

**CITY OF CHARLOTTE
COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS**

**Regular Meeting
November 1, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER:

By Mayor Armitage on Monday November 1, 2021 at 7:04 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Mayor Armitage, Pro-Tem Dyer, Council members Weissenborn, Baker, VanStee, McRae, City Manager LaPere, City Clerk LaRocque

INVOCATION:

Jack Conklin, Lawrence Ave. United Methodist – via Zoom

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Led by Mayor Armitage

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by Baker supported by Weissenborn to approve the October 18, 2021 Regular Council Meeting Minutes. Yea 6; Nay 0; Absent 1. Motion passed

EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBERS:

Motion by McRae, supported by Dyer to excuse the absence of council member Hoogstra. Yea 6; Nay 0, Absent 1. Motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No comments given.

**APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA AND
UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGENDA:**

Motion by VanStee, supported by Dyer to approve the regular agenda as published. Yea 6; Nay 0; Absent 1, Motion passed.

The following Resolutions were pulled from the Unanimous Consent Agenda;

10B requested by McRae

10D requested by Weissenborn

Motion by VanStee, supported by Weissenborn to approve the Unanimous Consent Agenda by roll call the following voted: Yea 6; Nay 0; Absent 1. Motion passed

SPECIAL PRESENTATION:

Proclamation recognizing the service of council member L. Daryl Baker. (as researched and written by Bryan Myrkle, Community Development Director).

CITY OF CHARLOTTE

CITY COUNCIL PROCLAMATION

A PROCLAMATION HONORING THE MANY YEARS OF
FAITHFUL SERVICE

TO THE CITY OF CHARLOTTE AND THE CHARLOTTE
COMMUNITY BY

L. DARYL BAKER

WHEREAS, L. Daryl Baker has demonstrated an honest, faithful and loyal commitment to the City and Community of Charlotte, Michigan; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Baker is a nearly lifelong resident of Charlotte, and a graduate of Charlotte High School; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Baker served his country in the United States Air National Guard; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Baker, together with his wife of 57 years Mary Jean Baker, raised his family in Charlotte, with all six of his children graduating from Charlotte High School; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Baker worked with his father Leo Baker as a builder in Charlotte for several years, later becoming a partner and then owner of the Charlotte Insurance Agency which he operated for more than 50 years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Baker further served Charlotte by lending his skills and abilities to numerous community organizations, such as the St. Mary Catholic Church & School, the Knights of Columbus, the Charlotte Rotary Club, and the Charlotte Jaycees, among others; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Baker played important roles in the economic success of the community, with his involvement in the founding of Spartan Motors, the creation of the Combs Industrial Park, and position on the Eaton Federal Savings Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Baker has represented the residents of Charlotte with his service on the Charlotte City Council and Eaton County Board of Commissioners, being duly elected to multiple terms in each office by his fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Baker also represented the residents of Charlotte by holding the Office of Mayor of the City of Charlotte for 13 years, being elected six times by his fellow citizens.

THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED on this 1st day of November, 2021 that the City Council of the City of Charlotte hereby recognizes, respects and honors the valuable and esteemed contributions made by **L. Daryl Baker** to the civic life of this community, and to the City of Charlotte organization.

BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED that the City Council of the City of Charlotte hereby thanks Mr. Baker and declares its sincere admiration and gratitude for the example he has set for all citizens of this community.

Mary LaRocque, City Clerk

Michael Armitage, Mayor

EXPEDITED RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES:

a. Consider Resolution 2021-151 Approval of Claims and Expenditures

**RESOLUTION NO. 2021-151
A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE EXPENDITURES OF
THE CITY OF CHARLOTTE FOR NOVEMBER 1, 2021**

WHEREAS, Section 7.7(B) of the City Charter requires Council approval for the expenditure of city funds; and

WHEREAS, the OCTOBER 14, 2021, Commercial Credit Card totaled \$2,588.40; and

WHEREAS, the OCTOBER 16, 2021, payroll totaled \$86,115.74; and

WHEREAS, the OCTOBER 18, 2021, insurance claims totaled \$1,532.24; and

WHEREAS, the OCTOBER 25, 2021 insurance claims totaled \$790.28; and

WHEREAS, the OCTOBER 27, 2021 claims total \$311,590.28;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council approves claims and accounts for NOVEMBER 1, 2021, in the amount of \$402,616.94

The foregoing resolution was presented by VanStee and supported by Weissenborn for approval by the following roll call vote; Yea 6; Nay 0; Absent 1. Motion passed.

b. Consider Resolution 2021-152 Direct Administration to Distribute Essential Worker Premium Pay Under American Rescue Plan Act

**RESOLUTION NO. 2021-152
A RESOLUTION TO DIRECT ADMINISTRATION TO
DISTRIBUTE ESSENTIAL WORKER PREMIUM PAY
UNDER AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT**

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2021, President Biden signed the U.S. Senate amended H.R. 1319 (P.L. 117-2) known as the American Rescue Plan Act “ARPA”; and

WHEREAS, on May 10, 2021, the U.S. Treasury issued the Interim Final Rule to implement ARPA in Title 31, Part 35 of the Code of Federal Regulations (“CFR”); and

WHEREAS, under the Interim Final Rule, recipients may use Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds “CSLFRF” to provide premium pay to eligible employees who performed essential work during the COVID-19 public health emergency. See CSLFRF Frequently Asked Questions No. 5.3; and

WHEREAS, on October 4, 2021 City Council allocated an amount not to exceed \$60,000 in total to provide premium pay to eligible employees who performed essential work as permitted by the Interim Final Rule, in accordance with City Charter, Ordinances, and other applicable agreements; and

WHEREAS, the city has identified personnel who serve on the frontlines and encountered the risks associated with exposure to COVID-19 first-hand when providing critical health and public safety services to the citizens in our community on a regular basis, during the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, those personnel are employees of the City in the Department of Public Work, Police Department, and Fire Department, many of which are represented by SEIU, POLC, and IAFF unions, respectively; and

WHEREAS, Treasury’s Interim Final Rule emphasizes the need for recipients to prioritize premium pay for lower income workers. Premium pay that would increase a worker’s total pay above 150% of the greater of the state or county average annual wage requires specific justification for how it responds to the needs of these workers. There are nine employees in the Police

Department and Department of Public Works that will exceed the base threshold. These employees were all required to report to work in-person, including performance of certain activities that put the employees at higher risk for exposure to COVID-19. These employees provided critical services to the health, safety, and well-being of the residents of Charlotte by maintaining the police force and the water and wastewater treatment operations of the community, and generally provided all essential city services remain functioning during the height of the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, those City Manager has received acceptance from IAFF and both POLC bargaining units, and preliminary acceptance from SEIU bargaining unit for the disbursements to be provided to eligible employees based upon hours worked during times in which persons were ordered to remain home during the COVID-19 pandemic;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council does hereby authorize administration to disburse the allowable premium pay for eligible union and non-union employees of the City of Charlotte.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council does hereby direct administration to disburse to the Volunteer Firefighters an additional stipend based upon call response as essential worker premium pay in recognition of their work on the front-line response during the pandemic.

The foregoing resolution was presented by Dyer and supported by VanStee for approval by the following vote; Yea 6; Nay 0; Absent 1. Motion passed.

c. Consider Resolution 2021-153 Authorize Circuit Court Filing by Attorney Hitch for Nuisance Complaint on Property at 221 E. Lawrence Ave.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2021-153
A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE CITY OF
CHARLOTTE
CIRCUIT COURT ACTION**

WHEREAS, the City of Charlotte has received complaints regarding the junk vehicle storage that the property owner of 221 E Lawrence Avenue and upon investigation has discovered the building is being occupied for residential living space; and

WHEREAS, the property is Zoned B-3. In that Zone District, the storage of junk vehicles is prohibited, and the use of residential is not allowable by right nor as a conditional use; and

WHEREAS, the City has reviewed the available remedies to abate this nuisance and upon advice from the City Attorney seeks to request relief from the court system; and

WHEREAS, the City Attorney has drafted a complaint to file claim in Circuit Court to abate this nuisance and has provided a draft of that complaint for Council's review;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council approves action by the City Attorney and Administration to file a complaint and take any other necessary legal actions to remedy this nuisance.

The foregoing resolution was presented by VanStee and supported by Weissenborn for approval by the following roll call vote; Yea 6; Nay 0; Absent 1. Motion passed.

d. Consider Resolution 2021-154 authorize Submittal of MSHDA Grant Application to Fund a Neighborhood Enhancement Program

CITY OF CHARLOTTE

CITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2021-154

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE AN APPLICATION TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the City of Charlotte is implementing new initiatives for residential rental registration and inspection, as well as enhanced code enforcement; and

WHEREAS, the City of Charlotte desires to assist property owners with those interior and exterior improvements that may be required or prompted by these two new initiatives; and

WHEREAS, if approved, the Neighborhood Enhancement Program can help provide this assistance.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Charlotte hereby authorizes an application to the Neighborhood Enhancement Program for \$75,000 in grant assistance.

The foregoing resolution was presented by Baker and supported by Dyer for approval by the following roll call vote; Yea 6; Nay 0; Absent 1. Motion passed.

e. Consider Resolution 2021-155 Approve the Purchase of Pickup Truck to Replace Fire Dept. Rural 31

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-155

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE PURCHASE OF A 2022 FORD F350 FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, the current Charlotte Fire Department Rural 311 was purchased in 2010 and runs out of the downtown station; and

WHEREAS, the vehicle has many mechanical issues and has become problematic and needs many costly repairs; and

WHEREAS, the Rural Fire Association approved the purchase 50/50 percent of a new 311 at their October 27, 2021 meeting; and

WHEREAS, replacement of 311 was budgeted in the FY 21/22 Budget in the amount of \$50,000; and

WHEREAS, Signature Ford submitted the lowest quote for a 2022 Ford F350 for the cost of \$35,430.00; and

WHEREAS, the 50/50 cost sharing with the Rural Fire Association will cost \$17,715.00 for the City of Charlotte and Rural each,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED That the City Council authorizes the purchase of a new 2022 Ford F350 from Signature Ford in the amount of \$35,340.00 with the cost being shared 50/50 with the Rural Fire Association.

The foregoing resolution was presented by VanStee and supported by Weissenborn for approval by the following roll call vote; Yea 6; Nay 0; Absent 1. Motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

A resident, who lives in the 400 block of Warren, and attending the meeting remotely, reported issues with disturbance of the peace purportedly caused by residents of the Siren/Eaton shelter located near his home. He has reported these issues to the authorities previously and wanted to bring it to the attention of council.

COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

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

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS:

VanStee noted goodbye remarks, was an amazing experience.

Dyer noted goodbye remarks to outgoing council, encouraged people to vote!

Baker extended thank you for proclamation, encouraged youth to get involved and noted goodbye remarks.

Weissenborn noted goodbye remarks to outgoing council and recapped some noted achievements by the council. She

included a “shout out” to Cooper Rush, a Charlotte local who is now the QB for the Dallas Cowboys football team.

McRae noted goodbye remarks and thanked Branden Dyer for the “phone call that started it all”.

Mayor noted it could be his last meeting pending outcome of the election tomorrow and expressed his good bye remarks to council and noted the councils’ ability to have civil conversation and debate, respect for one another, increased transparency through Zoom and Facebook, and getting through the challenging Covid-19 shut-down. Armitage also thanked the current administrative staff and is proud and happy to have been a part of building this great team.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Dyer, supported by VanStee to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 p.m. Yea 6; Nay 0; Absent 1, Motion passed.

Mayor Armitage

Mary LaRocque, City Clerk