

**CITY OF CHARLOTTE COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS**  
**111 E. Lawrence Ave., Charlotte, MI 48813 (517) 543-2750**  
**Regular Council Meeting**  
**December 5, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

By Mayor Armitage on Monday December 5, 2022 7:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:**

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

In the audience Community Development Director Myrkle

Special guests: Mike VanDieren (Shyft), and Luke Bonner (Bonner Advisory Group)

**INVOCATION:**

~~Mike Rysko, South Cochran Church of God absent~~

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Led by Mayor Armitage

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

- a. November 28, 2022 Regular Council Meeting Minutes

Motion by Dyer supported by Van Langevelde to approve the meeting minutes. Carried; Yea 6; Nay 0; Absent 1

**EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBERS:**

Motion by Chin supported by Van Langevelde to excuse council member Duweck. Carried; Yea 6; Nay 0; Absent 1

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

- a. Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption – Shyft Grp Plant 4

Public hearing opened at 7:02 p.m. Myrkle explained that the Shyft Group expansion is one project however, State statute requires that each parcel have its own application when applying for an IFTE. Three applications will therefore be submitted. Two applications are considered tonight for Plant 4 and Plant 7. The third application, involving a battery storage facility, will be presented at a later date when the details of that part of the project are more developed.

A presentation given by Luke Bonner provided the council with a hiring and investment update illustrating how this expansion is creating a foundation for future growth, new tax revenue, and job creation. This expansion infuses a positive economic impact to the City including residents and other businesses.

With no public comment received, the hearing closed at 7:23 p.m.

- b. Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption – Shyft Grp Plant 7

Public hearing opened at 7:23 p.m. With no public comment received, the hearing closed at 7:23 p.m.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

David Lennon – resident. David shared his concerns about the condition of Hall Street (potholes) and lack of parking at 123 Stoddard St.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Van Langevelde asked for Consent Agenda item d Approval of Resolution 2022-31 – to authorize a contract with MDOT for the Safe routes to School project - be moved to item a on the Business Agenda.

Motion by Weissenborn supported by Van Langevelde to approve the agenda with moving Consent Agenda item d to Business Agenda item a. Carried. Yea 6; Nay 0; Absent 1

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

- a. Approval of Claims and Expenditures totaling \$726,344.15
- b. Approval of extension to the Shyft Lease with Fitch H. Beach Airport
- c. Approval of Resolution 2022-30 – Poverty Exemption Guidelines for 2023
- d. Approval of Resolution 2022-32 – To approve 2023 City meeting dates

Motion by Chin supported by Dyer to approve the consent agenda items a through d. Carried by roll call vote. Yea 6; Nay 0; Absent 1

**BUSINESS AGENDA:**

- a. Approval of Resolution 2022-31 – Authorize a contract with MDOT for the Safe Routes to School project

Motion by Dyer supported by Van Langevelde to approve Resolution 2022-31 – Authorize contract with MDOT for the Safe Routes to School project. Carried. Yea 6; Nay 0; Absent 1

- b. Approval Resolution 2022-33 – IFTE – Shyft Group Plant 4

Upon inquiry, Attorney Gillies reiterated that PA 198 of 1974, M.C.L. 207.551 et seq requires an individual application, agreement, and resolution of approval for each property. Representatives from Shyft added that the improvements are being undertaken as one larger project and the investments across the campus are interconnected.

Motion by Dyer supported by Weissenborn to approve Resolution 2022-33 – IFTE Shyft Group Plant 4. Carried. Yea 6; Nay 0; Absent 1

- c. Approval of Resolution 2022-34 – IFTE – Shyft Group Plant 7

Motion by Dyer supported by Weissenborn to approve Resolution 2022-34 – IFTE Shyft Group Plant 7. Carried. Yea 6; Nay 0; Absent 1

- d. Approval of change order in the amount of \$3,500 for Rowe PSC for traffic study and signal warrant for city’s Safe Routes to School project (MDOT JN 212642)

Motion by Van Langevelde supported by Dyer to approve change order in the amount of \$3,500 for Rowe PSC traffic study and signal warrant to the City’s Safe Routes to School project (MDOT JN 212642). Carried. Yea 6; Nay 0; Absent 1

- e. Approval of purchase of Hurst extrication tool for fire department utilizing Michigan Community Enhancement grant funds

Motion by Chin supported by Dyer to approve purchase of Hurst extrication tool for the fire dept. utilizing Michigan Community Enhancement grant funds. Carried. Yea 6; Nay 0; Absent 1

- f. Approval of Michigan Mutual Aid Box Alarm System Association Agreement

Motion by Van Langevelde supported by Dyer to approve the Michigan Mutual Aid Box Alarm System Association Agreement. Carried; Yea 6; Nay 0; Absent 1

**COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- a. City Attorney report was received

No additional comments by Gillies.

- b. City Manager report was received

LaPere answered questions regarding the progress of the website project and confirmed the 2023 Parks Advisory Board meeting schedule was included in resolution 2022-32.

- c. Fire Dept. Activity Report – November, was received
- d. Council member Committee Reports

No reports

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

No comments

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

Van Langevelde – Excited about the opportunities brought by the Shyft expansion and is glad Council passed (the tax exemption). Asked citizens to be aware of their surroundings and to watch out for neighbors and asked that the Siren Shelter, Helping Hands and the food bank be considered when giving donations this holiday.

Rodriguez – To the anonymous citizen who contacted him – please contact him again for follow up. He offered his phone number 517-213-3125 or email arodriguez@charlottemi.org to any citizen wanting to reach out to him with questions or concerns about City related issues.

Weissenborn – Appreciates Shyft group for choosing Charlotte for its expansion and looks forward to the continued growth and opportunities it brings to Charlotte. She recognized the adorable planters downtown with snowmen and said how nice and festive it all is.

Chin – He and Duweck attended the training for new officers. He participated in the Coats for Kids collection and 60 coats were donated to St. Vincent’s which is located at St. Mary’s Church and is open Tuesday through Thursday from 6:00 to

7:00. He offered that his questions are intended to obtain understanding rather than to be a thorn in anyone’s side. He would like (Council) to explore organizing a citizens town hall meeting hosted by the Police and Fire Chiefs to discuss safety related issues.

Armitage – Regarding potholes – Hall/Washington/McClure is scheduled for complete reconstruction next year; patching is a temporary fix.

Per LaPere DPW is actively out filling potholes.

Rodriguez shared his concerns about the method the city employs for potholing and inquired how to address citizens who contact him about issues. LaPere offered that he direct those citizens to call the City to speak with her or the Director of Public Works. Discussion ensued about the proper channel for Council regarding operational matters. Per City Charter, operational matters are the responsibility of administration and should be directed to LaPere and she then addresses the matter with City staff as needed.

Armitage concluded by noting that the first meeting of the Christmas Lights and Décor Downtown committee was held and their end goal is needing your “sunglasses at night”.

**ADJOURN:**

Motion by Van Langevelde supported by Dyer to adjourn the meeting at 8:49 p.m. Carried; Yea 6; Nay 0; Absent 1

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Mayor Michael Armitage

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Mary LaRocque, City Clerk