

Regular City Council Meeting
June 13, 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: Mayor Pelchat and Councilmembers: Dilg, Kurtzweil, Kivell, Kennedy, Mosier, Hansen

Also present: City Manager Zelenak, Fire Chief Thorington, Chief Sovik, Lieutenant Baaki, Finance and Benefit Administrator Tieman, DDA Director Mack, Clerk/Treasurer Deaton and Director Varney

MINUTES- 5-23-2022

Councilmember Kivell stated on page 2, his statement should include that the development was not approved, not just tabled.

CM 6-1-22 MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES AS AMENDED

Motion by Kivell, supported by Kennedy

Motion to approve the minutes as amended

VOTE: MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

BILLS

CM 6-2-22 MOTION TO APPROVE BILLS

Motion by Kennedy, supported by Mosier

Motion to approve the bills as presented

VOTE: MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

AGENDA

CM 6-3-22 MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Dilg, supported by Hansen

Motion to approve the agenda as presented

VOTE: MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Dorothy Street Block Party
2. Pumpkinfest 2022 – downtown road closures
3. 2022 Pumpkinfest parade
4. Peoples Express Contract
5. Resolution establishing polices and guidelines for granting poverty exemption from payment of property taxes

CM 6-4-22 MOTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Kurtzweil, supported by Kennedy

Motion to approve the consent agenda as presented

VOTE: MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

PUBLIC COMMENT

Frank Fogarty of 61349 Roaring Brooke Drive stated he wanted to update everyone on the First Responder Memorial. He stated the ad-hoc committee have been fundraising and we currently have about \$7,800.00 to go toward the memorial. He stated on June 25th they will have a First Responders Day with games and fire engines. Memorial coins will be available for purchase as well, they are \$25.00 per coin. He then stated we will be having a motor cycle ride, and we have made contact with major corporations, and they will be meeting with them to discuss major fundraising and how to recognize the donors. He

further stated we will also have a trifold that will be ready for distribution which will include the history of the memorial and how people can donate.

Kathy Swan of 44 Woodland Place stated she is here to represent Pumpkinfest as well as Relay for Life, on behalf of the American Cancer Society. She stated they will be having an event on August 20th from 12:00 – 3:00 p.m. at the Church of Christ across from Tim Horton's. She stated they will have food trucks, and a luminary walk. She stated cancer touches everyone's life in one way or another and everyone is welcome to participate.

DISCUSSION- Downtown

DDA Director Nate Mack stated the Farmers Market has been really strong, we are using both lots and still receiving requests daily for new vendors. He then stated the DDA met last week and he and Dereck gave a presentation regarding the National Main Street Conference they attended. He further stated he will be giving Council a presentation at a future meeting, but he will update Council on a few things. He stated one session was based on utilizing social media for economic development and we learned about a 12-week fundraising program. There was also discussion regarding taking charge of real estate development in our community and thinking like a developer as well as putting together teams to try to push economic development. He stated he met with other Main Street Oakland County communities to discuss some of the things from the conference, and they were reaching out to see how they can help us implement some of the things discussed at the conference. He then stated the DDA downtown vitality committee is working with Oakland County to put together a retail list of businesses we would like in our downtown, and they are utilizing data supplied by Oakland County. Mr. Mack stated the 135 E Lake building, formerly the RCA building may be seeking an extension on the abatement deadline, unfortunately they've had a lot of issues getting supplies and contractors to get things done. He further said they are working with the building department on the extension timeline. Councilmember Hansen asked if Mr. Mack could reach out to Oakland County Road Commission about the cleanliness of our streets, from downtown all the way to 9 Mile. There is a lot of dirt and debris everywhere. Mr. Mack responded he would look into it.

FIRE CHIEF REPORT

Fire Chief Thorington stated up to date, they have responded to 479 incidents. They recently assisted Lyon Township with a residential fire, Northfield Township for a barn fire, and most recently we had a downed power line on a dump truck with the driver inside. DTE responded quickly and they were able to get him out safely. He then stated the Fire Marshall has reviewed many site plans and site inspections. He then stated they had another training session at the burn building that went very well. He said they are in the process of bringing in a new firefighter, and we had two cadets just graduate the Howell High Fire Academy; Charlese Stanley and Zoe Noechel. They will be seniors next year and go through the EMT class. He further stated our firefighters worked with the American Red Cross who supplied the fire detectors and went door to door in South Lyon Woods installing them, and gave some education on fire safety and winter and ice hazards. The ladder truck is still in process and some of the firefighters are going to see it on June 16th in Charlotte. He then stated they received 8 sets of turnout gear from a grant from Fire House Subs in the amount of \$23,704.00 and we will be receiving another grant for hats and boots. Mayor Pelchat stated he is enjoying the updates on the training on social media.

POLICE CHIEF REPORT

Lieutenant Baaki stated they are now interviewing for the admin coordinator position, and they are also looking for cadets. We had a couple interviews but are looking for more. He then stated they have not been updated on the truck they ordered in November. Councilmember Kurtzweil asked if they are getting qualified candidates for the admin position. Lieutenant Baaki stated they do have some with experience,

and some do have some experience with the LEIN system. They all have experience working with the public and we have some good experience. Councilmember Kurtzweil asked if the city is comparable with wages. Lieutenant Baaki stated we are comparable to other communities. Councilmember Kurtzweil stated she wants to make sure we are competitive so we can find someone that wants to stay, and not just stay until they find a better paying position. She then asked if the only way to change the salary is to open the contract. Lieutenant Baaki stated it is a union position, and the rate of pay is set, but he feels we are competitive in pay, and they all seem to want to be here in the city. Councilmember Kennedy asked when we are getting another shipment of challenge coins. Lieutenant Baaki stated we received them this week. Councilmember Hansen stated during the power outage, he was checking social media and found a twitter page from 2019. Lieutenant Baaki stated they don't use twitter anymore, the PD is now using Facebook, and Nixle.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Road bond ballot proposal- discussion

City Manager Zelenak stated the city has been preparing information to educate the public on the upcoming road ballot proposal. We are using several different methods of communication to educate the public such as the website, the news feed lists the ballot proposal language and frequently asked questions. We have also included under the road improvement plan tab also includes the PASER rating report, the ballot language, road cross sections, and a facts page. Additional information will be added so people can compute their tax increase based on their taxable value. We currently have numerous places at city hall that people can see the ballot proposal, and a display of the road core samples, which identify current subdivision cores, and an example of what a proper road segment core should look like. Utility bills were sent out in April with a mention of the road improvement plan and the July bill will contain a note identifying the August 2nd Election and the proposal. The city sign at McHattie Park also has a message that says road ballot proposal. He further stated we will be having public informational meetings in the month of July. The meetings will be held as an "open house" at city hall, one during the week in the late afternoon/evening, and one on a Saturday morning or afternoon.

Roland Alix, Mike Darga of HRC gave a powerpoint presentation. ***Please see full powerpoint presentation on the city's website, www.southlyonmi.org, as well as attached to the council minutes*** He then introduced Josh Murphy who is a city resident and on the road committee. Mr. Murphy stated he lives in Trotters Point, and he is a flight instructor out of Ann Arbor. He then stated the roads are not in good commission, and when he found a chance to help give back to the community, and hopefully improve our roads if the bond is passed, and so he joined the road committee. He stated they have come up with frequently asked questions, as well as verified figures and graphics so residents can understand. He stated at the public outreach meetings in July, we hope to inform the public of the tax increase, but we also want everyone to understand it will also enhance the value of our property including the wear and tear on our vehicles. Part of the presentation discussed the PASER study, which shows that 95% of our roads are not in good shape and less than 5% of our roads are in fair condition. He then stated without significant work on the roads, in 10 years or so, they could be down to gravel. He further stated with the ACT 51 money, and if the bond is approved, in 10 years, there would be a lot of improvement in the roads, as well as preventative maintenance. Mayor Pelchat thanked everyone for all their work on this, and thanked them for making this easy to understand. Councilmember Dilg asked who will be attending the public informational meetings. She then asked what Council should say if people want to know which roads will be fixed first. Mr. Alix stated we should rely on the PASER study and look at the actual data, pavement cores which look below the surface. He then stated it isn't political, we will be transparent, so we hit the highest priority first, as well as spread it out throughout the city. He further stated Mike Darga, himself and other members of the road committee meeting will be attending the meetings, along with the City Manager. Councilmember Dilg asked if someone lives on a private street, and they ask why they should vote for the bond, what should Council's response be. Mr. Alix stated the

honest answer is you are a part of South Lyon and everyone lives here has needs, and if a subdivision is not city owned, it is for the greater good, people drive on streets other than their private streets. It is a tough sell, but he hopes people understand the need. City Manager Zelenak stated property values are different and if the streets are in bad condition, people will not want to live and work here. City Manager Zelenak stated the frequently asked questions are available online as well as at city hall. City Manager Zelenak stated everyone needs to understand, this is a beginning to the road plan, and if someone's street isn't on the first list, it will be later, and if we continue to do nothing, they will all continue to get worse. Also, the worst streets should be fixed first. Councilmember Kennedy thanked everyone that joined the road committee. He then stated when people ask what is in it for them, you talk about property values, and improving the quality of life in the city, voting for a road bond is similar to voting for a school bond, if you don't have kids in school or not, good schools make for a good enticing community for people to move to. He further stated in 2026, Pontiac Trail will be fixed, and what is the time frame for the drainage issue to be corrected. City Manager Zelenak stated we are planning on having that corrected and incorporated with the road plan. Councilmember Kennedy stated the road commission was out cold patching on Pontiac Trail and we don't want to keep kicking the can down the road. Councilmember Hansen asked if the public will be able to voice their concerns or questions at public information meetings. City Manager Zelenak stated they will be able to ask questions of city personnel, HRC or himself at the meetings, but it won't be a popularity contest, meaning just because more people show up for one street, it won't get fixed first. We have to go by the data and the PASER results. We have to make sure we are taking care of the water and sewer drains before or during when the roads are being taken care of. Councilmember Kurtzweil thanked the team that have worked on this and to Josh for joining the committee. She further stated what she has learned is the seniors are from a generation that want to know why. She stated you are giving them good information on why a road plan is needed. Even though there are private developments, they have to leave their development and drive on the city streets, and as long as the money is needed, she thinks the seniors will get it. She hopes that is the trend that will continue. She hopes everyone focuses on the longer view of what needs to be done in the city. She then stated, there are groups the road committee to meet with, along with meeting with everyone at the Center for Active Seniors, as well as meeting with Colonial Acres at their board meeting. She then asked about the 20% match for Pontiac Trail and 80% by the road commission. She asked if the city will have enough money to meet that in 2026. City Manager Zelenak stated we have enough, we can use part of the ACT 51 monies. Mr. Axil from HRC verified that only the bond money can be used for residents' streets in the city, ACT 51 monies can be used toward county roads. Councilmember Kivell stated we need to correct the storm drainage problem before working on Pontiac Trail. City Manager Zelenak stated we are still waiting for the result of that report. We will be working on that to get as much money for that particular project, and we want to get it done at the same time. Councilmember Kivell stated he agrees that the majority of people will understand the need for the improvements to be done. He stated the benefit of the improvements may not be immediate for everyone, but the values in our community will be soaring because our roads haven't been touched in 20 years. Everyone will have the benefit of the improvements as time goes on. Councilmember Kennedy asked if Dorothy and McMunn will also have to wait for 2026 since they are federal roads. Mr. Darga stated it will be after 2026. Councilmember Kennedy asked for the interim plan. We need to do something; they are terrible roads. City Manager Zelenak stated we have 95% of our roads that are in bad condition. He further stated we try to get federal funds, but you are competing with other busier roads for the funds. Mayor Pelchat stated the facts are clear, we need to get the information out to our residents, because it seems things are going to continually get more expensive. Councilmember Kivell stated the other side of the argument is the only people that will have a hard time with the bond would be if you are already struggling with inflation and their other bills. Councilmember Hansen asked how the residents will be notified if and when their streets will be worked on. Mr. Alix stated they will have public notices go out to residents, they will be notified of detours and when and where they will need to park.

2. Intergovernmental agreement- amendment

City Manager Zelenak stated the City of South Lyon, South Lyon Schools, and Lyon Township originally approved an Interlocal Agreement in April 2021 for a new sidewalk on Pontiac Trail and Marjorie Ann. The civil engineering design work was completed, estimates were completed and an original agreement was approved based upon those estimates. We budgeted \$35,000 to pay for our portion of the project. Since then, we received bids which were in excess of the original estimates, and rebid the work again. We have now received a favorable bid from a local contractor that reflects a cost of \$50,211.97.

CM 6-5-22 MOTION TO APPROVE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT

Motion by Kennedy, supported by Kurtzweil

Motion to approve the amendment to the interlocal agreement between the City of South Lyon, South Lyon Schools, and Lyon Township to complete the sidewalk and crosswalks at Pontiac Trail and Marjorie Ann. Acct #101-451-802-190

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NEW BUSINESS

1. Perimeter fencing at the water plant

Director Varney stated the water treatment plant is nearing its first phase of completion. He stated it has been discovered recently that the city is not required to have three strand barbed wire as the initial plans were designed. He then stated, the new additional fencing would result in a change order to demo the entire perimeter of 3 strand barbed wire fencing and install approximately 940 lineal feet of 8’ high vinyl coated commercial grade fencing to match that which was installed at the water tower on Mill Street in 2019. He further stated with the credit and applicable mark-ups the newly installed fencing could be accomplished for the amount of \$60,876.94 Bids have been received for Council to review. Councilmember Kurtzweil stated her understanding is the barbed wire was for security issues and it was from the government. Mr. Varney stated it is no longer required, and we have other security measures above and beyond. Councilmember Kurtzweil stated for anyone interested, there are other enhanced security issues that are taking place of the barbed wire fencing. Councilmember Hansen stated he appreciates this because the residents weren’t happy about having barbed wire fencing. Councilmember Kivell stated he is happy about this, especially considering how old and rusted the barbed wire fencing was.

CM 6-6-22 MOTION TO APPROVE PURCHASE

Motion by Kennedy, supported by Kivell

Motion to approve the purchase of new perimeter fencing for the water treatment plant for \$60,876.94 under line item 592-452-802

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Purchase and installation of overhead radiant unit heater at DPW garage
 Director Varney stated the overhead heating unit located in the garage had a recent failure and needs to be replaced. He further stated the current heater had reached the end of its useful life. The Operations and Maintenance Supervisor, Jeff Archey has met with several companies to discuss options and three quotes are attached for Council to review. They recommend Lakeside Service as they have already replaced several unit heaters in the garage along with the main furnace in the admin building.

CM 6-7-22 MOTION TO APPROVE PURCHASE

Motion by Kivell, supported by Kennedy

Motion to approve the purchase and installation of a new unit heater for the maintenance garage at the Department of Public Works for the amount of \$5,478.99

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Renewal of contract for assessing services
 City Manager Zelenak explained we have received the new contract with Oakland County for assessing services for the City of South Lyon. The rate is \$15.31 per real property parcels, and \$12.54 per personal property parcels. The contract runs from July 1 2022-June 30 2023 and reflects a 4% increase.

CM 6-8-22 MOTION TO APPROVE ASSESSING CONTRACT

Motion by Kivell, supported by Kennedy

Motion to approve Oakland County to handle assessing related duties for the City of South Lyon from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023 from account # 101-200-802

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. Peoples Express Contract
 City Manager Zelenak stated we have received the new contract with People's Express. The contract has been updated per the recommendation of the City Attorney. They have also added a rider fare increase for riders going to New Hudson Walmart and Ascension Providence only. The change is from a \$2 fare per one-way trip to a \$4 fare per one-way trip. Councilmember Kivell stated this is a fair contract. Mayor Pelchat stated he thinks this is a fair contract and this is a very important service for our community.

CM 6-9-22 MOTION TO APPROVE THE PEOPLE'S EXPRESS CONTRACT

Motion by Kennedy, supported by Hansen

Motion to approve the 1-year contract with Peoples Express from account #101-295-802

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Dilg- Yes

Hansen- Yes

Kurtzweil- Yes

Kennedy- Yes

Mosier- Yes

Kivell- Yes

Pelchat- Yes

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. Purchase of 95 fire hydrant Storz caps

Fire Chief Thorington explained many of the city's fire hydrants have two Storz fittings instead of the traditional threaded fittings. He stated the Storz fittings have a rubber gasket and are quarter turn to remove. The rubber gaskets do not let air escape and on hot days, air expands and pressurizes the hydrants. When the hydrants caps are removed either by DPW or Fire, they have occasionally experienced the caps violently shooting off the hydrants, causing a safety issue. He further stated if we buy 100 of them at \$120 per piece and the DPW has offered to install them. Councilmember Hansen stated he is happy to spend tax payer's dollars for the safety of our residents, firefighters and employees. Councilmember Kurtzweil asked if the current caps will remain on the fire hydrants, and if he is only looking for an additional piece of equipment that will be compatible. Chief Thorington stated it is a new cap that has a valve to release the air. Councilmember Kurtzweil then asked if there is a difference between a Storz fitting and a dual Storz fitting, the Storz fittings have been around for a long time. Chief Thorington stated they have, but generally not on fire hydrants. Further discussion was held regarding the Storz caps.

CM 6-10-22 MOTION TO APPROVE PURCHASE

Motion by Kennedy, supported by Hansen

Motion to approve the purchase of 95 fire hydrant caps from East Jordan totaling \$12,000.00 from account #592-540-930

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Kennedy- Yes

Mosier- Yes

Kivell- Yes

Hansen- Yes

Dilg- Yes

Kurtzweil- Yes

Pelchat- Yes

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

BUDGET

Finance and Benefit Administrator Tiernan stated she wanted everyone to know the chart of accounts has been completed and we are updating the account codes in the budget. There will be no other changes, just the account codes. Councilmember Kivell asked about the sidewalk 50/50 program. City Manager Zelenak stated he will find out the information and let him know.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Judy Keeling of 62180 Arlington Circle suggested Council visit the Active Adults Center and discuss the road bond. They have a great turnout and they have a variety of people of all ages there. She then stated

the Veteran Memorial Garden looks great, everyone pitched in to have everything done before Memorial Day.

MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Zelenak stated the construction at City Hall is starting this week. He then stated the parking lot across the street from the water tank has been completed. He then stated the Council Chamber equipment has been installed and training will happen this week. He further stated we are still waiting for information regarding the ARPA funds and allowable uses. Councilmember Hansen stated he spoke with some residents recently and he stated there are some issues downtown, such as the city lamps need to be repainted, or maybe leveling some of the pavers. City Manager Zelenak stated he has been in discussions with the DDA Director regarding some improvements in the downtown. He further stated the DPW has leveled the pavers in the past and they will at a later time. Councilmember Hansen stated the clock is still showing the wrong time. City Manager Zelenak stated 3 of the 4 sides are showing the correct time. Councilmember Hansen stated the drain by Hungry Howie's need to be cleaned up and cut back. City Manager Zelenak stated he will speak with the road commission. Councilmember Kivell stated in the past, the oil change business cut back the bushes and weeds. Councilmember Kennedy asked if he was able to get a hold of the landscaper that was going to handle the entrance signs. City Manager Zelenak stated he has and two of the four signs will be cleaned up. Councilmember Kivell asked if he has any mediation regarding the intersection at Liberty and Warren, it is a very rough intersection, especially some of the bigger trucks seem to be pretty unstable. City Manager Zelenak stated the water main break extended a few hundred feet in each direction and it is a huge intersection that needs to be fixed, he thinks if they level it out a little will be helpful until it can be repaired.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Kennedy stated the Salem-South Lyon District Library will have a Touch-a-Truck event in their parking lot on Wednesday, June 22nd from 11am until 12 Noon. Registration is required so go to the library's website and sign up. The kids always enjoy it. He then stated he has some sad news to pass along tonight. Donna Olson, the former Director of the library passed away over the weekend. Donna came to the Salem-South Lyon District Library around 2015 after serving for 15 years as the Librarian for the Carnegie Library in Howell. She became the Library Director in 2016, taking over from Doreen Hannon. She oversaw the addition to the library in 2019 and then retired in 2021. Donna was such a force in our community. She truly was instrumental in helping to make the Salem-South Lyon District Library the jewel it is today. Her motto was that the "Community Always Comes First," and she surely demonstrated that in our community every day. He then passed along my condolences to her family and friends and wish them comfort as they deal with her passing. He then stated he wanted to mention that we lost another key member of our community this week with the passing of Jack Renwick. As a long-time resident of South Lyon, Jack owned several businesses in our community including the Renwick-Grimes Insurance Agency, South Lyon Laundromat, Parkside Cleaners, Best Mat, and Country Square to name a few. He also was very involved in the community, and in 1968, when South Lyon did not have an ambulance service, Jack and some fellow business owners started the South Lyon Ambulance with an old black hearse. Later, through the years South Lyon Ambulance became the Huron Valley Ambulance. From 1981-1989, Jack served on the South Lyon City Council and as Mayor of the City of South Lyon. As a public servant, Jack was also an active member of Kiwanis, Operation Injured Soldiers (serving as a board member), the South Lyon Chamber of Commerce and the South Lyon Economic Development Committee just to name a few. He then passed along his condolences to his wife, Janet, his family and his friends and wish them comfort during this difficult time.

Councilmember Kurtzweil stated she would like to send her sympathy and condolences to the Renwick family regarding the passing of Jack. He was an absolutely incredible businessman and clearly a

contributor to the South Lyon Community you will never forget. If you ever met Jack, and had a chance to speak with him, he was so kind, and wanted everyone to do their best to make the community the best it can be. Jack also started the South Lyon Ambulance Company, but his best-known business is Parkside Cleaners which is still in business, which his daughter Pam is now running. She further stated Jack served on City Council, then Mayor, then again on City Council. Jack's most recent public service was his work with Operation Wounded Soldiers. She stated she can't think of any other commitment one can make than to support and raise funds for Americans that have been injured defending this country. He was very associated with them and it is clear many individuals that are affiliated with that organization attended the funeral and they were there for the final ride past Park Side Cleaners. She then stated his commitment to the community and to American soldiers made him one of a kind. One of a kind, we may not see again, but it would be great to have a thousand of him living in South Lyon. Our community was blessed to have you in the area, and blessings go to the family and Jan and Pam. She then stated he is now home with Steve.

Councilmember Hansen stated he will be attending the Touch a Truck event representing Vibe Credit Union and it will be a great event, Wednesday the 22nd of June at 11:00 – Noon. He then reminded everyone you have to register for the event before attending. It is a great opportunity for the kids to see the emergency service vehicles, utility and construction vehicles. He is looking forward to seeing everyone there.

Councilmember Mosier offered her condolences to the Renwick family. She had the opportunity to work with Jack several times, and he was truly a gentleman in every sense of the word. She then thanked Dayna and Craig Johnston and all the volunteers that helped with the Memorial Day Parade and the service at the Cemetery. She stated we don't know what we would do without our volunteers, and of course we still need a lot more.

Councilmember Dilg stated it is hard for her to talk about Farmers Market and other things, because she has some more important things weighing on her mind. She then stated she attended a march for our lives event and if you are not familiar with these, they are organized by teens and pre-teens / students to address gun violence issues. Many of them spoke and what they said was heart wrenching. Hearing their fears about going to school and other events was extremely difficult to hear. She stated she thought, "what are we doing? We are terrorizing these kids – we are failing them." She is talking about gun issues, and that she has been a previous gun owner and was married to a State Trooper and a Michigan National Guard Military Policeman. She further stated she is very well educated with guns and not against the Second Amendment in any way. She just doesn't want people to think she is this crazy person screaming about guns and know nothing about them. She stated people might think, why is she talking about this National issue at a small city council meeting? But it's because it is local. What we do or don't do, what the school board does or doesn't do, what our police does or doesn't do, matters. If it happens here, it's going to get really local, really fast and she worries if we are doing enough. And it's not just us, but all of us. From local councils, to congress, to the President and the Presidents we've had before. This is a nonpartisan rant. No one with the power to help is doing enough and she is scared and sad. And she is furious that the next day after the mayor read his gun violence proclamation, that 19 children were slaughtered in Texas. There have been at least 5 more mass shootings since then. Since we last sat here. We have to fix this at every level, but we are so divided and so stuck on what the problem is. There are the "it's a mental health problem" crowd and as a past therapist for troubled youth, that its absolutely a mental health problem. She doesn't think anyone in their right mind goes and shoots up a group of people, especially children. But you don't just get to say it's not gun, it's a mental health issue, and walk away – you have to address it. We talk about putting police in schools, which she supports, but what

about more therapists, what about people who can actually help the students that are flagged by teachers. Why aren't we making mental health services easier to get and easier to afford for everyone. But instead of throwing money and resources at the problem, we are throwing guns. It is too easy for people with mental health issues to get weapons – we have to make that more difficult. She stated when she was married to a State Trooper, another Trooper from his post was killed by a drunk driver on the side of the road by a car. That drunk driver was caught and brought back to the State Police post and troopers were getting off duty and walking into the post and they had top brass there, disarming the police there as they walked in, because they knew that even highly trained officers who aren't in their right state of mind, should not have easy access to weapons. And thank God they did that because she doesn't know if her husband at the time would have made the right decisions in that state of mind. This is a really long way of saying we have to fix this. She hated listening to these kids about what is happening to them. She knows Congress is finally trying, but she is furious that it took this long to act and she fears it won't be enough, but she hopes she is wrong.

Mayor Pelchat thanked everyone involved with the Memorial Day Parade and that starts with Dayna Johnston and her family, the VFW and American Legion Post, the Disabled American Veterans Post. We need more people to get involved, it doesn't happen without these people and our volunteers. He hopes more people will get involved so we don't lose any of our events. He then stated he is reaching out to Lyon Township and their Planning Commission for working incredibly hard to do what most people wanted in helping to preserve our apple orchard for our community and there is a high probability that it could become a destination area for our community and small businesses as well. He then stated if anyone is upset about the subdivision that is going in across from Kent Lake School, that happened because they played to hard ball, and the developer took Lyon Township to court and won, so there are now more houses going in then they originally asked for. He further stated he is thrilled with the news about the orchard being saved, and it will be great for our growing community. He then reminded everyone that one of our small businesses, the Pinz Bowling Center is opening an arcade, and the grand opening is this Saturday, he encourages everyone to visit. They have been part of the community for a long time.

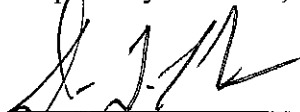
Councilmember Kivell stated he would like to start off kind of on the back of something Lisa had said, he saw something pertinent. Something to the effect of..I dream of a world where we love our children more than we love our guns. He can't imagine anything more clear that we're on a weird path. He then stated on the weekend of June 4th and 5th, they had a book exchange at the historical depot and it was very successful event and there was a room full of books and everyone was enjoying themselves. There are still more books available, so they are giving them to the three libraries in our area. He further stated it was nice of them to put the event together and he hopes it can be a repeatable event. He then stated the restorations at 501 McMunn and the water plant on Dorothy really transition the whole site and it looks wonderful. He then thanked whomever reached out to RCOC about the catch basin at 10 Mile and Warren and had them clean it out.

ADJOURNMENT

CM 6-10-22 MOTION TO ADJOURN

Motion by Kurtzweil, to adjourn meeting at 9:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Mayor Dan Pelchat



City Clerk/Treasurer Lisa Deaton