

City of South Lyon
Regular Council Meeting
September 14, 2020

Mayor Pelchat called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.
Mayor Pelchat led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance

Present: Mayor Pelchat, Councilmembers Dilg, Kennedy, Kivell, Kurtzweil, and Walton
Absent: Councilmember Richards

Also present: City Manager Zelenak, Chief Sovik, Attorney Hamameh, and Clerk/Treasurer Deaton

MINUTES

Councilmember Kennedy stated the word aerial is misspelled during the conversation about the Fire truck.
Councilmember Kivell stated on page 2 the word seen needs to be changed to saw.

CM 9-1-20 MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES

Motion by Kennedy, supported by Kivell
Motion to approve the minutes as amended

VOTE: MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

BILLS

CM 9-2-20 MOTION TO APPROVE THE BILLS

Motion by Kivell, supported by Kennedy
Motion to approve the bills as presented

VOTE: MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

AGENDA

CM 9-3-20 MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA

Motion by Dilg, supported by Walton
Motion to approve the agenda as presented

VOTE: MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Traffic Control Order 20-1

CM 9-4-20 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- None

DISCUSSION- Downtown

Nate Mack the Downtown Development Director updated Council on the downtown. He stated he has ordered 280 cornstalks to be placed on the light poles in the downtown. We have a total of 72 decorative poles in town. We will also be putting out haybales. The Chamber of Commerce will be doing the scarecrows in the downtown again this year. Mr. Mack stated at the September 10th DDA meeting, they decided to cancel the downtown trick or treating due to the pandemic because they were concerned about

social distancing with the number of people that come to that event. The DDA Board also discussed forming 3 additional committees based off the Main Street program. We currently have an economic vitality committee, and we discussed adding a design committee, an organization committee and a promotion committee. He stated this follows the Main Street four-point approach and it will help as we progress in that program. Mr. Mack stated he and the City Manager met with the company doing the soil boring at 390 S Lafayette about the preliminary results and they are seeking clarification on what we want to have on that parcel. Once we give them the information, they will be preparing the report and we hope to have it the end of this week or early next week. He thanked Councilmember Kennedy and Councilmember Dilg for helping to pass out the Love for Lyon signs. They visited probably 100 businesses and he is happy the signs got out. We have had a lot of postings on social media suggesting people shop and dine local and to show your Love for South Lyon. Mr. Mack stated he has gotten inquiries about downtown parking. He stated some of the business owners are parking in front of the stores downtown. He stated he went out today and gave out no parking flyers, reminding people to not park in front of the businesses so they can be reserved for customers. He stated the Farmers Market has been going very well and about 95% of the spaces were filled 2 weeks ago. We added a new vendor that provides organic goods and they are doing well. Councilmember Kennedy congratulated the article about Nate in the Lyon Today magazine as well as the article about the Show Your Love for Lyon campaign. Councilmember Dilg asked how long will the Farmers Market continue. Mr. Mack stated until the end of October. Councilmember Kivell stated he doesn't understand why businesses don't understand the problem with parking in front of the businesses. The notion of letting customers have good access to their stores seems as though as it should be paramount. He then asked Nate share the information about the soil borings at 390 S Lafayette with Council when he receives the information. Councilmember Kurtzweil asked Nate to update Council on the façade work being done on Diane's Doll House and the new business going in at the old Good Day Café location. Mr. Mack stated Lefty's Cheesesteak will be opening soon, they are currently working on their signs and working on the interior. He then stated they are doing some masonry work on the Diane's Doll House building and getting that cleaned up. Councilmember Walton stated lately there has been some negative comments on social media and asked him if he has standard verbiage for when he puts things out there. Mr. Mack stated he doesn't have standard verbiage and he hasn't seen any issues that have come from DDA posts or other councilmembers post.

FIRE CHIEF REPORT

Cory Armstrong stated the tornado siren in the Lake Street parking lot is still not fixed. He then stated they started the work on the burn buildings by the water plant, the ground is ready to go, so they are just waiting on the containers. Mr. Armstrong stated all their radios went down last night, so their only communication was through cell phones.

POLICE CHIEF REPORT

Chief Sovik stated Challenger Technologies who are providing the infrastructure for the Comcast phone lines we are putting in and they have begun working. They are guessing about 6 days of work. Chief Sovik stated he wants to recognize our City Attorney Hamameh for doing such a great job since taking over for Tim. She is very responsive and knowledgeable and she is doing a great job. Mayor Pelchat stated he agrees and stated Attorney Hamameh does a great job.

OLD BUSINESS- NoneNEW BUSINESS

1. Safebuilt contract

City Manager Zelenak stated we need to approve the new contract with Safebuilt. He stated the new contract is for 5 years and will provide inspections for the City whereby Safebuilt will receive 90% of the cost of the inspection fee and the City will receive 10%. The contract includes Safebuilt providing a staff person in the office at no cost to the City for 5 hours a day, 5 days a week. He then stated the previous contract the City paid for this staff person to be in the office 4 hours a day, 5 days a week. The new contract will provide approximately \$6,000 per year in additional revenue. Attorney Hamameh stated there was an issue with the contract regarding insurance. She stated we were able to come up with language to resolve the issue.

CM 9-5-20 MOTION TO APPROVE SAFEUILT CONTRACT

Motion by Kivell, supported by Walton

Motion to approve the professional services agreement with Safebuilt Michigan, LLC to provide inspection services with the City of South Lyon with the addition of new language of section 14d.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

DILG- Yes

Kurtzweil- Yes

Kivell- Yes

Kennedy- Yes

Walton- Yes

Pelchat- Yes

MOTION CARRIED

CM 9-6-20 MOTION TO EXCUSE ABSENCE

Motion by Walton, supported by Dilg

Motion to excuse Councilmember Richards absence

VOTE:

MOTION CARRIED

2. Police station wooden fence replacement

Chief Sovik stated the original fencing on the south and west side of the Police Department is at least 30 years old and is in need of replacing. It's been broken down for many years. He stated this is a budgeted item, and he has gotten 3 bids and the low bid came in by Debord Brothers Fence Company in the amount of \$5,500.00 Chief Sovik stated the cost of wood has gone up, but he is still honoring the bid from earlier in the year.

CM 9-7-20 MOTION TO APPROVE BID FOR REPLACEMENT FENCE

Motion by Kivell, supported by Kennedy

Motion to accept bid by Debord Brothers Fence Company to replace fencing on west and south side of the main Police building in the amount of \$5,500 and from account number 101-300-977

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Walton- Yes

Kennedy- Yes

Kivell- Yes

Kurtzweil- Yes

Dilg- Yes

Pelchat- Yes

MOTION CARRIED

BUDGET- None

MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Zelenak reminded Council to continue reviewing the zoning ordinance rewrite. City Manager Zelenak reminded everyone to fill out the census and we are currently just over 84% complete and he hopes that number will increase in the next few weeks. He then stated Plante Moran will be at the first meeting in October to present the audit to Council. City Manager Zelenak stated Fieldstone final site plan meeting was originally scheduled for the 10th, but will now go before the Planning Commission at the September 24th meeting and after that it will be brought before City Council. He stated the project for the water tank installation is moving forward and they are currently preparing the site for the installation of the water tank foundation. City Manager Zelenak stated at a future Council meeting he will have an agenda item regarding different funding possibilities for road improvements.

PUBLIC COMMENT- None

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Dilg stated Lyon Township has chosen contractors to work on the path at Eleven Mile and Milford and they are starting this fall. She then stated a friend of hers asked where she can get on the trail and which restaurants and bars she and her family could go to. The rail trail is very important and beautiful and it brings people to town. Councilmember Dilg thanked the South Lyon teachers and the I.T. people. She knows they have been working very hard and this is different than anything anyone's ever done. There are a lot of angry people, but the teachers aren't the enemy and they are doing things she wouldn't want to try to do. She then thanked the parents that are being patient with the teachers and being patient with the kids. Everyone wants to be back to in person school, but she thanked everyone for doing all they are doing. Councilmember Dilg then mentioned that she was able to visit some local businesses and she thanked Councilmember Kennedy for taking some because she had to work too much. She then welcomed Body and Soul Soapery which is located upstairs and next to the Corner Social. She stated she hopes everyone was able to read social media and, in the Lyon Today magazine about Show Your Love for Lyon campaign and hopefully people will buy a t shirt that will support all the efforts.

Councilmember Walton thanked the South Lyon Community school teachers and all their staff that had to make so many changes along the way, but they have made it through the first week and she has heard from parents and students of how rough it has been, but how great the teachers and support staff have been. Councilmember Walton congratulated Erwin's Orchard on their 100-year anniversary which is phenomenal.

Councilmember Kurtzweil congratulated the dine local and shop local campaign, however, many residents have told her that you can't shop local and you can't dine local if you're not back to work. She stated we need to unlock Michigan. She encourages everyone to contact State Legislature, call the Governor's Office and let's put politics aside and unlock Michigan and get the workers back to work. She then thanked the owners of Pinz Bowling for their commitment for contacting the State Legislature, including Jim Runestad for assistance in getting bowling alley's open again. She then stated Pinz Bowling performs many functions for us, it is a great recreational place to go, and they are a tremendous fundraiser for the schools. She then thanked them again and stated she was happy to be a part of that behind the scenes. She then thanked everyone that helped her lobby for the opening for gyms in southeastern Michigan. It's interesting what the drafting of a lawsuit can do to get the gyms open again. Gyms are used for people to stay healthy and our senior citizens use them and people need a place to recreate and they need to be healthy. Also, gym owners provide a substantial number of workers in the workforce, including the people that work at the

gyms and clean the gyms and now they will be able to pay their rent. Councilmember Kurtzweil stated her message is before the vaccines come out, we need to unlock Michigan and get everyone back to work, be cautious, be safe and responsible.

Councilmember Kivell stated he is happy how well the flowers have been doing downtown. Everything looks terrific and they are well maintained and he is proud of the guys taking care of them. Councilmember Kivell stated he is happy to hear about Lefty's Cheesesteak coming to town. He is happy the beautiful building will be used again. He further stated he has had fun watching the progress at the waste water plant with the new tank being installed and he is happy about how well that is going. He then stated we have caught some breaks that will benefit us in the long run.

Councilmember Kennedy stated he wants to emphasize the point made by City Manager Zelenak and ask everyone to please complete their Census Questionnaire. We are currently at about 84% response rate which means about 1,900 residents have not yet been counted. So, please go to 2020Census.gov and complete the questionnaire. It's going to make a significant difference for the next 10 years. Councilmember Kennedy stated there is an upcoming community shredding event at the Salem-South Lyon District Library. The event will be held this Saturday, September 19th from 10:00am until 1:00pm in the library parking lot, so now's a good time to dispose of all those old records you no longer need that you found after clearing out the closets and basement since you've been home.

Mayor Pelchat reminded everyone that kindness is king and we all need to be good to each other, it is tough and we are all dealing with different levels of trying to navigate the pandemic. He then reminded everyone to fill out their Census forms. Mayor Pelchat stated Pinz Bowling Center has been a gathering place and has been a staple going back to the days when it was 700 Bowl. Katie and Troy are very involved in the community and many times you can walk in there and they will have both the schools bowling teams and they are a big player in our community and they have had a long run with their doors shut so if you get a chance when open bowling opens, stop in and play a few games. He then reminded everyone to continue to support our local businesses.

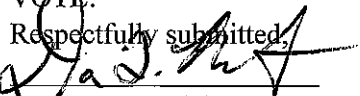
ADJOURNMENT

CM 9-8-20 MOTION TO ADJOURN

Motion by Kurtzweil, supported by Walton
Motion to adjourn at 8:07 p.m.

VOTE:

Respectfully submitted,


Mayor Dan Pelchat

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY


City Clerk/Treasurer Lisa Deaton