Via ZOOM Conferencing, Meeting ID 978 4778 3218

The City Council of the City of Lansing met in regular session and was called to order at 7:12 p.m. by President Spadafore

PRESENT:  Council Members Betz, Dunbar, Garza, Hussain, Jackson, Spadafore, Spitzley, Wood

ABSENT:  None

A quorum was present.

President Spadafore asked people to keep our frontline and healthcare workers in their thoughts during the moment of Meditation. The Council observed a moment of Meditation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by President Spadafore.

COMMENTS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS AND THE CITY CLERK

Council Member Betz shared details on his upcoming First Ward constituent events: a virtual happy hour and a virtual coffee hour.

COMMUNITY EVENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Loretta Stanaway shared details about upcoming free geranium give-away for use at Lansing Cemeteries.

SPEAKER REGISTRATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

City Clerk Swope announced that the public needed to electronically "raise their hand" in order to speak during public comment period.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Schor spoke about donations to the One Lansing Fund, Mobil Food Pantry, Memorial Day Ceremony, Neighborhood Grant Awards, Parking Enforcement Update and encouraged the public to please complete your U.S. Census form after City employees recently made over 5,000 phone calls to lower turnout census tracts.

Council Member Wood asked a question about the reported increase in COVID-19 illness in 48911 compared to other zip codes in the County, and the Mayor responded.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

Legislative Matters included the following public hearings:

1.  In consideration of an Ordinance to Amend Chapter 260 to allow the Lansing Housing Commission to own and transact real property in its own name, and to remove certain approvals by the City

2.  In consideration of a Noise Special Permit: E.T. MacKenzie Company request to allow for work on Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. for the period of May 16, 2020, through September 19, 2020 to construct underground utility improvements in the Forest Road right-of-way)

PUBLIC COMMENT ON LEGISLATIVE MATTERS:

Loretta Stanaway spoke in opposition to the street renaming to Riverfront Drive.

LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

REFERRAL OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

Council Member Spitzley and Vice President Hussain gave overviews of the public hearings.

1.  In consideration of an Ordinance to Amend Chapter 260 to allow the Lansing Housing Commission to own and transact real property in its own name, and to remove certain approvals by the City

2.  In consideration of a Noise Special Permit: E.T. MacKenzie Company request to allow for work on Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. for the period of May 16, 2020, through September 19, 2020 to construct underground utility improvements in the Forest Road right-of-way)

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION #2020-077

BY COUNCIL MEMBERS BETZ, DUNBAR, GARZA, HUSSAIN, JACKSON, SPAFAORE, SPITZLEY AND WOOD

RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANSING

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020 under Resolution 2020-053, City Council approved Mayor Schor’s Declaration of Emergency through April 10, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on April 13, 2020 under Resolution 2020-053, City Council approved Mayor Schor’s Declaration of Emergency through April 30, 2020; and on April 27th, 2020 under Resolution 2020-069 City Council approved Mayor Schor’s Declaration of Emergency through May 15, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Resolutions emphasized the fact that the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) is a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death. It is caused by a new strain of coronavirus that had not been previously identified in humans and can easily spread from person to person; and

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, the United States Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar declared a public health emergency for COVID-19, and affected state and local governments have also declared states of emergency; and

WHEREAS, on March 23, 2020 Governor Whitmer signed a “Stay Safe, Stay Home” Executive Order in response to the severe health and concerns relating to the COVID-19 outbreak in the State of Michigan, and under the authority granted under Chapter 234.05, the Lansing Emergency Management Ordinance, the Mayor declared a
local state of emergency on March 16, 2020 taking effect March 17, 2020; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lansing City Council finds that the circumstances warrant an extension of the Mayor’s emergency declaration and continuation of the emergency response plan to ensure that public health is protected; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the City Council approves an extension of the declaration of emergency, through and including June 8, 2020, and authorizes such powers and duties as provided by Chapter 234.05, the Lansing Emergency Management Ordinance, together with those powers provided by statute, including those set forth in MCL § 30.401 et seq.

By Vice President Hussain

Motion Carried by the following roll call vote:

Yeas:  Council Members Betz, Dunbar, Garza, Hussain, Jackson, Spadafore, Spitzley, Wood

Nays:  None

RESOLUTION #2020-076

BY THE COMMITTEE ON PERSONNEL

RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANSING

WHEREAS, on April 9, 2020 the Personnel Committee confirmed the selection of Renee Richmond as the new Committee Clerk/Administrative Assistant-25 position for City Council; and

WHEREAS, Renee Richmond has been vetted by the Human Resource Department and meets all the requirements.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lansing City Council, hereby, appoints Renee Richmond to the position of Committee Clerk/Administrative Assistant-25 for the City Council to begin on May 4, 2020.

By Vice President Hussain

Motion Carried by the following roll call vote:

Yeas:  Council Members Betz, Dunbar, Garza, Hussain, Jackson, Spadafore, Spitzley, Wood

Nays:  None

RESOLUTION #2020-079

BY THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANSING

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on Monday, May 11, 2020, in consideration of the request by E.T. MacKenzie Company, the construction contractor for the McLaren Greater Lansing Offsite Infrastructure Improvements Project, for issuance of a waiver of the noise ordinance on Saturdays from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM for the period May 16, 2020, through September 19, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the associated utility improvements, including new potable watermain and new sanitary sewer, are necessary to support and serve the forthcoming, new McLaren Greater Lansing Hospital Development; and

WHEREAS, this sanitary sewer work is atypically deep (i.e., an average of approximately 18 feet deep) resulting in complete removal of the roadway and the full closure to vehicular traffic of this City major street, Forest Road; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the construction contract, the contractor, E.T. MacKenzie Company, is required to complete a large amount of work in a short timeframe prior to the mid-September completion date; and

WHEREAS, the City of Lansing Public Service Department recommends that the contractor be granted the requested noise waiver in order to:

- limit the amount of time local access for property owners is impacted;
- limit the amount of time that vehicular traffic will be detoured; and
- keep the project on-schedule; and

WHEREAS, no substantive written or verbal comments in opposition to this noise waiver were received from anyone within the project area at the public hearing or during the public comment period.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council grant a waiver of the noise ordinance on Saturdays from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM for the period May 16, 2020, through September 19, 2020.

By Vice President Hussain

Motion Carried by the following roll call vote:

Yeas:  Council Members Betz, Dunbar, Garza, Hussain, Jackson, Spadafore, Spitzley, Wood

Nays:  None

SPEAKER REGISTRATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON CITY GOVERNMENT RELATED MATTERS

City Clerk Swope announced that the public needed to electronically “raise their hand” in order to speak during public comment period.

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICERS, BOARDS, AND COMMISSIONS; COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS; AND OTHER CITY RELATED MATTERS

By Vice President Hussain that all items be considered as being read in full and that President Spadafore make the appropriate referrals

Motion Carried by the following roll call vote:

Yeas:  Council Members Betz, Dunbar, Garza, Hussain, Jackson, Spadafore, Spitzley, Wood

Nays:  None

- Reports from City Officers, Boards and Commissions:
  1. Letter(s) from the City Clerk re:
     a. Polling Place; Temporary Relocation of Ward 3, Precinct 24 and Ward 3, Precinct 25 to Alfreda Schmidt Southside Community Center for the August 4, 2020 Primary Election

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

PUBLIC COMMENT ON CITY GOVERNMENT RELATED MATTERS

District Judge Cynthia Ward shared that the Court is operating during the pandemic. The public can view the proceedings online via YouTube which can be accessed from the District Court website: https://www.lansingmi.gov/150/54-A-District-Court
ADJOURNED TIME 7:50 P.M.

CHRIS SWOPE, CITY CLERK