

CITY OF WYANDOTTE
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

A Regular Session of the Wyandotte City Council was held in Council Chambers, on Monday, December 3, 2018, and was called to order at 7:00pm with Honorable Mayor Joseph R. Peterson presiding.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by roll call.

Present: Councilpersons Robert Alderman, Christopher Calvin, Robert DeSana, Megan Maiani, Leonard Sabuda, and Donald Schultz

Absent: City Assessor Theodore Galeski

Also Present: Todd Browning, City Treasurer; William Look, City Attorney; Mark Kowalewski, City Engineer; and Lawrence Stec, City Clerk

PRESENTATION

- Presentation by Brian Webb of the Zombie Pub Crawl to the “Yes, Ma’am” program

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS

PUBLIC HEARINGS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

CONSENT AGENDA

2018-490 CONSENT AGENDA APPROVALS

By Councilperson Sabuda, supported by Councilperson Alderman

BE IT RESOLVED that the following items on the consent agenda be approved:

1. Approval of Council Meeting Minutes – November 19, 2018
2. The Year of the Bird Proclamation
3. Antenna Site License Agreement – Sprint/1077 Grove

Motion unanimously carried.

2018-491 MINUTES

By Councilperson Sabuda, supported by Councilperson Alderman

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held under the date of November 19, 2018, be approved as corrected.

Motion unanimously carried.

2018-492 YEAR OF THE BIRD PROCLAMATION

By Councilperson Sabuda, supported by Councilperson Alderman

WHEREAS, birds are present in every environment urban or rural, wetland or prairie, and are an ever-present reminder of beauty of nature all around us.

WHEREAS, 2018 is the centennial year of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act which protects over 1000 bird species including birds in our backyards, and those that nest and/or migrate through our city on their international journeys, using our abundant woods, fields, river banks, and wetlands in our city parks and in the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge, which is partly within our city,

WHEREAS ON MAY 22, 2017 Detroit was designated the 29th Urban Bird Treaty City by the US Fish and Wildlife Service because of the Detroit area’s amazing diversity of birds, bird habitats, and that the region has adopted a plan (Detroit Urban Bird Treaty Action Strategy) to protect and enhance that diversity.

WHEREAS THE DETROIT RIVER WHICH IS LITERALLY OUR “FRONT YARD,” HAS BEEN DESIGNATED AN IMPORTANT BIRD AREA by National Audubon Society, Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology, and Birdlife International.

WHEREAS, each year, more than 250 migrating bird species grace us with reminders of their fortitude and persistence to make long journeys from Central and South America to or through Southeast Michigan, Wayne County, and Detroit.

WHEREAS, in February 2018 Wayne County environmentalists, naturalists, and birders of Detroit Audubon reported local sightings of 510 individual birds of 115 species during the Michigan Great Backyard Bird Count, and Detroit Audubon has documented over 350 species of bird species in Southeast Michigan.

WHEREAS Wyandotte is an important site for the February international waterfowl survey, a cooperative effort between Detroit Audubon and Bird Studies Canada.

WHEREAS, local agencies play critical roles in monitoring, studying, counting, feeding, enhancing habitat, and assisting injured birds including Detroit Audubon, Metro-Detroit Nature Network, Detroit Zoo, the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge, the Friends of the Detroit River, the River Raisin Institute, Washtenaw Bird Center, and the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Park Authority.

WHEREAS, our local area includes a significant migratory and wintering assemblage of Canvasback Ducks totaling 10% of the world’s population and the Western Lake Erie Basin serves as a stop-over for thousands of raptors and migratory water fowl.

WHEREAS, human actions present the number one threat to birds; including change in the climate, destruction of habitat, planting of non-native and invasive plants that reduce natural food sources, collisions with buildings, introduction of invasive animal species, and overuse of chemicals in yards and fields creating toxic runoff in waterways. All of which can be mitigated or prevented through common sense best practices.

THEREFORE, in honor of the 100th anniversary of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, I, Mayor Joseph R. Peterson, do hereby proclaim 2018 to be **Year of the Bird in the City of Wyandotte** and urge businesses and citizens to promote the conservation of our environment, the planting of native trees, and the protection of birds that live in and travel through our city, the Detroit River Watershed, and the Mississippi and Atlantic Flyways which converge here.

Motion unanimously carried.

2018-493 ANTENNA SITE LICENSE AGREEMENT – SPRINT/1077 GROVE

By Councilperson Sabuda, supported by Councilperson Alderman

BE IT RESOLVED that Council approves the Consent Letter to Antenna License Agreement for the tower at 1077 Grove with Sprint; AND

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and City Clerk are hereby authorized to execute said Letter.

Motion unanimously carried.

NEW BUSINESS

2018-494 RETIREE HEALTH CARE PLAN – REVISED CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN

By Councilperson Sabuda, supported by Councilperson Alderman

BE IT RESOLVED that the Correction Action Plan (Form 5597) submitted by the City Administrator is received and placed on file; AND

Further, notes that the Application demonstrates actions that have been undertaken to mitigate this underfunded status which include eliminating defined benefit retiree health care coverage for employees hired after 2008, 2009, 2011, and 2013 (depending on employee group) and transferring funds from the City’s General Fund to the Retiree Health Care Trust Fund; AND

Further, notes that the City has contributed additional funds to the retiree health care trust in excess of the annual cost of retiree healthcare in each of the past five (5) years and has increased the value of the retiree health care trust fund from a deficit of \$247,000 in 2003 to \$2.357 million in 2017; AND

Further, acknowledges the Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB) Projection for the City of Wyandotte Retiree Health Care Plan (Plan) prepared by GRS Retirement Consulting dated November 9, 2018, which indicates that the Plan will achieve a 40% funded level within thirty (30) years if an additional \$38,020 is contributed to the Trust Fund annually; AND

Further, instructs the City Administrator to make the necessary budget amendments to facilitate this additional annual contribution beginning in the current fiscal year (2019) and for the next thirty (30) years; AND

Thus, the City Council approves the Corrective Action Plan as prepared and recommended by the City Administrator.

Motion unanimously carried.

2018-495 HIRING OF PROBATIONARY POLICE OFFICER – J. JUDGE

By Councilperson Sabuda, supported by Councilperson Alderman

BE IT RESOLVED that Council Concurs with the determination that vacancies exist for the position of Police Officer and the Council authorizes the filling of such vacancies and

FURTHER RESOLVED that subsequent to a written examination, physical agility test, background investigation and interview panel conducted by the police department, candidate Jorden Judge is being offered employment as Probationary Police Officer contingent upon her successful completion of a physical, drug screen, psychological examination and the successful completion of the police academy.

Motion unanimously carried.

2018-496 SALE OF FORMER 1331 WALNUT

By Councilperson Sabuda, supported by Councilperson Alderman

BE IT RESOLVED that Council concurs with the communication from the City Engineer regarding the sale of Former 1331 Walnut, Wyandotte; AND

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Council accepts the offer from Joan Cochran to acquire 22.5 feet of the Former 1331 Walnut in the amount of \$1,125.00; AND

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Legal Affairs is hereby directed to prepare the necessary documents and the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to sign said Documents.

Motion unanimously carried.

2018-497 CLOSED SESSION

By Councilperson Sabuda, supported by Councilperson Alderman

RESOLVED that the Mayor and City Administrator have expressed a desire to meet in closed session to consider the purchase of real property. This is in accordance with Section 15.268d of PA 267 of 1976.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this Body will meet in closed session immediately following the regularly scheduled Council meeting for the above-stated purpose only.

Motion unanimously carried.

BILLS & ACCOUNTS

2018-498 BILLS & ACCOUNTS

By Councilperson Sabuda, supported by Councilperson Alderman

RESOLVED that the total bills and accounts of \$1,160,499.73 as presented by the Mayor and City Clerk are hereby APPROVED for payment.

Motion unanimously carried.

REPORTS & MINUTES

Beautification Commission

October 10 & November 14, 2018

Daily Cash Receipts

November 21, 2018

Fire Commission

November 13, 2018

Police Commission

November 13 & November 27, 2018

Retirement Commission

October 19, 2018

Zoning Board of Appeals

November 7, 2018

REMARKS OF THE MAYOR, COUNCIL, & ELECTED OFFICIALS

None

ADJOURNMENT**2017-499 ADJOURNMENT**

By Councilperson Sabuda, supported by Councilperson Alderman

RESOLVED, that this regular meeting of the Wyandotte City Council be adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Motion unanimously carried.



Lawrence S. Stec, City Clerk