

City of South Lyon
Regular City Council Meeting
August 23, 2021

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 joined the meeting from South Lyon MI, Kurtzweil joined the meeting from South Lyon MI, and Kennedy joined the meeting from South Lyon MI, Richards joined the meeting from South Lyon MI, Walton joined the meeting from South Lyon MI, and Kivell joined the meeting from South Lyon MI

Also present: City Manager Zelenak, Attorney Hamameh, Chief Sovik, Deputy Fire Chief Weir, DDA Director Mack, Superintendent Varney and Clerk/Treasurer Deaton

Absent: Fire Chief Vogel

MINUTES 8-9-2021

CM 8-1-21 MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES

Motion by Kivell, supported by Kennedy

Motion to approve the minutes as presented

VOTE: MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

BILLS- None

AGENDA

CM 8-2-21 MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA

Motion by Kennedy, supported by Dilg

Motion to approve the agenda as submitted

VOTE: MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Downtown food truck rally

CM 8-3-21 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- There was no public comment

DISCUSSION- Downtown

Nate Mack the DDA Director stated the food truck rally is a partnership by the DDA and the Kensington Valley Chamber of Commerce. There will be different types of food, such as a vegan food truck, vegetarian, a truck that sells hot dogs, and stone fire pizza. He didn't originally want to have it Labor Day weekend, but that is the only time he could get all trucks on the same day. The Farmer's Market was full last weekend, but unfortunately the food truck wasn't able to make it due to generator issues. The University of Michigan housing bureau for seniors were there passing out information on housing for seniors. Additionally, he is assembling a budget for what Cool Yule could look like this year, there will not be huge Christmas tree this year, but SLARA will be doing the candy cane hunt as well as a parade. He then stated we have received 5 applications for the Farmers Market Manager position, and we hope to be moving forward with that process soon. He then stated he attended the third quarter economic

8-23-2021

development partners meeting for Oakland County and they updated on the different activities they are doing and the funding available for child care and helping people get back to work. Councilmember Dilg asked if he needed any help with the food truck. Mr. Mack stated he has a few volunteers but could always need more. Councilmember Dilg asked about closing the streets for the Ladies Night event, she hopes we are able to do that to give the ladies more space to operate. Mr. Mack stated he has discussed it with a few downtown retailers and he is working toward making that happen. Councilmember Richards asked how much the mural cost, who paid for it and if that is a tax deduction for the building owner. Mr. Mack stated the mural was \$5,000 and it was paid for by the business owner, and a small portion from the DDA, and it is not a tax deduction. Councilmember Kivell asked about the alcohol during the food truck rally, and who is handling that. Mr. Mack stated the Chamber is handling that. Councilmember Kivell asked about the expectations of marking off the area so people aren't walking around town with alcohol. Mr. Mack stated the parking lot will be marked off and they will have signs and people will be at the entrances. Chief Sovik stated the police will have a presence there as well.

FIRE CHIEF REPORT

Deputy Chief Weir stated we have tentatively scheduled the pre-construction meeting for the ladder truck and that's going to take place mid-September in Charlotte Michigan and he and Captain Armstrong and Sargent Buchanan will be attending. It is expected to take two days with their engineers, then we will move on to the cab chassis being built.

POLICE CHIEF REPORT

Chief Sovik welcomed the new mechanic Ryan Rose, he said he is doing a great job and has been with us for a few weeks. He then stated the veteran's memorial group is planning on a presentation for Council at the first meeting in September and they already have approximately \$5,000 pledged toward the total cost. He then discussed the speed study report for W Lake Street between Washington and Dixboro. He said the Police Department will enforce whatever the speed limit is. He further stated with over 100,000 recordings of speed, it indicated that 35 mph is an appropriate speed limit for that area. He further stated he and the city manager have had discussions with someone from the T.I.A and if we ask the MSP to do their traffic study, there is always a chance, they could raise it or lower it. He stated he recommends some things we could do to slow down the traffic, such as adding parking spots as well as well as different pedestrian crossings. He stated he spoke with someone who is familiar when the change was made to 35 mph years ago, and there have been a lot of recommendations and the representative from T.I.A. and he strongly suggested we don't move forward with having the road commission do a study because again, it could be changed to 30 or even 40 mph. Councilmember Dilg stated she doesn't understand this because it appears people aren't going over 35mph so we shouldn't change it. Chief Sovik said he recommends it staying 35mph. Councilmember Dilg stated it appears if people speed, they will be rewarded with a higher speed limit, because people will not go under the speed limit. Some of the residents that have spoken out on this issue, thought the speed limit should be lower. Chief Sovik said over the 100,000 recordings that we have had of various speeds, the 85th percentile going westbound was 39 mph and eastbound was 35. That is what the road commission will look at. Further discussion was held regarding the possibility of the speed limit being changed. City Manager Zelenak stated the 85th percentile is used because that is how they determine what the speed limit should be and people will drive based upon the speed they feel appropriate for their surroundings. Sometimes in downtown areas and the trees are close to the roads and there is parking on the streets, vehicles will normally slow down, they won't drive at an excessive speed. Councilmember Kivell stated Chief Sovik did a good job with the report and all the recommendations. He stated the idea of getting to 35mph was when you are getting closer down towards Hagadorn. If MSP were to do the same analysis, he thinks it would be the same. That is the transition point. He then stated he is stricken by the notion that they have neighbors that have

25 mph roads, and one of the distinctions is they are more apt to be pulling people over for speeding. We have a more educational view of things and if you pull someone over and you give them a warning, people don't think nearly as much about getting a ticket in South Lyon as in other cities. He then stated some people in that area have to back out of their driveway and when people are moving at 35mph it's a great deal more of a challenge. He then asked if what distance between Washington to Hagadorn is and find out what the calculation per mile that the MSP limit is. Chief Sovik stated it is approximately a mile. Councilmember Kivell stated his concern is getting the ratio of distance to points of access. He further stated if it is a quarter of a mile, if you determine how many points of access is in that and divide that distance, you would get a number which would be truer to see if we are compliant with the MSP intention was. He stated he knows some of the neighbors will be disappointed, but when people are misbehaving it would be nice for them to get caught and worry about getting a ticket, and if there is some education that can be gleaned through this with the adding of parking spots and such. He stated the misgivings that some of the neighbors have been because the road is so wide, it is a longer area to traverse and if the speed limit was a little lower, it would give them more time to cross, especially for seniors and those crossing with children.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Second reading to amend the sign ordinance to add language and requirements to permit murals in the city

Ms. McIntyre of CIB Planning stated we had the first reading of the mural ordinance at the August 9th meeting which allows murals in non-residential neighborhoods in the city. She stated we clarified the language that reflects murals are only allowed on the side walls and rear wall of buildings, not on the front facing entrance part of buildings. She further stated we also stated on the application, there is an agreement regarding the copyright of the mural. The application reflects an agreement between the artist and the city that the art work may be used for pictures and promotional information for the city.

CM 8-4-21 MOTION TO APPROVE SECOND READING

Motion by Kennedy, supported by Walton

Motion to approve the second reading of an ordinance to amend chapter 70, signs, to include a new section on murals

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Kurtzweil- Yes

Walton- Yes

Dilg- Yes

Kivell- Yes

Richards- Yes

Kennedy- Yes

Pelchat- Yes

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NEW BUSINESS

1. Main police building emergency generator

Chief Sovik stated we don't currently have a generator and when we lose power, we have to have the Water Department bring over a portable diesel generator and it is loud and we have to keep dumping diesel fuel in it. If we order now, we could have it within 4-6 months. He further stated Council did approve up to \$30,000 for a whole building generator and he is asking to purchase the Generac generator for \$26,602.50 which includes a service contract for 3 years. He further stated once the contract is signed, the company will come out and take measurements to pour the concrete pad well before the generator. They have done this many times and they can do everything ahead of time, before the generator will be here.

CM 8-5-21 MOTION TO PURCHASE WHOLE BUILDING GENERATOR AT POLICE STATION

Motion by Kivell, supported by Kennedy

Motion to approve the purchase, installation and 3-year maintenance plan for the Generac generator from Specialized Power Services, Inc in the amount of \$26,602.50 from line item 101-300-970 Capital Outlay

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Kennedy- Yes

Richards- Yes

Kivell- Yes

Dilg- Yes

Walton- Yes

Kurtzweil- yes

Pelchat- Yes

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Cemetery grading bid

City Manager Zelenak stated the city has taken this out for bid twice to grade Section 11 of the cemetery, and also for the grading of future fields in Volunteer Park. The first bid letting occurred in the early 2021 and no bids were received. We then went out again for bids last month, unfortunately, the portion of the bid for work at Volunteer Park was in excess of what was budgeted for. He further we would like to award the bid for the cemetery. He stated this item will come before Council again after the project is completed for a budget amendment. He further stated we also have a monument project that will occur at the cemetery after this is completed. Councilmember Richards stated he is in favor of this project, but he has questions. The bid is not complete, it doesn't include a contract, or proof of insurance, time limits, or performance bonds in case something goes wrong. This bid is too low and this person either doesn't know what he is doing or it's a mistake. We are not bidding on a piece of durable goods; this is a permanent fixture as our cemetery. We should wait until we can receive more bids. There isn't anything mentioned if they will stop work during a funeral. Mike Darga of HRC stated the bond and the contract normally comes after the bid is accepted. He further stated that would all be handled at a later time. He then stated this is the second time we went out for bid and we have only received this one bid. We have tried to get other bids, and I am sure the contractor would stop work if there was a funeral at the cemetery, this is only a couple days of work out there. Councilmember Richards stated it is a major mistake for accepting this bid and not looking at other contractors. Councilmember Kurtzweil reminded everyone we are in the middle of a labor shortage and if we have a bid from a contractor that is proficient with their work, we need to be thankful. She further stated many contractors left Michigan during the lock down and she is putting in some concrete work and it took months to get a contractor. She contacted a contractor for some masonry work and the message on their machine said they will return phone calls after September and begin booking for 2022.

CM 8-6-21 MOTION TO APPROVE BID FOR GRADING OF SECTION 11 AT CEMETERY

Motion by Kennedy, supported by Kivell

Motion to approve the award of bid to Fonson Inc. in the amount of \$59,950 for the grading of section 11 at the South Lyon Cemetery Acct #101-209-970

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Kennedy- Yes

Kivell- Yes

Richards- No

Dilg- Yes

Walton- Yes

Kurtzweil- Yes

Pelchat- Yes

MOTION CARRIED

BUDGET- No discussion was held

PUBLIC COMMENT- No public comment was made

MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Zelenak stated the concert and movie in the park was very successful and even with the heat, it was a really good night. He stated he is working with staff and engineers to work on a timeline in preparation for the road millage to be on next years primary ballot. He then reminded Council if anyone is interested in attending the MML Convention to let us know. He then stated he is working on getting a grant for \$40,000 for a pathway improvement plan. The grant will fund the assessment and analysis of all our pathways/trailways to determine cost for improvements, as well as recommendations on signage, parking and amenities. City Manager Zelenak stated he had a conversation with the road commission regarding the status of the drainage study on Pontiac Trail. We expect to have a draft scope of the project prepared by the end of the month, which we will then review to ensure we are requesting everything necessary. He then reminded everyone that our local state of emergency is ending as of August 31st, and based upon that expiration date, we are scheduled to meet in person again on September 13th. we will continue to monitor the ever-changing situation with COVID-19 and we'll address any changes that we may need to make based on local, county, state and federal guidelines or mandates. Councilmember Dilg asked about the trailway master plan, will that lay out the timeline for the priorities for sections to fix. City Manager Zelenak stated it will. He stated he is waiting for information from HRC for an area near Volunteer Park. Councilmember Dilg asked for an update on the crosswalk next to the Hotel. City Manager Zelenak stated Doug Varney has met with a couple different suppliers for the equipment and they are applying for the permit through the road commission. There is only one issue that could be a problem, on the east side of the cross walk, there is a utility pole where we wanted to put the sign, and we are trying to figure out how to address that. Councilmember Walton asked about the property at 61661 Eleven Mile and if the city has received any updates on the driveway and parking lot. City Manager Zelenak stated we have not, so we are now working with our Ordinance Officer, planner, and our city attorney regarding that violation. They have not submitted it in a timely matter. Councilmember Walton asked if we can do something about the weeds at the Dorothy Street construction site.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Kennedy thanked Amy Allen, the Recreation Director at SLARA (South Lyon Area Recreation Authority), for partnering with the City and presenting the Movie in the Park on August 20th. They had two bounce houses and a variety of other activities for the kids prior to the start of the movie. He then recognized our DPW crew, Ron, Trevor, Fred and Jeff for setting up, and taking down, the movie screen and other equipment for the event. He also thanked Spun Sugar Detroit for providing cotton candy for the attendees, truly a generous gesture on their part. He then thanked the South Lyon Kiwanis for again loaning their equipment and providing the food so that concessions were available on August 20th for all those folks attending both the Movie in the Park and the Concert at the Historical Village. Councilmember Kennedy thanked Council Member Kivell, County Commissioner Phil Weipert, City Council Candidates Lori Mosier and Alex Hansen as well as Frank Fogarty and Julie Kennedy who joined with him to provide the labor that evening, cooking hot dogs and popcorn and distributing them to the attendees at the Movie and the Concert. It was truly another great event for our city. He then reminded everyone that on Wednesday this week we will again have the Lake Street Cruise-in downtown so plan to come and check out the great cars that will be on display and get dinner at one of our great

restaurants. He then reminded everyone that Friday will be the last Concert at the Historical Village for the season and will feature the Leaky Tiki's, a Jimmy Buffet cover band. So, make your plans now to attend and have a great time. Finally, Pumpkinfest will be held on September 24-26 this year, and the Pumpkinfest Committee is in desperate need of volunteers for this year's event. So, if you can help in any way possible, please go to www.southlyonpumpkinfest.com/volunteer and sign up. It takes a lot of volunteers to make this event a reality, so show that South Lyon spirit and sign up today.

Councilmember Richards stated they need more volunteers for Depot Day and we are anticipating a parking problem and we need people to help direct people where to park, and the Methodist Church is allowing us to use their lot. He then stated they have contracted with a group of 4 for the National Anthem and we pay them money. He further stated we are attempting to have a booth at the Farmers Market to sell t shirts and historic items, tapes pens, toys and jewelry. He then stated all the vendors have certified they would be at Depot Day and we have about 24 events and we pay them as well. He then thanked Doug Varney for showing him the progress on the current water plant expansion and an explanation on the problem they are having now. He stated there is a water problem there about 20 feet downs and they have 4 pumps going and still can't keep the water out.

Councilmember Dilg congratulated the Witches Hat for their effort with the Fury for the Feast and for raising thousands for Gleaners as well as Blessings in a Backpack. She thanked everyone that supported the event. She stated it was well attended. She then thanked our local businesses and this event which in turn supports the two charities. She thanked South Lyon Cycle, Venue, Pinz, Busch's, Aubree's, Yard Card Ninja and it is nice seeing our businesses supporting each other. She then reminded everyone to volunteer for Pumpkinfest, they need help selling tickets, setting up and in the kid's area. There is a sign-up list on their website and we are lucky we can have the event this year.

Councilmember Kivell stated it was a great weekend, the Concert and Movie in the Park as well as the Fury for the Feast. He stated it is the 9th anniversary of the Fury for the Feast.

Councilmember Kurtzweil stated we lost a good supporter of South Lyon in Karen Meadows, she passed earlier in August. She served the Colonial Acres community for about 35 years and for everyone that knew her, we send our deepest condolences to you and she served you well and cared greatly for the residents of Colonial Acres. She then stated it was a busy weekend, and the downtown was packed on Saturday night and she thanks everyone that is coming out to support our local businesses on both sides of Pontiac Trail and the South Lyon Hotel was able to keep up with the crowds. She then stated we are doing a great job with our businesses. She then thanked DPW for trimming the trees near Reynold Sweet Parkway, as well as a sidewalk at Paul Baker Park. She then thanked all the new employees at DPW, and they could have chosen to work anywhere and they chose South Lyon and we are great city to live in, to work in and to retire in.

Mayor Pelchat stated the fall sports are kicking off for our local high schools and many of the kids haven't had the opportunity to play in front of our community for almost 2 years now, and if you have a chance to go see a game, South Lyon East is opening their first game at home, and the Lions will be on the road. He is excited to be able to see everyone compete and represent the community once again. He then stated Michigan has a representative from Taylor North in the little league series and they pulled off a great comeback this afternoon. They will be playing Hawaii this week at 7pm.

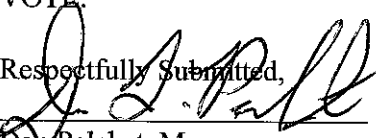
ADJOURNMENT

CM 8-10-21 MOTION TO ADJOURN

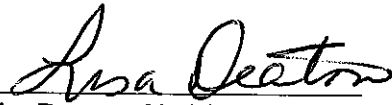
Motion by Kurtzweil
Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:05p.m.

VOTE: MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully Submitted,



Dan Pelchat, Mayor



Lisa Deaton, Clerk/Treasurer