



City of Plymouth
City Commission Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, April 5, 2021 - 7:00 p.m.
In-Person at 525 Farmer and Online Webinar

City of Plymouth
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1. CALL TO ORDER

- a. Mayor Wolcott called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
- b. Roll Call

Present: Mayor Oliver Wolcott, Mayor Pro Tem Nick Moroz, Commissioners Suzi Deal, Ed Krol, Kelly O'Donnell, Marques Thomey, and Tony Sebastian

Also present: City Manager Paul Sincock, Attorney Robert Marzano, and various members of the City administration

2. CITIZENS COMMENTS

Jack Wilson, 1157 Penniman, asked whether the City followed up on the Federal Railroad Administration suggestions in their 2014 diagnostic team field review. He also asked about COVID-19 staffing levels and the condition of Smith Park.

Ellen Elliott, 404 Irvin, said the Gathering project is coming along well. She also said there is a problem with rats in the northwest area of the City and asked that the City formulate and communicate a mitigation plan.

Brock Minton, 1202 Sheridan, asked if there could be a four-way stop at Evergreen and Sheridan and whether the Recreation Department would be reinstating adult leagues.

Geff Phillips, 397 Arthur, asked whether the City has an ordinance regarding feeding animals.

Jim Mulhern, 396 Arthur, said he concurs with Elliott.

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Thomey offered a motion, seconded by Sebastian, to approve the agenda for Monday, April 5, 2021.

There was a roll call vote.

Yes: Deal, Krol, Moroz, O'Donnell, Thomey, Sebastian, Wolcott

MOTION PASSED 7-0

4. ENACTMENT OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approval of March 15, 2021 City Commission Regular Meeting Minutes
- b. Special Event Approval – Downtown Plymouth Spring Artisan Market, Saturday, April 24, 2021
- c. Special Event Approval – Old Village Yard & Trunk Sale, Saturday, April 24, 2021
- d. Special Event Approval – Wednesday Night Workouts, Wednesdays Memorial Day through Labor Day

Moroz offered a motion, seconded by Krol, to approve the consent agenda.

There was a roll call vote.

Yes: Deal, Krol, Moroz, O'Donnell, Thomey, Sebastian, Wolcott

MOTION PASSED 7-0

5. COMMISSION COMMENTS

Wolcott said the administration would work on a strategy to educate residents how to discourage rodents. He also addressed the railroad question, stating that the crossings are under the federal government jurisdiction. He emphasized that every employee of the City is considered essential and instrumental in keeping the City running throughout the pandemic. Wolcott also stated that the City appreciates the efforts of local civic groups sponsoring the parks and that other groups would be welcome to do so as well. He asked Minton to email him about the four-way stop question.

Recreation Director Steve Anderson said current state restrictions do not allow adult leagues to resume yet.

Moroz said he appreciated the flexibility of the staff that allows for them to do things such as vaccine clinics.

O'Donnell said Smith Park looks great and that she would like residents to stop feeding deer as well. She asked that those submitting special event applications check to ensure they have completed all information.

Thomey recognized Department of Municipal Services Director Chris Porman for his leadership when the city manager was on vacation and mentioned the need for civic groups to help maintain the parks. He added that the fire department is moving in the right direction with its metrics.

Krol said Royal Oak has an effective rodent control system that Plymouth may wish to explore.

Wolcott congratulated Aaron Micek, Trent Kalis, Ron Baase, Jeff Jones, Sam Plymale and James Baber for their work anniversaries in the City.

6. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

7. NEW BUSINESS

a. Tentative Agreement with Plymouth DMS Employee Union (TPOAM)

The following resolution was offered by Thomey and seconded by Moroz.

RESOLUTION 2021-26

WHEREAS The City of Plymouth has employee groups that are represented by unions, and from time to time those union contracts expire and new contracts need to be negotiated; and

WHEREAS The contract with the Department of Municipal Services (DMS) workers through their representative agent from TPOAM expires on June 30, 2021 and a new contract needs to be implemented; and

WHEREAS The City and the DMS workers agreed to a one-year extension of their contract which ended June 30, 2020 without any changes, including no increases in salary as a result of the many unknowns related to covid pandemic; and

WHEREAS The City and the union have in good faith met and discussed a new agreement that would begin on July1, 2021; and

WHEREAS The City and the union have come to a tentative agreement on a new contract.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City Commission of the City of Plymouth does hereby accept the tentative agreement between the City and the City's DMS union workers as represented by TPOAM. The terms of the four-year agreement are outlined in the City Manager's write up for the City Commission. The agreement will still need to have a ratification vote by the union membership prior to becoming finalized.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the City Commission directs the City Administration to use the framework of this agreement to update the non-union rules and regulations for future approval by the City Commission.

It was noted that a day of service was included in the contract and that this, along with the trust between the parties resulting in a good contract is appreciated by the Commission.

Ellen Elliott, 404 Irvin, said the DMS never missed a beat during the pandemic, and she appreciates this.

There was a roll call vote.

Yes: Deal, Krol, Moroz, O'Donnell, Thomey, Sebastian, Wolcott

MOTION PASSED 7-0

b. Authorization to Hire - DMS

The following resolution was offered by Sebastian and seconded by Krol.

RESOLUTION 2021-27

WHEREAS The City Commission did enact an Employment Ordinance on August 7, 2000, which Requires that the City Administration seek prior and express approval of any Hiring of a full-time position in the City, and

WHEREAS There is a budgeted full time opening in the Department of Municipal Services and the critical needs of the Department require a replacement for this position, and

WHEREAS The City Administration has requested prior and express approval of a hiring of a Department of Municipal Services employee.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City Commission does hereby authorize the prior and express approval of the hiring of one full time Maintenance employee for the Department of Municipal Services to replace a position that is currently being vacated.

There was a roll call vote.

Yes: Deal, Krol, Moroz, O'Donnell, Thomey, Sebastian, Wolcott

MOTION PASSED 7-0

c. Road Salt Bid Authorization for Winter 2021-22 MiDeal

The following resolution was offered by Moroz and seconded by Krol.

RESOLUTION 2021-28

WHEREAS The City of Plymouth operates a road system, and the winter months require that the City take certain snow and ice control measures to ensure the public safety; and

WHEREAS The City of Plymouth uses a significant amount of road salt to keep the City's roads passable during the winter months; and

WHEREAS The City is may choose to participate in the State of Michigan group purchasing plan known as the MIDEAL for the purchase of road salt.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City Commission of the City of Plymouth does hereby authorize the City Administration to enter into an agreement with the State of Michigan for the purchase of Road Salt through the MIDEAL Extended Purchasing Plan for the 2021 - 22 winter season. The City shall contract for 1,000 tons of road salt and comply with the terms of the MIDEAL contract when it is awarded.

There was a roll call vote.

Yes: Deal, Krol, Moroz, O'Donnell, Thomey, Sebastian, Wolcott

MOTION PASSED 7-0

d. Joint Authorization between City and DDA for Traffic Signals

The following resolution was offered by Moroz and seconded by Krol.

RESOLUTION 2021-29

WHEREAS The City of Plymouth has a number of major and local streets to help protect the quality of life in our community; and

WHEREAS The voters of the City passed a road bond issue in November of 2019 to help improve the roadways in our community; and

WHEREAS Each year the City Commission selects streets to be paved based on a number of criteria, including the PASER report; and

WHEREAS The City Commission has selected Harvey Street between Penniman and Ann Arbor Trail as one of the streets to be completed in 2021; and

WHEREAS The City Commission is desirous of incorporating improvements to the streetscape and public spaces as outlined in the City's Master Plan to include the installation of new traffic light mast arms with pedestrian signals; and

WHEREAS There is a desire to partner with the Downtown Development Authority to jointly fund the mast arm improvements as a part of this year's infrastructure program.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City Commission does hereby authorize approximately \$250,000 from the road bond revenues to partially fund new mast arm signals. This authorization is contingent upon the Downtown Development Authority Board authorizing a like amount of money to be

able to complete the upgrades at both intersections of Harvey at Ann Arbor Trail and at Penniman. This authorization, if jointly adopted would then allow the continued work on design and bid documents for the final installation of new mast arms at these intersections.

Karen Sisolak, 939 Penniman, said the intersection of Harvey and Penniman is in great need of improvement.

Ellen Elliott, 404 Irvin, asked whether there were options without mast arms.

Kerri Pollard, DDA Chair, said she would be supportive but would like to make sure any cost overruns would not be paid by the DDA.

There was a roll call vote.

Yes: Deal, Krol, Moroz, O'Donnell, Thomey, Sebastian, Wolcott

MOTION PASSED 7-0

e. Beck Road Business Corridor Improvement Project – Resolution of Support

The following resolution was offered by Sebastian and seconded by Thomey.

RESOLUTION 2021-30

WHEREAS The Beck Road Widening Task Force has been working on the Beck Road Business Corridor Improvement Project for several years; and

WHEREAS There is a need to upgrade the traffic corridor along Beck Road between Six Mile Road and I-96, as this area has seen a 200% increase in traffic volume since 1993 and the vehicle accident rate is 10 times the regional average; and

WHEREAS The plan to improve this corridor would include new paving, traffic signal prioritization, and other intelligent road infrastructure; and

WHEREAS Beck Road is a key business and residential corridor, and traffic flow on this road has an impact on City of Plymouth residents and businesses as it provides for access to manufacturing facilities, hospitals, offices, and regional recreational facilities such as Maybury State Park and the Kensington Metro Park as well other public and private local recreational facilities; and

WHEREAS The Beck Road Business Corridor Improvement Project is a multi-jurisdictional project that includes, Wayne and Oakland Counties, the cities of Wixom, Novi, and Northville, as well as the Township of Northville and the State of Michigan; and

WHEREAS The project is anticipated to have a number of funding sources from local, regional, state and federal funding; and

WHEREAS The City of Plymouth is not participating financially in the proposed project, but is aware of the economic and quality of life benefits to the residents of Plymouth.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City Commission of the City of Plymouth does hereby support the Beck Road Business Corridor Improvement Project, that is a multi-jurisdictional project covering two counties and multiple local units of government, as well as the State of Michigan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the City Commission of the City of Plymouth does hereby support the project because of its impact on the quality of life and potential economic impacts for the residents of the City of Plymouth.

There was a discussion about whether the City Commission should support a project not in its jurisdiction.

There was a roll call vote.

Yes: Deal, Krol, Moroz, Thomey, Sebastian, Wolcott
Abstain: O'Donnell

MOTION PASSED 6-0

8. REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Delivery of 2021-22 Budget to City Commission – NO ACTION NEEDED
- b. Liaison Reports

Krol said the Zoning Board of Appeals heard two cases on April 1 and one was approved and the second was denied.

Thomey said there would be a Northville Plymouth Fire Advisory Board meeting at 4:00 p.m. on April 19, followed by a budget study session at 6:00 p.m. and a City Commission meeting at 7:00 p.m.

O'Donnell said the Planning Commission had the second of four trainings this year – this one on Form Based Codes.

Moroz said a new member was seated on the PCCS Board after another resigned.

Wolcott said there would be a DDA meeting on Monday April 12 and a budget study session on Tuesday, April 13. He urged members of the community to be mindful of the human element in providing services.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no further discussion, Wolcott asked for a motion to adjourn at 8:29 p.m. A motion to adjourn was offered by Sebastian and seconded by Deal.

There was a roll call vote.

Yes: Deal, Krol, Moroz, O'Donnell, Thomey, Sebastian, Wolcott

MOTION PASSED 7-0

OLIVER WOLCOTT
MAYOR

MAUREEN A. BRODIE, CMC, MiPMC
CITY CLERK