

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE HIGHLAND PARK CITY COUNCIL
OCTOBER 15, 2012**

Council convened at 7:06 p.m. with Council President Christopher Woodard presiding.

**Present: Council Pro-Tem Lewis, Councilmember Moore, Councilmember Patrick,
Councilmember McClary and Council President Woodard (5).**

Absent: None (0).

A quorum being present, Council was declared in session.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

**Moved by Council Pro Tem Lewis
Supported by Councilmember McClary**

To approve the agenda with the following additions.

- 1. Water Recalculation Assessment Program (WRAP)**
- 2. Closed Session to consult with attorney re: pending litigation**

**Moved by Council Pro Tem Lewis
Supported by Councilmember McClary**

To approve with the additions. Yeas (4), Nays (1) Councilmember McClary, Absent (0).

PRESENTATIONS:

Lisa M. Braddix, Breast Cancer Program Specialist shared the following information and asked for the City's support.

**Re: Susan G. Komen Detroit Race for the Cure: Breast cancer education
And education screening initiative in Highland Park, MI.**

The Susan G. Komen Detroit Race for the Cure asks for your support and assistance in addressing the breast cancer and health care needs of Highland Park, Mi. Established in 1992. Komen Detroit is a affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure the largest grassroots network of breast cancer survivors and activists in the world. We are committed to fulfilling our mission of saving lives and ending breast cancer forever by empowering people, ensuring quality care for all and energizing science to find the cure.

Komen Detroit recently was approved for a grant to facilitate a project to educate the residents of Highland Park, MI and provide them exposure to multiple, local breast cancer resources. We are seeking the Highland Park City Council's support to identify churches, local business and community organizations to develop partnerships and explore opportunities to provide education workshops that will include access to breast cancer screening and treatment resources for residents during the upcoming months. We are proud to acknowledge the following local venues that have agreed to host upcoming breast cancer education workshops.

**New Grace Missionary Baptist Church, Beverly Cooper-Edwards
Park Place, Fred Johnson**

We hope that we can count on your support as we seek to address the health care needs in Highland Park. We look forward to working with you to achieve our vision of a world breast cancer.

Frank Ross, Chairman of the Highland Park Planning Commission presented Councilmembers with an Annual Report from the commission.

Chairman Ross explained the commission primary mission is to take action on proposed economic development for Highland Park by assuring that the developer's Site Plans adhere to the Zoning Ordinance guidelines and other reference documents like the Master Plan, he also spoke about special projects that have been completed or are near completion.

ADMINISTRATION:

10-15 item#1

The following resolution was submitted by administration for approval.

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH MARYGROCE COLLEGE
FOR USE OF FIELDHOUSE FACILITIES**

WHEREAS, Marygrove College wishes to enter an agreement with the City of Highland Park; and

WHEREAS, the term of this agreement is to be one (1) year; and

WHEREAS, Marygrove requires facilities for the purpose of collegiate sports games, athletic team practice sessions, and College recreational/intramural activities; and

WHEREAS, Marygrove College wishes to lease the Ernest T. Ford Fieldhouse for those purposes; now

THEREFORE IT BE RESOVED; that the City Council hereby approves an agreement between the City and Marygrove College for use of the Ernest T. Ford Fieldhouse, and authorizes the administration to execute the contract.

**Moved by Councilmember McClary
Supported by Councilmember Patrick to discuss**

**Council asked what items would be offer for sale?
Where is the copy of liability insurance?
Where is the fee schedule that was requested and need to be approved before any events are scheduled?**

Councilmember Patrick withdraw his support.

ITEM FAILED DUE TO A LACK OF SUPPORT TO APPROVE

10-15 item#2

The following request was submitted by administration.

WHEREAS, the City of Highland Park desires to arrange for non-emergency transportation to and from designated destinations.

WHEREAS, People's Community Services provides general transportation services to the residents of its service area,

WHEREAS, the parties wish to enter into an agreement for the provision of certain transportation services desired by the City of Highland Park, and

WHEREAS the City of Highland Park wishes to apply to SMART for our Municipal and Community Credits available for the period July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013 and agree that the Municipal and Community Credits Master Agreement is incorporated herein by reference and forms part of this agreement.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOVLVED that city council approves the transportation agreement between the city and PCS of Metropolitan Detroit. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0)

10-15 item #3

The following proposal was submitted from administration for approval.

WATER RECALCULATION-ASSESSMENT PROGRAM (W.R.A.P.) PROPOSAL FOR CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL

WHEREAS, the City has significant outstanding water accounts receivable as a result of problems with its billing collection system and staff shortages; and

WHEREAS, the City has lacked the resources to operate the billing system in a timely fashion as a result of these problem; and

WHEREAS, the administration is proposing a Water recalculation-Assessment Program (W.R.A.P.) in order to obtain uncollected enterprise funds and provide citizens an incentive to pay water liabilities to the City; and

WHEREAS, W.R.A.P. provides a 30-day window from the date of the 3rd Quarter Billing Cycle for citizens to pay water liabilities to the City and to avoid penalties, interest and surcharges by making a one-fourth (1/4) down payment, which may be appealed on a case-by-case basis, as assessed by the Water Department, and establishing a payment plan with the City going forward for the remaining balance;

NOW BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City Council approves the W.R.A.P. proposal and authorizes the City administration to begin implementation of the proposal immediately.

**Moved by Council Pro Tem Lewis
Supported by Councilmember Patrick**

To approve the above proposal. Yeas (4), Nays (1) Councilmember McClary, Absent (0).

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

10-15-item#4 The following communication was received from the Community and Economic Development Director requesting approval the vacant abandoned property and lot registration ordinance be adopted.

TITLE FOUR-CHAPTER 1450 1450-01 PURPOSE

The purpose of this chapter is to help protect the health, safety and welfare of the citizens by preventing blight, protecting property value and neighborhood integrity, avoiding the creation and maintenance of nuisances and ensuring safe and sanitary maintenance and securing all dwellings, commercial and industrial building. Due to economic conditions, mortgage fraud, foreclosures and increased bankruptcies, many homes and buildings have become vacant and unsupervised. This has caused properties to become attractive nuisances for minors and criminal activity. Vacant properties have a negative impact on surrounding properties and neighborhoods. Potential buyers are deterred by the presence of nearby vacant abandoned buildings. There is an increased instance of unsecured or open doors and windows, broken water pipes, theft of metals and other materials, overgrowth of grass, weeds, shrubs and bushes, illegal dumping and rat and vermin activity at vacant structures. Structures that are open to illegal entry become easy targets for arsonists and result in adjacent structures fires which create additional dilapidated structures that require demolition, more blight and more vacant structures. Such neglect and additional blight devalues properties and causes deterioration in neighborhoods and commercial areas. Further, it is important for the city to be able to contact owners of vacant properties and vacant lots for property maintenance, fire safety, and police purposes.

Moved by Councilmember Patrick
Supported by Councilmember Moore

To scheduled a Public Hearing on November 19th 2012 at 7:00 p.m. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

CITY CLERK

10-15- item#5

The Clerk submitted a facility rental application for the Ernest T. Ford Recreation Center from George Washington Carver Academy.

George Washington Carver Academy request to use Ernest T. Ford Receration Center 9-17-2012 thru 11-17-2012 for basketball practice and games.

Moved by Councilmember McClary
Supported by Councilmember Moore

To approve the facility rental application of George Washington Carver Academy to use the Ernest t. Ford Fieldhouse 9-17-2012 thru 11-17-2012 for basketball practice and games. Yeas (3), Nays (2) Council Pro Tem Lewis and Councilmember Patrick, Absent (0).

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10-15- item#6

The following communication was received from the City Clerk.

I respectfully request your approval of the rate of pay for the Election Workers and the establishment of polling places for the Presidential General election to be held on Tuesday, November 6, 2012.

Moved by Council Pro Tem Lewis
Supported by Councilmember McClary

BE IT RESOLVED that all persons serving on the Election Board for the Presidential General election shall be paid on a fee basis; and the fee to be paid for Chairman shall be the sum of \$150.00 each and the fee to be paid for Inspector shall be the sum of \$125.00 each which include the \$10.00 fee for attending the training session prior to the election.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following places are hereby designated as the polling places within each of the Election Precincts of the City of Highland Park for the Presidential General election to be held on November 6, 2012.

PRECINCT	LOCATION	
1	God's House of Prayer Baptist Church	11843 Hamilton
4&15	Highland Park Recreation Center	10 Pitkin
7&8	Faith Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church	16548 Hamilton
12&20	New Mt. Moriah Baptist Church	13100 Woodward
14	Bishop G.D/ Moore Apartments	99 Manchester
18	Robert B. Blackwell Municipal Complex	12050 Woodward
23	Downes Manor	13725 John R
25	Soul Harvest Ministries Church	16300 Woodward

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the rate of pay for elections workers and the establishment of polling places for the Presidential General election to be held Tuesday, November 6, 2012 be approved. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).

**Moved by Councilmember McClary
To reconsider the vote to approve an agreement with Marygrove College for use of
Ernest T. Ford Fieldhouse.
Supported by Councilmember Moore**

**Yeas(2) Councilmember McClary & Moore, Nays (3) Council Pro Tem Lewis,
Councilmember Patrick and Council President Woodard. Absent (0).**

OUTSIDE COMMUNICATION:

The following communication was received from T. Van Horn President, MHT.

10-15- item#7

**MHT Housing, Inc. is a developer of affordable housing and currently owns five
apartments communities in the City of Highland Park. MHT's 20+year relationship
with the city began with the acquisition and rehabilitation of Glendale Buena Vista
Apartments in 1990. Today, MHT is facilitating the renovation of Benjamin Manor
Townhomes, an 81 unit community featuring 22 special needs units for individuals of
greatest need in the city.**

**Our goal is to continue to provide quality affordable housing that offers an
environment residents can be proud of. That goal extends beyond the walls of our
facilities and into the surrounding neighborhood as we take steps to assist the
community in providing a safe and beautiful environment.**

**As a part of this goal, MHT Housing is requesting to "Adopt" the median on
Manchester Parkway between Benjamin Manor and Gabrielle Apartments extending
from Hamilton to Woodward Ave. MHT will maintain the land with its own landscape
team and post a sign on the median that reads "This property has been cleaned and
maintained by Benjamin Manor Apartments, Gabrielle Apartments & Highland Manor
Apartments for the safety and beautification of our community.**

**This proposal will reduce the city's workload in that area and add to the
beautification of the neighborhood.**

**Moved by Councilmember Patrick
Supported by Councilmember Moore**

**To refer the above communication to the Planning Commission. Yeas (5) Nays (0),
Absent (0).**

CITY COUNCIL AFFAIRS

Councilmember Moore ask who approved the removal of the computer equipment that was received from St. Augustine Foundation? Attorney Perkins stated he will provide a road map on how the equipment was returned.

**Moved by Councilmember McClary
Supported by Council Pro Tem Lewis**

**To recess the regular meeting to meet in close session; meeting recessed at 9:15 p.m.
Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0).**

**Moved by Councilmember Patrick
Supported by Council Pro Tem Lewis**

**To adjourn close session and reconvene the regular meeting. Yeas (5), Nays (0),
Absent (0). Close session adjourn at 9:40 p.m.**

**Moved by Councilmember Patrick
Supported by Council Pro Tem Lewis**

**To reconvene the regular meeting. Yeas (5), Nays (0), Absent (0) meeting
reconvened at 9:43 p.m.**

**Moved by Council Pro Tem Lewis
Supported by Councilmember Patrick**

To adjourn the regular meeting; motion carried meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.