

**CITY OF CHARLOTTE COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS**  
**111 E. Lawrence Ave., Charlotte, MI 48813 (517) 543-2750**  
**Regular Council Meeting**  
**May 16, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

By Mayor Armitage on Monday May 16, 2022 at 7:03 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:**

Mayor Armitage, Mayor Pro-Tem Weissenborn, Council members Dyer, Rodriguez, and Van Langevelde. Horvath was absent. A quorum was met. Also in attendance were Attorney Gillies, City Manager LaPere (via Zoom), and City Clerk LaRocque.

In the audience were City staff DPW Director Gilson, Police Chief Brentar, and Community Development Director Myrkle.

Also present were the following applicants for the District 1 Council seat: Zach Story, Michael Duweck and Kenneth Wirt.

*A moment of silence to honor Lisa Brown who recently passed away was observed upon the request of the Mayor. As the Deputy Treasurer here at the City, she was the face and voice that many people saw or spoke to when contacting the city.*

**INVOCATION:**

Randy Royston, New Hope Community Church

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Led by Mayor Armitage

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

May 2, 2022 Regular meeting minutes

Motion by Van Langevelde supported by Dyer to approve the May 2, 2022 meeting minutes as presented. Carried; Yea 5; Nay 0; Absent 1.

**EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBERS:**

Motion by Weissenborn, supported by Dyer to excuse councilman Horvath. Carried; Yea 5; Nay 0; Absent 1.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Don Sovey, CPA and resident spoke in support of Kenneth Wirt, a candidate for the District 1 Council seat.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion by Dyer supported by Weissenborn to approve the agenda. Carried; Yea 5; Nay 0; Absent 1.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

- a. Approval of Claims and Expenditures totaling \$316,363.00
- b. Approval of Mayoral appointment to Boards and Commissions.

Motion by Van Langevelde supported by Dyer to approve the Consent Agenda items a and b. Carried; Yea 5; Nay 0; Absent 1.

**BUSINESS AGENDA:**

- a. Appointment of Council member – District 1

Qualified candidates; Jeffrey Christensen, Michael Duweck, Zach Story, Kenneth Wirt.

Candidates were given the opportunity to address Council and answer various question. Upon voting, the candidate who was nominated and who received 3/5 vote of Council was awarded the Council seat. Duweck received 3/5 vote. The following chart is a record of the nominations and votes that took place:

DISTRICT 1 COUNCIL SEAT						
COUNCIL	NOMINEE	DUWECK	STORY	WIRT	STORY	DUWECK
WEISSENBORN		Y	N	Y	N	Y
VAN LANGEVELDE	Wirt	N	N	Y	N	N
DYER	Duweck	Y	N	N	Y	Y
RODRIGUEZ	Story	N	Y	N	Y	Y
ARMITAGE		Y	Y	N	Y	Y
HORVATH	absent	absent	absent	absent	absent	absent
RESULTS		3-Y/2-N	2-Y/3-N	2-Y/3-N	3-Y/2-N	4-Y/1-N
		Failed	Failed	Failed	Failed	Carried

Motion to appoint District 1 Council seat to Michael Duweck, presented by Dyer, supported by Weissenborn. Carried by roll call vote; Yea 4; Nay 1 (Van Langevelde); Absent 1.

Council member Duweck was sworn in and took his seat at Council.

b. Approval of Resolution to eliminate Wards

Motion to approve resolution to eliminate Wards and to proceed with actions necessary to place the proposal on the November 8, 2022 ballot for an electoral vote, presented by Dyer, supported by Weissenborn. Carried by roll call vote; Yea 6; Nay 0; Absent 1.

c. Approval of Resolution to modify the Mayoral term from 2 to 4 years.

Motion to approve resolution to modify Mayoral term from 2 to 4 years and to proceed with actions necessary to place the proposal on the November 8, 2022 ballot for an electoral vote,

presented by Van Langevelde, supported by Dyer. Carried by roll call vote; Yea 6; Nay 0; Absent 1.

d. Approval of Resolution to move City elections from odd to even years.

Motion to approve resolution to move City elections from odd to even years and to proceed with actions necessary to place the proposal on the November 8, 2022 ballot for an electoral vote, presented by Van Langevelde, supported by Weissenborn. Carried by roll call vote; Yea 5; Nay 1 (Dyer); Absent 1.

e. Approval of brush grinding lease

Motion to approve brush grinding lease, presented by Van Langevelde, supported by Dyer. Carried; Yea 6; Nay 0; Absent 1.

f. Approval of lease with Friends of Beach Market

Motion to approve Friends of Beach Market lease presented by Van Langevelde, supported by Dyer. Carried; Yea 6; Nay 0; Absent 1.

g. Approval of bid for Airport farmland lease

Motion to approve bid for Airport farmland lease presented by Van Langevelde, supported by Weissenborn. Carried; Yea 6; Nay 0, Absent 1.

h. Approval of replacing WWTP position

Motion to approve replacing WWTP position presented by Weissenborn, supported by Van Langevelde. Carried; Yea 6; Nay 0; Absent 1.

i. Approval of replacing Police Officer position

Motion to approve replacing Police Officer position presented by Van Langevelde, supported by Dyer. Carried; Yea 6; Nay 0; Absent 1.

- j. Approval of Resolutions 2022-07 – 220 W. Shaw property sale

Motion to approve final sale of 220 W. Shaw presented by Dyer, supported by Weissenborn. Carried; Yea 6; Nay 0; Absent 1.

- k. Approval of letter of intent to lease airport land to Shyft Group for temporary storage

Motion to approve letter of intent to lease airport land to Shyft Group for temporary storage presented by Van Langevelde supported by Weissenborn. Carried; Yea 6; Nay 0; Absent 1.

**COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- a. City Attorney report was received.
- b. City Manager report was received.
- c. Council member Committee Reports.

Weissenborn – Charlotte Area Recreation Coop (CARC) Happy to announce teams now playing on the softball fields. Finishing up on the bleachers project, fields are reservable.

Van Langevelde – Parks Board; She did not attend the last meeting, with approval from Armitage she asked Co-Parks Board member Zach Story to come to the podium to give the update; Zach reported discussions about; homeless population; old boards around ice skating rink; future development of Maple City park; looking for donors; and that Charlotte designated as “Tree City U.S.A.” by the Arbor Day Foundation.

Dyer – MML Legislative advisor Committee. Drafting a proposal for tax incentives on solar projects. It is moving through the State (Government).

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

John Forte, business owner and resident congratulated Duweck on his appointment. He shared suggestions for improvements to the parks. Would like 5-minute public comment extended.

Zach Story, congratulated Duweck on his appointment and shared his suggestions for Council priorities. Would like 5-minute public comment extended.

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

Van Langevelde; National EMS week – thanked all 1<sup>st</sup> responders and welcomed Duweck to Council.

Rodriguez; Believes that the two 5-minute public comment opportunities given during council meetings is very generous and offered that items of interest requiring further discussions may be added to the agenda and to contact him personally. He welcomed Duweck to Council

Weissenborn; Welcomed Duweck to Council and thanked the other candidates for their interest and efforts. Congratulations sent to the graduating (CHS) Seniors and noted their walkway signs at the courthouse square being a nice new tradition.

Dyer; Thanked all candidates, believed any one of them would have been a good choice. Mentioned that the Siren Shelter is hosting a fundraising gala Friday at 7:00 p.m. at the English Inn and tickets are available on their website.

Duweck; Appreciates the opportunity to serve on Council and is honored to have been chosen from among the other qualified candidates.

Armitage; Reminder; to qualify for District 2 seat you must be a registered voter for 6 months within District 2 and that the deadline for applications is June 3rd at noon. (Appointments to be selected at the June 6<sup>th</sup> meeting). Regarding Public Comment, he must administer a fair and consistent policy while also being respectful. He reminded the public there are two 5-

minute opportunities to address council at a meeting and they also have the options to contact a Council member individually or to submit their issues in writing.

**ADJOURN:**

Motion by Dyer supported by Weissenborn to adjourn the meeting at 10:10 p.m. Carried; Yea 6; Nay 0; Absent 1

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Mayor Michael Armitage

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Mary LaRocque, City Clerk