

THE TWENTIETH REGULAR MEETING OF THE THIRTY-SIXTH COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BERKLEY, MICHIGAN WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:00 PM ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2016 BY MAYOR O'DWYER

PRESENT: Steve Baker Alan Kideckel
 Jack Blanchard Eileen Steadman
 Colleen Graveline Phil O'Dwyer

PRESENT: Daniel Terbrack

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilmember Kideckel moved to approve the Agenda with an amendment to move communications before item #5 Closed Session.

Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Baker.

Ayes: Blanchard, Graveline, Kideckel, Steadman, Baker, and O'Dwyer

Absent: Terbrack

Nays: None

Motion Approved.

INVOCATION PASTOR ADAM GROH

CITIZENS COMMENTS

City Clerk Phommady A. Boucher gave an Oath of Office to Public Safety Officer Brian D. Gothard.

Public Safety Director Richard M. Eshman spoke about Officer Brian Gothard's career of 23 years with the Royal Oak Fire Department as a Firefighter and Paramedic; where he rose to the rank of Lieutenant. Officer Gothard retired early from the Royal Oak Fire Department and was hired with the Berkley Public Safety Department in September 2015. He was schedule to attend the Police Academy in January 2016, but was diagnosed with acute myeloid leukemia in December 2015. Officer Gothard received treatment for 6 months then in July 2016 he was declared cancer free and fit for duty. In August, he entered the Oakland County Police Academy and graduated on Friday, December 16, 2016. Officer Gothard had a distinguished career as a Firefighter where he demonstrated what is known by police and fire as "street courage". In the past year, he has demonstrated a different type of courage while battling cancer. At the hospital when the outlook was grim; he always greeted everyone with a smile and an unbelievable sense of humor. His only expressed concerns were for his family. He constantly apologized for not being available or able to share the work load in the Public Safety Department. Brian wanted to share his experience and be an example for others in similar circumstances, show them there is hope and to encourage them to keep fighting. The Public Safety Department is very fortune to have a person with his character, courage, determination, and consideration for other people. He would make an outstanding Public Safety Officer.

Public Safety Officer Brian D. Gothard thanked council for the honor and recognition. He introduced his wife Sarah, his daughters Lauren and Ainsly and he expressed his appreciation for all their support.

Dan Mihaescu, Chairman of the Beautification Advisory Committee and Anela Mihaescu, Secretary of the Beautification Advisory Committee gave a PowerPoint presentation of the homes nominated for the 5th Annual Holiday Spirit Award. The winners are the Schneider Family at 3003 Kipling, the Quinn Family at 2729 Bacon, and the Hendrick Family at 3038 Griffith.

Consent Agenda

Councilmember Steadman moved to approve the following Consent Agenda, seconded by Councilmember Blanchard:

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: Matter of approving the minutes of the regular 36th City Council meeting on Monday, December 5, 2016, Work Session on Friday, December 9, 2016, and Joint Work Session on Friday, December 9, 2016.

WARRANT: Matter of approving Warrant No.1309.

Ayes: Graveline, Kideckel, Steadman, Baker, Blanchard, and O'Dwyer
Absent: Terbrack
Nays: None
Motion Approved.

Regular Agenda

RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS: Matter of any recognitions or presentations from the Consent Agenda.

PRESENTATION: Matter of receiving a presentation by Peter Brasseur from Ecotec Pest Control to discuss rodent mitigation.

Councilmember Steadman moved to receive a presentation by Peter Brasseur from Ecotec Pest Control. Seconded by Councilmember Graveline.

City Manager Baumgarten introduced guest speaker, Peter Brasseur, from Ecotec Pest Control.

Peter Brasseur educated the residents about rodent mitigation and expressed the importance of keeping our environment clean.

LuAnn Linker, Berkley resident at 2206 Dorothea and owner of Wild Birds Unlimited, asked the Mr. Brasseur to clarify the proper usage of bird feeders and explain the increase of rats in the past 10 years.

Rachel Piacentini, Berkley resident at 1726 Oxford, expressed her concerns with vacant homes and garages that are scheduled for demolition.

A Berkley resident expressed their concerns with sheds providing shelter for rats.

Wendi Zabramski, Berkley resident at 3340 Gardner, expressed her concerns of rats seen around garbage bins.

Jo Guenther, Berkley resident at 2753 Catalpa, expressed her concerns of proper vaccination for dogs.

MOTION NO. M-93-16: Matter of appointing individuals to the "Citizens Advisory Committee for Infrastructure Improvements" as discussed at the work session of the City Council on Friday, December 9, 2016.

Mayor Pro Tem Baker moved to approve Motion No. M-93-16.

Seconded by Councilmember Kideckel.

Ayes: Kideckel, Steadman, Baker, Blanchard, Graveline, and O'Dwyer

Absent: Terbrack

Nays: None

Motion Approved.

Mayor O'Dwyer read the fifteen nominees which include the following: Gary Borg, Josephine Brewer, Tim Canty, Tim Gaudet, Ross Gavin, David Hurst, Dan Mihaescu, Kaylyn Milan, Roseann Nicolai, Carla Osborne, Roman Przekop, Lori Robertson, Paul Shkreli, Nicole Smithson, and Melanie Stevens. He designated Tim Gaudet as Chairman and Melanie Stevens as Vice Chair.

MOTION NO. M-94-16: Matter of authorizing an additional appropriation of \$3,000 to complete the installation of interior and exterior LED lighting throughout the library. This amount will be added to the contract with Allied Building Service (1801 Howard St., Detroit, MI 48216), approved in September 2016. The additional \$3,000 will be paid from Capital Outlay (815-940-976.738), for a total project cost not to exceed \$45,000.

Councilmember Kideckel moved to approve Motion No. M-94-16.

Seconded by Councilmember Blanchard.

Ayes: Steadman, Baker, Blanchard, Graveline, Kideckel, and O'Dwyer

Absent: Terbrack

Nays: None

Motion Approved.

COMMUNICATIONS:

MAYOR PRO TEM BAKER: shared a quote from Artist Khalil Gibran, "Progress lies not in enhancing what is, but in advancing toward what will be." He spoke about the recruitment of the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) Director and their role in the community. Mayor Pro Tem Baker spoke about Yahoo's data breach and encouraged anyone doing online shopping to reset their passwords regularly. He expressed his gratitude for 2016, recognizing the volunteers, employees, residents, and businesses. Mayor Pro Tem Baker wished everyone a happy holiday season.

COUNCILMEMBER STEADMAN: spoke about the 4th Year of the Giving Tree; she shared that last year the library raised \$1,650 and was able to purchase 70 new items. More information may be found at www.berkely.lib.mi.us. Councilmember Steadman thanked the Beautification Advisory Committee and congratulated the winners of the Holiday Spirit Awards. She wished everyone a happy and safe holiday season.

COUNCILMEMBER BLANCHARD: thanked the Parks and Recreation Department and Farina's for hosting the Senior Holiday Luncheon. He wished everyone a safe holiday season.

COUNCILMEMBER GRAVELINE: congratulated Officer Brian Gothard and thanked him for sharing his personal story. She welcomed the Boy Scouts for attending tonight's meeting. Councilmember Graveline wished everyone a very Merry Christmas.

COUNCILMEMBER KIDECKEL: congratulated Officer Brian Gothard and is grateful to have him join the Public Safety Department. He thanked Karen Koerber from Farina's, the Parks and Recreation Department, and the Berkley Lions Club for making the Senior Holiday Luncheon a successful event. Councilmember Kideckel announced on Wednesday, December 21st at the Berkley High School is the Berkley Rotary Annual Holiday Concert beginning at 7p.m. This event is hosted by the Berkley Rotary Club, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Berkley Lions Club. Councilmember Kideckel wished everyone "Chag Molad Sameach" and "Chag Chanukah Sameach" (Merry Christmas and Happy Hanukkah in Hebrew). He wished everyone a happy, safe, and prosperous 2017.

CITY MANAGER BAUMGARTEN: on behalf of his family and city administration; wished the Council and residents a safe and happy holiday. Merry Christmas to all!

CITY ATTORNEY STARAN: wished everyone a happy, healthy, safe, and prosperous 2017.

MAYOR O'DWYER: encouraged everyone to consider lending a helping hand to those who are less fortunate; it will enrich your celebration of Christmas as well. On behalf of Councilmember Dan Terbrack, he extended a Christmas greeting to City Council and Berkley residents. Mayor O'Dwyer wished everyone "Merry Nollag agus bliain nua bheannaigh" (Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year in Gaelic).

COUNCIL MEETING ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Baker to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:55 p.m.
Seconded by Councilmember Kideckel.

Ayes: Baker, Blanchard, Graveline, Kideckel, Steadman, and O'Dwyer

Absent: Terbrack

Nays: None

Motion Approved.

CLOSED SESSION: Matter of considering convening in closed session pursuant to the Closed Meeting Act to perform City Manager's Six Month Performance Evaluation as Required by the Employment Agreement.

Adjourned to Closed Session at 7:55 PM:

Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Baker and seconded by Councilmember Kideckel

Ayes: Baker, Blanchard, Graveline, Kideckel, Steadman, and O'Dwyer

Absent: Terbrack

Nays: None

Motion Approved.

Mayor O'Dwyer reconvened the Closed Session at 8:00 PM:

Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Baker and seconded by Councilmember Kideckel

Absent: Terbrack

Nays: None

Unanimously approved.

CLOSED SESSION ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Councilmember Kideckel to adjourn the closed session at 8:19 p.m.

Seconded by Councilmember Blanchard.

Absent: Terbrack

Nays: None

Unanimously approved.