn't be an issue if someone wanted to get one.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Dilg stated she is happy to be meeting in person again and she appreciates the office staff at city hall. She stated they have been very helpful and understanding and they have helped with some personal issues she has dealt with and they showed a lot of compassion.

Councilmember Hansen stated he wanted to remind everyone with the rising case numbers that getting tested is sometimes up to a week out, same for the vaccination or booster appointments, so everyone needs to keep that in mind. He believes Rite Aid will still take walk-ins between 2-3 p.m.

Councilmember Kennedy stated he had the opportunity meet Ms. Paulina Poplawska, the new Director of the Salem-South Lyon District Library. We discussed her plans and vision for the library and to talk about what lies ahead for the library. She has some exciting ideas she would like to see added to the library's offerings to further enhance its value to our community and its residents. He stated he looks

forward to seeing what she will add to the library's resources. He then welcomed Ms. Poplawska and wished her the very best as she guides the Salem-South Lyon District Library into 2022 and beyond. He then stated he is delighted that the contract for providing an SRO to the South Lyon Community Schools has been approved and will be presented to the School Superintendent. If Mr. Archibald and the School Board agree to accept the contract, they will have the services of the best police officers and police department protecting our students and school personnel at the two middle schools, and he hopes they agree to do so.

Councilmember Mosier stated everyone needs to be safe and it will probably get worse before it gets better.

Councilmember Kivell stated it is nice to be back in person. He enjoyed the convenience of being in a meeting from home, but the fidelity and relationships are kind of compromised from that. He then stated he is hoping this will be another strong year for us, we've got a lot of things going in the right direction. We are turning things around; we had a real deficit of progress for a long time and we have a lot of irons in the fire and they are all moving in the right direction. He stated he is looking forward to where things go and we need to keep the pedal to the metal and make this all happen. He then stated we need to make people understand, there is a lot of stuff they can get engaged in and we need to groom the volunteer spirit. You don't need to have an extra lot of time to end up being engaged in something that is constructive and that can help the community. Whether it's helping the landscape or fixing someone's window or anything. He wants us to focus on getting the message out that people need help, and they need someone to step up to the plate help them.

Mayor Pelchat stated we have a lot of great things that happen in our community and we have seen a drop in the number of volunteers in the last few years. Mayor Pelchat stated they had planned on a little one coming on December 27th, but the baby had other plans. We didn't know if it was going to be a boy or girl, but we found out at 7:00 a.m. Christmas morning we were having a baby girl and her name is Laney May Pelchat and we are very happy and we have a couple of great sets of grandparents that are nearby and already jockeying for baby time. He then stated he hopes everyone had a great holiday season and it is great to be back in person. He then thanked everyone for their professionalism tonight and getting through this in a relatively quick manner.

ADJOURNMENT

CM 1-10-22 MOTION TO ADJOURN MEETING

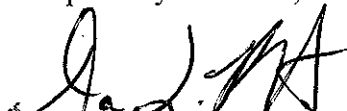
Motion by Kurtzweil


Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 p.m.

VOTE:

MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,


Mayor Dan Pelchat


City Clerk Lisa Deaton