



City of Plymouth
City Commission Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, April 15, 2024, 7:00 p.m.
Plymouth City Hall 201 S. Main Street

City of Plymouth
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1. CALL TO ORDER

a. Mayor Suzi Deal called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

b. Roll Call

Present: Mayor Suzi Deal, Mayor Pro Tem Kelly O'Donnell, Commissioners Linda Filipczak, Jennifer Kehoe, Alanna Maguire, Brock Minton, and Nick Moroz

Also present: Assistant City Manager Chris Porman, City Attorney Bob Marzano, and various members of the city administration

c. Proclamation – Arbor Day

Deal read the Arbor Day proclamation and also read a letter of congratulations from the Arbor Day Foundation to the City of Plymouth for being a 2023 Tree City USA for the 19th year in a row.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Filipczak offered a motion, seconded by Minton approve the minutes of the April 1, 2024 Regular and the April 8, 2024 Budget Study Session.

Mayor ProTem O'Donnell made a friendly amendment to the Regular Meeting Minutes, noting a clerical error in the Commission Comments related to the Parks & Rec focus group. The last paragraph reads April 19 and should be corrected to read as April 9 for the focus group date.

There was a voice vote.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Maguire offered a motion, seconded by Filipczak, to approve the agenda for the April 15, 2024 meeting.

There was a voice vote.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

4. ENACTMENT OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

a. Approval of March 2024 Bills

b. Special Event: Armed Forces 5K Ruck, Tuesday 6/4/2024

Kehoe offered a motion, seconded by Minton, to approve the consent agenda for April 15, 2024.

*a ruck is a training exercise by service members where a weighted backpack is carried while walking.

There was a voice vote.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

5. CITIZEN COMMENTS

Karen Sisolak, 939 Penniman- Requested that she be able to have a Parks & Rec advisory board presentation item added to the next City Commission agenda to provide information related to the establishment of the same.

State Representative Matthew Koleszar, provided a budget update.

Last year's budget cut taxes by approx. \$1B and there was a \$1.8B overall increase in school funding through the expansion of the Earned Income Tax Credit and the repeal of the Retirement Tax (Pension Tax). Federal funding (covid \$\$) provided for a new Senior Center in Livonia, a one room school house at Maybury Farm in Northville, a new police cruiser and a new bandshell for the City of Plymouth. This year's budget will be balanced, but a little tighter.

Distracted Driving Awareness Month. Data related to the Hands Free Driving Law that was enacted last year has shown: Since June 30, 2023, Accidents due to distracted driving were reduced by about 10.2% (= approx. 3100 crashes, 1400 injuries, 14 lives saved 123M of positive economic impact).

As of mid-February gun safety laws became effective- safe storage, red flag and universal background check laws took effect.

Moroz thanked Koleszar and asked about any particular priorities re: budget. Koleszar: public education funding, Friends of the Rouge efforts, new fire truck for Northville Twp.

Mayor Deal thanked Koleszar.

Jack Wilson, 1157 Penniman – Supports Sisolak's comments. Commented about a comparison of replacing an asphalt roof compared to a metal roof or solar panels. Also reminded the commission about tornado sirens that cannot be heard.

The following residents spoke in support of Sisolak's comments and request: Martha Walton-1465 Palmer, Ron Picard-1373 Sheridan, Pete Mundt-643 N. Harvey St., Karen Volaric-216 N. Holbrook, Lee Jacinski-1380 Maple St., Denise Burrows-1014 Dewey St.

Ed Walton, 1465 Palmer- Also asked if the City follows Robert's Rules of Order or another way that provides information as to how to add items to an agenda.

Pete Mundt, 643 N. Harvey St.- Also commented that Paul Sincock did a gret job with Citizen's Academy presentation.

Lee Jacinski, 1380 Maple St.- Also spoke about the value of trees.

6. COMMISSION COMMENTS

Kehoe- Attended one of the City's first two Parks & Rec Community Input sessions and thanked everyone who attended. There were about 40 people between the two sessions in all age ranges and from all parts of the city providing input as to what is important to them and their families.

The City Commission is committed to robust community input and the Commission will continue to hear feedback as they determine how to move forward. She commented that at this time the City cannot support another board financially; possibly in the future if there is funding possibly through a millage, or citizens could become involved by possibly forming a 501c3 similar to Keep Plymouth Leafy or Plymouth Pollinators. The City Commission and City Administration welcomes citizen involvement to work with the City. Since the City Commission and Administration already speak directly with citizens, and will continue to speak with them for their feedback, she doesn't believe another level of government will add anything.

Maguire- Thanked Mayor Deal for Arbor Day proclamation to remind us of the importance of trees. April 22 is Earth Day- Encouraged everyone to explore ways to try to reduce their carbon footprint. An example she provided was to partner with Midwest Composting to compost household food scraps. Maguire also requested to meet with Sisolak after the meeting for her thoughts on what she sees as the purpose for a Parks & Rec advisory board. We are an open Commission and welcome citizen participation and agrees with Kehoe questioning if it is really necessary to add another layer of government for this purpose.

Filipczak- Attended a Parks & Rec session and thanked everyone who attended the sessions to provide feedback and the City will continue to receive feedback from residents. She also thanked the City Administration for putting the sessions together. It is important to hear from the residents and also to receive guidance from Recreation Director Steve Anderson as the City's recreation professional for his expertise and knowledge.

Moroz- Thanked residents and staff for participating in Citizen's Academy. Also thanked Sam Plymale and DDA and all the volunteers for efforts to buy planters and flowers for downtown.

Minton- Thanked everyone for coming to show their support for an advisory board. Community feedback is important. The Commission has been receiving community feedback more often with focus groups and information sessions. In some ways, an advisory board could also be one mechanism to receive that. Agreeing with Kehoe that we are only at the beginning of this process . However, funding resources are also very important to support an advisory board and to just enhance recreation. Minton also thanked Koleszar for his attendance and providing an update on the significant impact of Distracted Driving Law.

O'Donnell- Noted that the City Commission sets meeting rules at the beginning of every election year session and that information can be found in that meeting agenda on our website. In addition, the City does follow Robert's Rules of Order. She also spoke about her previous experience as a member of an advisory board with the City and would not want to form one unless it was very different from the one she was part of. She is open to hear more information, but without a clear defined purpose and a Charter mandate requiring an advisory board, it can be an enormous waste of time and can be very exclusionary. She likes the format of the sessions we just had as they were intentionally curated to be very expansive and inclusive.

Deal - Welcomed PS Nutrition into the community, Artisan Market is coming up this Saturday from 9-3 in the Gathering/Kellogg Park area. Thanked everyone who came out for the Parks & Rec focus groups and also thanked everyone for providing their feedback at the sessions and also those attending the meeting for their comments. Agreeing with Minton, while are at the beginning of a process trying to gather information to determine how we will move forward in the best way for Plymouth, we are not yet at a decision-making point. City does have a strong administration with expertise and experience in our recreation professionals who also help advise us and the City Commission will also continue to receive citizen feedback as we make these decisions.

7. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

8. NEW BUSINESS

a. Emergency Purchase Confirmation - Water Main Repairs

The following resolution was offered by Filipczak and seconded by Minton.

RESOLUTION 2024-28

WHEREAS The City maintains a water and sewer system to provide for the public health and from time to time there is a need to make repairs to the system to ensure safe operations of the system and safe drinking water for the community; and

WHEREAS There was a need to make emergency repairs to the water system to include the water main at the corner of Ann Arbor Trail and Main St.; and

WHEREAS The City Administration did contact CI Contracting, who the city has a positive working relationship with based on previous Infrastructure projects as well as previous emergency repairs; and

WHEREAS CI Contracting did complete the repairs on January 18, 2024.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City Commission of the City of Plymouth does hereby confirm the Emergency Purchase/Repair Authorization for repairs to the City's water system completed by CI Contracting in the amount of \$10,000. Funding for this authorization is to be allocated from the City's Water Sewer Fund.

There was a voice vote.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

b. Roof Replacement at City Hall

The following resolution was offered by Filipczak and seconded by Minton.

RESOLUTION 2024-29

WHEREAS The City of Plymouth operates several buildings and from time to time there is a need to complete maintenance/upgrades on the buildings; and

WHEREAS The City Hall Building needs the sloped, shingled roof replaced; and

WHEREAS The City Staff has engaged with Shaw Construction to submit a proposal for a design-build delivery method to complete the required work.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City Commission of the City of Plymouth does hereby authorize a design-build contract with Shaw Construction for replacement of the sloped, shingled roof at city hall roof in the amount not to exceed \$82,775.00. Funding for this repair is authorized from the City's Capital Improvement Fund.

Jeff Sisolak 939 Penniman- Asked the City Commission to consider seeking competitive bids for this project in order to possibly obtain a lower cost and diffuse any possible perception of corruption due to not having a formal competitive bid process.

Filipczak- Confirmed with Porman that the City has had dialogue with other firms and is looking at Shaw due to a good history and good working relationship with them, and they are very familiar with the work Shaw has done and has always provided a good return on investment. For this project, Shaw would act as Contract Management and would subcontract out and seek competitive bids for appropriate contractors to do the work.

O'Donnell- Asked Porman to speak about the timeline and what a bid process would entail. Also would the timeline put us out of the season for this project.

Things to consider would be the generation of bid specs, and potential timeline for bids to be received from vendors. Review of bids received and presentation to City Commission may take approximately a week or two, depending on meeting dates. The creation of bid documents may take some time since we are not well-versed in roof repairs. Porman could not speculate if having a competitive bid process would create a seasonal delay as it may depend on availability of vendors

Kehoe- Good fiscal policy to get multiple quotes and the City should make this policy, citing other communities who have policies related to quote and bid processes. Would like to obtain quotes or formal proposals.

Maguire- Agrees that we should solicit multiple bids and confirmed that replacement is not an emergency situation. She also asked for additional information related to early consultations with contractors to provide more context.

Porman- Spoke about the City's roof repair fact finding over the last several years that has been unsuccessful mainly due to contractors' lack of interest in doing the project for the City's project budget at the time. Revisiting the project over the last 1.5 years, resulted in a target budget amount of approximately \$120,000 and the need for assistance from an outside project manager with more expertise on this work.

Moroz- Thanked the staff for their work on this project and is comfortable with moving forward with this item due to the prior situation described by Porman and the trust and strong relationship the City has with Shaw to handle this important project.

Minton- Inquired where funds are budgeted from and Porman confirmed that is would be from the Capital Improvement portion of the budget. He also commented that possibly hearing more on the previous contractors who did not want to provide quotes or bids for the project and reasons for declining, and he is in favor of tabling this item for discussion until the next meeting.

Filipczak noted that it is important to realize that Shaw would be the Project Manager -not doing the work- and would be obtaining competitive bids for the work that meet the needs of the City.

O'Donnell commented that additional information would be helpful on other service providers that can provide the same service.

Deal thanked staff for the work on this and for recognizing the need to seek knowledge outside of the organization and is comfortable with Shaw Construction as a partner for this project. They have done other quality jobs for the City and the community. We know what to expect from them and they know our expectations. She is in favor of going forward with this but the Commission can take a vote.

Maguire asked for clarification as to what the Commission would be voting on and what direction are we taking. Deal noted that their direction would then be determined.

Joe Elliott 404 Irvin St.- Suggested that the City's Engineer, Wade-Trim prepare a bid package for the project.

Porman asked for clarification of direction and the consensus was to seek bids for project managers rather than roofing companies.

There was a Roll Call vote on the original motion:

Maguire-No, Filipczak-Yes, Moroz- Yes, O'Donnell-No, Kehoe-No, Minton- No, Deal-Yes

MOTION FAILED

Kehoe offered a motion, supported by Maguire, to table the item and have City Administration obtain at least three quotes for Design-Build contractors for the roof replacement at City Hall, with a friendly amendment made by Maguire and seconded by Minton, to remove the number of quotes required from the motion.

There was a voice vote.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

c. Band Shell Purchase

The following resolution was offered by Filipczak and seconded by Minton:

RESOLUTION 2024-30

WHEREAS The City of Plymouth owns a mobile stage (bandshell) as part of our Equipment for the many special events that are held in the city in an effort to Promote the public welfare and to help create "Place"; and

WHEREAS The bandshell was originally purchased in 1998 and has been in regular use Ever since that time; and

WHEREAS There is a need to replace the bandshell after 25 plus years of service and the Amount and cost of the repairs continues to increase; and

WHEREAS The State of Michigan and the Michigan Economic Development Corporation has Provided special grant funding in the amount of \$200,000.00; and

WHEREAS City staff have engaged multiple users groups of the bandshell and engaged in conversations with the multiple manufacturers of the bandshells; and

WHEREAS The City received a quote from Stageline Mobile Stage, Inc. that best fits the city's and the user groups wants and needs, including stage size, lead time, etc.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Plymouth City Commission authorizes the purchase of Stageline SL100 Mobile Stage from Stageline Mobile Stage Inc. in L'Assomption, Quebec, Canada in the amount of \$246,110.00. Further, funding for this purchase is authorized from the Equipment Fund and reimbursement from a state grant in the amount of \$200,000.00.

Commissioners thanked staff and Koleszar for their work and support of this purchase.

There was a voice vote.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

9. REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

Liaison Reports

Kehoe- Old Village Yard & Trunk Sale, Sat 4/27/24, O.V. Assn. next meeting is Wed 4/24/24 at Meridian Coffee. DDA Mtg had a successful Strategic Planning Session.

Minton- Planning Commission will have a booth at Spring Artisan Market

Deal- Spring Artisan Market is Saturday 4/20/24.

b. Appointments

There were no appointments.

10. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was offered by Minton and seconded by O'Donnell at 8:18 p.m.

There was a voice vote.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

SUZI DEAL
MAYOR

MAUREEN A. BRODIE, CMC, MiPMC
CITY CLERK