

CITY OF CHARLOTTE COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
111 E. Lawrence Ave., Charlotte, MI 48813 (517) 543-2750
Regular Council Meeting
May 02, 2022

CALL TO ORDER:

By Mayor Armitage on Monday May 02, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

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

In the audience; Chiefs Brentar and Jordan, Finance Director Smith, and LRE Engineering president Pete Buurstra.

INVOCATION:

Daniel Longden, First Lutheran Church (Via Zoom)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Led by Mayor Armitage

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

April 18, 2022 Regular Council meeting minutes and April 21, 2022 Workshop meeting minutes.

Motion by Weissenborn supported by Dyer to approve the April 18 and April 21, 2022 meeting minutes. Carried; Yea 6; Nay 0; Absent 0.

EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBERS:

All in attendance

PUBLIC HEARING:

- a. CDBG grant application for water related infrastructure

The amount of the grant is \$1,767,488 and requires a financial commitment from the City in the amount of \$218,453, Council approval is needed. The city's portion is to be paid from the water and sewer funds. Grant funds will be used to relocate and replace the water main along Lansing Rd. No public comments were given.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Francis D'Huyvetter – Deputy Director, Eaton County Central Dispatch; submitted his annual report and a few copies for distribution and noted that a proposal for Restoration of Headlee Reduction to .95 mills will be placed on the August 2nd ballot. The current millage expires in 2024.

Jim, a city resident; summarized city related statistical facts for the citizens.

John Fort, a city business owner, shared his opinions on how best the city can accomplish various municipal functions.

Caleb Mason, a city resident, announced his political desires and plans to become more involved in this community.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Weissenborn supported by Dyer to approve the agenda. Carried; Yea 6; Nay 0; Absent 0.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- a. Approval of Claims and Expenditures totaling \$524,190.98
- b. Approval of Resolution 2022-06 Charlotte Celebrates Street Closure

RESOLUTION 2022-06

**AUTHORIZING CHARLOTTE CELEBRATES
STREET CLOSURES JUNE 16-18, 2022**

WHEREAS, Charlotte Celebrates is a community-based, organized event that is to be held June 16 to 18, 2022; and,

WHEREAS, the Charlotte Celebrates committee is responsible for organizing these events that contribute to community-wide fellowship, benevolence, and welfare; and

WHEREAS, the Committee in conjunction with City Administration, have planned events that require the use and closure of certain public facilities, streets and right of ways; and

WHEREAS, the Committee has requested that the Charlotte City Council approve the following requests and conditions, including assistance with street closures:

1. Closure of the 100 block of South Cochran Avenue through traffic from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Thursday, June 16, 2022 for Touch-A-Truck.
2. Closure of South Cochran Avenue in the 100, 200 and 300 blocks, and East & West Lovett Streets in the 100 blocks to through traffic from 4:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on Friday, June 17, 2022 for the Charlotte Celebrates Car Show.
3. Closure of the 100 block of North Bostwick Avenue from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Saturday, June 18, 2022 for the Charlotte Celebrates 3-on-3 basketball tournament.
4. Authorization for the city to supply whatever closing signs and barricades it has available for the street closures. Other signs will be the responsibility of the event committee.
5. Authorization for the city Department of Public Works to place the required barricades as needed and designated by the Charlotte Police Department.

6. Authorization for the Charlotte Police Department to provide assistance for traffic diversion as necessary for the above-mentioned events.

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Charlotte determines these temporary street closings and other conditions are in the best interests of the community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that these street closures at the specified times be granted and carried out in accordance with those permissions issued by the Michigan Department of Transportation; and,

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, that the city Department of Public Works and Charlotte Police Department provide the authorized assistance as outlined above.

Motion by Dyer supported by Van Langevelde to approve the Consent agenda items a and b. Carried by roll call vote; Yea 6; Nay 0; Absent 0

BUSINESS AGENDA:

- a. Approval of Resolution 2022-05 to authorize CDBG grant application for water related infrastructure

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-05
A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE A WATER
RELATED INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT
APPLICATION WITH CDBG**

WHEREAS, the Michigan Strategic Fund has invited Units of General Local Government to apply for its Water-Related Infrastructure (WRI) Competitive Funding Round; and

WHEREAS, the City of Charlotte desires to request \$1,767,488 in CDBG (Community Development Block Grant - HUD) funds to make improvements to the city's water system along Lansing Street from Hall Street to Butternut Drive; and

WHEREAS, the City of Charlotte commits local funds from its Water and Sewer Funds in the amount of \$218,453; and

WHEREAS, the proposed project is consistent with the local Community Development Plan as described in the Application; and

WHEREAS, the proposed project will benefit all residents of the project area and 51.76% percent of the residents of the City of Charlotte are low- and moderate-income persons as determined by an income survey approved by the Michigan Economic Development Corporation; and

WHEREAS, local funds and any other funds to be invested in the project have not been obligated/incurred and will not be obligated/incurred prior to a formal grant award, completion of the environmental review procedures and a formal written authorization to obligate/incur costs from the Michigan Economic Development Corporation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Charlotte hereby designates the Public Works Director as the Environmental Review Certifying Officer, the person authorized to certify the Michigan CDBG Application, the person authorized to sign the Grant Agreement and payment requests, and the person authorized to execute any additional documents required to carry out and complete the grant.

Motion to approve Resolution 2022-05 by Dyer, supported by Weissenborn. Carried; Yea 6; Nay 2; Absent 0

- b. Approval of participation agreement with Eaton County Drain Commissioner for Island Highway reconstruction project.

Motion to approve project in full by Dyer supported by Weissenborn. Carried; Yea 5; Nay 1 (Horvath); Absent 0.

- c. Discussion on proposed changes to draft FY 22-23 budget

Some adjustments were necessary to mention in regards to the original draft budget and were addressed in the Staff Report on Draft FY 22-23 Budget - proposed additions submitted by LaPere. The financial impacts of adding three staff members were discussed. The concern is that these additions would jeopardize the city's ability to comply with the Action Plan for corrective measures as filed with the State of Michigan. Armitage stated it is difficult to justify adding positions while also assessing a Special Assessment District.

A continuing of discussions regarding the budget will be on the May 12, 2022 Council Workshop agenda.

- d. Approval of bid proposal from Grantsmanship Consulting LLC

Motion by Horvath supported by Dyer to approve contract with Grantsmanship Consulting LLC **to begin immediately** in current budget year. Failed. Yea 1 (Horvath); Nay 5; Absent 0.

Council member Horvath submitted to City Clerk LaRocque a written and signed 30-day notice of resignation from his council seat in District 2. He announced to council his resignation and exited the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- a. City Attorney report was received.
- b. City Manager report was received.
Report included the topics Curbside leaf yard waste schedule, May 3rd election information, Board and Committee volunteer opportunities, recycling events with Eaton county, ARPA survey, City Beat and Charlotte Chronicles information, water shut off

program, assistance programs, Safe Routes to School project kickoff and RAVE alerts information.

c. Council member Committee Reports.

Parks Advisory by Van Langevelde. The willow tree for Arbor Day has been planted at the disc golf course and they will be seeking volunteers for park clean-up.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Resident Jim relayed his disappointment to council in regards to the resignation of Horvath.

John Fort, a city business owner, returned to the podium to continue to share his opinions on how best the city can accomplish various municipal functions.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Van Langevelde; Clarified her comments in regards to the police second-in-command position. She is actively working with Rep. Witwer in regards to the infrastructure grant funding coming through the State.

Weissenborn; Clarified that the “immediate affect” within the motion to approve a grant writer was disagreeable, and that she is still open for discussions for that possibility in the future.

Dyer; Stated that although he did not always agree with the opinions of Council member Horvath, he did value his opinions and is sorry (Horvath) chose to take the action that he did.

Rodriguez; Would like the public to contact him by phone if they have issues to discuss beyond the 5 minutes given at meetings and offered his phone number (email and phone contacts for each council member can be found on the city website).

Armitage; Applications for the council member position in District 1 is available on the city website. The deadline to submit applications is Friday May 13th at noon and applicants will be

interviewed and the council will make its selection at the May 16, 2022 regular Council meeting.

ADJOURN:

Motion by Dyer supported by Weissenborn to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 p.m. Carried; Yea 5; Nay 0; Absent 1 (Horvath).

Mayor Michael Armitage

Mary LaRocque, City Clerk