

**CITY OF CHARLOTTE COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS**  
**111 E. Lawrence Ave., Charlotte, MI 48813 (517) 543-2750**  
**Regular Council Meeting**  
**November 10, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

By Mayor Armitage on Thursday November 10, 2022 7:01 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:**

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

In the audience Community Development Director Myrkle

**INVOCATION:**

Chuck Jenson – West Carmel Church (standing in for Jack Conklin)

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Led by Mayor Armitage

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

- a. October 17, 2022 Regular Council Meeting Minutes

Motion by Duweck supported by Weissenborn to approve the meeting minutes as presented. Carried; Yea 7; Nay 0; Absent 0

**EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBERS:**

All present

**PUBLIC HEARING**

- a. Proposed amendments to Ordinance 2022-07 Amending Chapter 2 – Administration, Article V – Finance, Division 3 Purchasing, Contracting and Selling Procedures

Public comments for the public hearing opening at 7:03 and closing at 7:04 as no public comments were offered.

The proposed addition of Section 2-181 (c) was recommended by city attorney Hitch (through his memo) to be removed as it is in conflict with the City Charter (Sect. 15.4)

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Jody Pruden had questions and concerns regarding the Fire Chief Selection Committee.

Bruce Hartwick, a visitor and councilmember from the Town of Bedford, VA is here visiting and introduced himself.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Motion by Dyer supported by Van Langevelde to approve the agenda with the following changes; Consent agenda items c, d, and e to be placed on the business agenda for discussion and adding item g to the business agenda to discuss changing the next meeting date and moving bus. Item g to h. Carried. Yea 7; Nay 0; Absent 0

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

- a. Approval of Claims and Expenditures totaling \$575,761.59
- b. Mayoral appointment to Fire Chief Selection Committee

Motion by Duweck supported by Chin to approve the updated consent agenda. Carried by roll call vote. Yea 7; Nay 0; Absent 0

**BUSINESS AGENDA:**

- a. Second reading and consider approval of Ordinance 2022-07 Amending Chapter 2 – Administration, Article V – Finance, Division 3 Purchasing, Contracting, and Selling Procedures

Motion by Dyer supported by Chin to approve Ordinance 2022-07 with the removal of Section 2-181 (c). Carried by unanimous roll call vote. Yea 7; Nay 0; Absent 0

- b. Approval of amendments to purchasing manual

Motion by Dyer supported by Weissenborn to approve the updated purchasing manual. Carried. Yea 7; Nay 0, Absent 0

- c. First reading of Ordinance 2022-08 Amending Chapters 32 and 34 to revoke provisions related to fortune telling and jostling and to renumber the fee schedule in accordance with state statute

Discussion from Van Langevelde on reasons to keep “jostling” in the original ordinance and to remove it from the language of this amendment.

Rodriguez cautioning citizens to avoid seeking fortune-tellers.

Motion by Dyer supported by Van Langevelde *to amend the motion to remove jostling from the language on Ord. 2022-08*. Carried by roll call vote. Yea 7; Nay 0; Absent 0

Motion by Dyer supported by Weissenborn to approve Ordinance 2022-08 *as amended*. Carried by roll call vote. Yea 6; Nay 1 (Rodriguez); Absent 0

- d. Approval of grant agreement amendment for Brownfield Redevelopment Grant – 406 N. Sheldon St.

Motion by Dyer supported by Chin to approve grant agreement amendment for Brownfield Redevelopment grant. Carried; Yea 7; Nay 0; Absent 0

- e. Approval of change order for two mini-pumper trucks utilizing Michigan Community Enhancement Grant funds

Motion by Dyer supported by Duweck to approve mini-pumper truck change order as presented. Carried. Yea 7; Nay 0; Absent 0

- f. Approval of Resolution 2022-27 authorizing submittal of MSHDA Grant Application to fund a Neighborhood Enhancement Program

Motion by Dyer supported by Weissenborn to approve MSHDA grant application to fund a Neighborhood Enhancement Program. Carried. Yea7; Nay 0; Absent 0

- g. Discussion to reschedule November 21, 2022 Regular Council Meeting.

Motion by Dyer supported by Van Langevelde to approve, by Resolution (2022-28) moving the Regular Council meeting from Monday November 21, 2022 to Monday November 28, 2022. Carried; Yea 7; Nay 0; Absent 0

- h. Set public hearings for November 21, 2022 and December 5, 2022 to consider establishing an Industrial Development District pursuant to the provision of Act 198 of the Public Acts of 1974, MCL 207.554

Motion by Dyer supported by Weissenborn to approve setting a public hearing on November 28 to consider establishing an Industrial Development District, and December 5 to consider an Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption requested by the Shyft Group. Carried. Yea 7; Nay 0; absent 0

**COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- a. City Attorney report was received
- b. City Manager report was received

LaPere mentioned the closing of City Hall for November 11, November 24 and November 25 for Veterans day and Thanksgiving, respectively; emergency services are available 24/7 for Police and Fire dial 9-1-1; for DPW dial 517-543-8874. Payments can be made via 2 onsite drop boxes or online. Utility billing available by email; curbside leaf collection; The City Beat and Charlotte Chronicles for November are available; Code Enforcement Report; RAVE Alerts; volunteer opportunities and available assistance programs.

c. Council member Committee Reports

Dyer – EATRAN – Work in process for a \$750k 3-yr state grant to explore a regional partnership to establish routes from Eaton County to Lansing

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Jody Pruden thanked Council for approval of the mini-pumper change order, she shared her concerns with Council changing meeting dates on short-notice, she agreed with the decision on keeping jostling in the original ordinance and would like to see status updates available to the public in regards to ordinance enforcement issues.

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

Chin – Suggested we look for solutions to help with phone answering at the City, thanked all veterans especially his son, thanked the City Clerk and poll workers for their election work, concerned about increasing crime numbers on the police report submitted and asked that the Chief(s) consider attending the meeting when their report is submitted to be available for questions

Duweck – Thanked Council for opportunity to attend the MML Conference. It was a great resource for learning through workshops as well as to network and socialize with people

facing similar issues. He learned about social districts, public housing, and marijuana. He looks forward to bringing some of the ideas he learned to future Council discussions. Overall great experience.

Dyer – this Sunday at 3 p.m. at Lawrence Avenue United Methodist Church, a neighborhood listening session and data collection is planned and he suggested that the council members who represent that neighborhood may be interested in attending.

Weissenborn – Thanked the meeting attendees and the Code Enforcement officer and Rental Inspection officers for their work, she sees the improvements and is appreciative. She thanked the Clerk and team for a well-run and busy election, the DPW for their leaf pick up and noted 3 more pick-ups scheduled November 21, 22 and 23 and she thanked Veterans for their service especially her son.

Rodriguez – Also concerned about increasing crime and mentioned the need for more officers. He has offered that anyone in the city who needs help with leaf raking and bagging to contact him as some of his students are seeking opportunities to work for service hours and may be able to help.

Van Langevelde – She thanked the veterans, election workers, and DPW. With regard to the increased crime numbers, she asked residents that if they see something, say something in regards to reporting incidences to the police and to continue to watch out for each other. She touched on moving the meeting dates and will take care to watch for any potential conflicts when scheduling next year’s meetings and she thanked all the attendees for sharing their views.

Armitage – In regards to phone calls, technology funds may be available (this fiscal year or next) to be used for a phone system upgrade. City Manager LaPere also noted that this topic was discussed at the last department head meeting to make sure

phone calls are a priority in each department and offered suggestions in that regard. Armitage finished by thanking the veterans and election workers.

**ADJOURN:**

Motion by Van Langevelde supported by Weissenborn to adjourn the meeting at 8:59 p.m. Carried; Yea 7; Nay 0; Absent 0

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Mayor Michael Armitage

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Mary LaRocque, City Clerk