THE ELECTRONIC REGULAR MEETING OF THE THIRTY-EIGHTH COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BERKLEY, MICHIGAN WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:00 PM ON MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 2021 BY MAYOR TERBRACK

PRESENT:  Steve Baker, Berkley, Oakland County, Michigan  
          Jack Blanchard, Berkley, Oakland County, Michigan  
          Bridget Dean, Berkley, Oakland County, Michigan  
          Ross Gavin, Berkley, Oakland County, Michigan  
          Dennis Hennen, Berkley, Oakland County, Michigan  
          Natalie Price, Berkley, Oakland County, Michigan  
          Daniel Terbrack, Berkley, Oakland County, Michigan

APPROVAL OF AGENDA  
Councilmember Baker moved to approve the Agenda  
Seconded by Councilmember Hennen  
Ayes: Blanchard, Dean, Gavin, Hennen, Price, Baker, and Terbrack  
Nays: None  
Motion Approved.

INVOCATION: Pastor Adam Groh

PUBLIC COMMENT – ITEMS ON THE AGENDA  
There was no one present wishing to speak.

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

Ayes: Dean, Gavin, Hennen, Price, Baker, Blanchard, and Terbrack  
Nays: None  
Motion Approved.

Regular Agenda  
MOTION NO. M-01-21: Motion to approve the appointments to various boards and commissions.  
Councilmember Price moved to approve Motion No. M-01-21  
Seconded by Councilmember Blanchard  
Ayes: Gavin, Hennen, Price, Baker, Blanchard, Dean, and Terbrack  
Nays: None  
Motion Approved.
**MOTION NO. M-02-21**: Motion to consider an Interlocal Agreement with Oakland County to allow the City to participate in the Restaurant Relief Program and authorize the City Manager to sign on the City's behalf.
Mayor Pro Tem Dean moved to approve Motion No. M-02-21
Seconded by Councilmember Blanchard
Ayes: Hennen, Price, Baker, Blanchard, Dean, Gavin, and Terbrack
Nays: None
Motion Approved.

**RESOLUTION NO. R-01-21**: Matter of authorizing a resolution to amend rules for electronic meetings.
Councilmember Baker moved to approve Resolution No. R-01-21
Seconded by Councilmember Price
Ayes: Price, Baker, Blanchard, Dean, Gavin, Hennen, and Terbrack
Nays: None
Motion Approved.

**PUBLIC COMMENT – ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

There was no one present wishing to speak.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

**COUNCILMEMBER BAKER**: stated the Historical Committee continues to work on museum displays and scanning and archiving photos and articles. He said the Committee will not meet in January. The next Historical Committee meeting is scheduled for March. He said holiday mugs are still available and anyone interested may contact City Hall or send an email to museum@berkleymich.net. Councilmember Baker said the Technology Advisory Committee’s next meeting is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. February 17th. He stated the cyber tip of the meeting is to protect those new technology gifts received over the holidays by being smart about connecting to the internet and using appropriate passwords and firewalls. Councilmember Baker said the Downtown Development Authority’s next board meeting is 8:30 a.m. Wednesday, January 13th. He said an update on the wayfinding project will be provided. Councilmember Baker said the 21 Days of Berkley promotion continues. He said participants could earn $20 in downtown Berkley bucks for every $40 spent at participating downtown businesses. He said the promotion takes place January 4th-24th. He stated participating businesses may be found on the website and all you need to do is take a picture and send in your receipts and mailing address to marketing@downtownberkley.com. He said anyone receiving Berkley bucks will have until the end of February to spend them. Councilmember Baker recited a quote by Joel Osteen and said he imagines many people are thankful to say goodbye to 2020. He said at the same time there are things to be thankful for and there is a new road ahead of us. He said now is a good time to pause and reflect and decide how 2021 will be great for you. Councilmember Baker provided suggestions to do so and reminded everyone to take care of themselves and those around you.

**COUNCILMEMBER PRICE**: stated the holiday season brought great joy to her family and her neighbors. She thanked Theresa, Dan, Joe, and the rest of the Parks and Recreation crew for the holiday display and light tunnel that made holiday walks magical. Councilmember Price also thanked the small business owners for providing many gifts and all the restaurant workers who made carryout delicious. Councilmember Price thanked everyone for keeping the little free pantries and little free libraries full. Councilmember Price thanked all the neighbors helping each other out by plowing and shoveling each other’s sidewalks. Councilmember Price said many of her friends, in various corners of the city, report the same phenomenon that residents more than ever are reaching out and finding ways to support one another. She said we are lucky to call this city our home.
COUNCILMEMBER BLANCHARD: stated Oakland County COVID-19 rates are trending down. He encourages everyone to keep up the good work – everything looks great – while continuing to support local businesses and restaurants. He said they both need our support. Councilmember Blanchard said he hopes everyone had a good holiday and he looks forward to getting back to work this year.

MAYOR PRO TEM DEAN: stated the Parks and Recreation Department Senior Chair Yoga begins virtually January 4th. She said the Parks and Recreation Department park scavenger hunt will begin within the week and please visit the Department’s Facebook page for more information. Mayor Pro Tem Dean said remember to check out the tunnel of lights outside the Community Center on your evening walk or bike ride. She said it is a jewel in the city. Mayor Pro Tem Dean thanked the residents of Berkley for their continued support of the downtown businesses. She said as a Berkley business owner, she thanks everyone and knows that other business owners are thankful too. She said the restaurants especially need our support right now.

COUNCILMEMBER HENNEN: stated the Tree Board will next meet online 7 p.m. Monday, January 11th. Councilmember Hennen said The Zoning Board of Appeals has no cases to hear in January, so there will not be a meeting. Councilmember Hennen wished everyone a Happy New Year.

COUNCILMEMBER GAVIN: stated the Planning Commission will meet 7 p.m. Tuesday, January 26th and there is also a work session at 7 p.m. tomorrow. He stated all of the Zoom links may be found on the City’s calendar. Councilmember Gavin said the Environmental Advisory Committee will meet 6:30 p.m. Thursday, January 21st. Councilmember Gavin wished everyone a Happy New Year.

CITY MANAGER BAUMGARTEN: wished everyone a healthy, prosperous 2021 and said he is looking forward to better things to come.

ATTORNEY STARAN: had nothing to report other than to ditto the city manager’s comments and greeting to everybody.

CLERK MITCHELL: had nothing to report other than to echo everyone’s wishes for a Happy New Year.

MAYOR TERBRACK: quipped that he would go out on a limb and say this will be shortest meeting of 2021. He referenced the length of the first meeting in 2020 and said things are already looking up! Mayor Terbrack said he was thinking on a similar wave length as Councilmember Baker when preparing for this meeting. He said most people focus on all of the changes they plan to make in a new year with resolutions about exercising, diet, etc. Mayor Terbrack said although that is admirable and important, he thinks it is equally important to not forget the lessons learned in the prior year. He said although 2020 was challenging, there were some points of pride in our City. He gave the examples of real movements and conversation about actions toward eradicating systemic racism in our country and the outpouring of support for neighbors in need and people feeling lonely. He referenced residents, like Deb DeRosa, who took it upon themselves to keep our community safe and have masks available for folks. He said most of us learned how to hide our Zoom videos and mute others and that we could actually work remotely. Mayor Terbrack said in 2020, that “We Care” motto has never been more apropos. He said there are many other things that he could have listed. He said as we look forward toward resolutions and changes that we want to make in 2021, let’s not forget the things that helped us through the last year because those things all matter and always will. Mayor Terbrack said here is to a great 2021 and let’s remember the things that we learned in 2020.

ADJOURNMENT
Councilmember Baker moved to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:33 p.m. Seconded by Councilmember Blanchard
Ayes: Blanchard, Dean, Gavin, Hennen, Price, Baker, and Terbrack
Nays: None
Motion Approved.