

©PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COMMISSION  
CITY OF EAST GRAND RAPIDS

**Regular Meeting Held January 3, 2023**

Mayor Favale called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the City Commission Chambers at the East Grand Rapids Community Center and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Commissioners Arendshorst, Hamrick, Schulz, Schwartz, Wessely and Mayor Favale.

Absent: None.

Also Present: City Manager Charles; Deputy City Manager LaFave; City Attorney Huff; City Clerk Parmenter; Finance Director Seath; Parks, Recreation Director Melville and Zoning Administrator Gianotti.

2023-01. The agenda was approved as submitted.

2023-02. Public comment: None.

2023-03. Mayor and City Commission comments, including committee liaison reports.

Commissioner Schulz reminded everyone about the GVBA meeting on January 10 which will be led by Aaron Roberts.

Commissioners Wessely, Schwartz and Arendshorst wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Commissioner Hamrick gave a recap of the Planning Commission meeting that was held in December.

Mayor Favale wished everyone a Happy New Year, reminded everyone to exercise caution in the mornings with the darkness, thanked Public Works and Public Safety for their work over the holidays during the blizzard, and congratulated Kris Pachla who was sworn in at the County Commission meeting.

City Manager Charles remarked at the great job that Public Works and Public Safety did during the blizzard, reminded everyone about the Christmas tree pickup and noted that the deadline for applications for vacant commission seat is Friday at 5:00 pm.

2023-04. Consider authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to sign an easement agreement for the construction of the Dog Park.

Parks and Recreation Director Melville introduced the request.

Commissioner Wessely asked about the location of the easement and if any trees would be coming down or trimmed. Parks and Recreation Director Melville responded that trees would not be taken down or trimmed way back.

2023-04-A. Arendshorst-Schulz. To authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the agreement as presented.

Yeas: Arendshorst, Hamrick, Schulz, Schwartz, Wessely and Favale – 6

Nays: -0-

- 2023-05. Consider introduction of proposed amendments to Articles X and XI of the Zoning Ordinance related to the review and approval of site plans and special uses.

Zoning Administrator Gianotti highlighted the amendments.

Commissioner Schulz asked if notices are sent out regarding changes. Zoning Administrator Gianotti noted that they were.

Commissioner Arendshorst asked how close we were to Redevelopment Ready and if it gives us more grant funding. Zoning Administrator Gianotti said that there is only a couple items left to do and it would give access to more opportunities for funding.

Mayor Favale asked why these ordinance changes were one of the criteria. Zoning Administrator Gianotti stated it was to streamline the process and make it more predictable.

- 2023-05-A. Arendshorst-Schwartz. To approve the introduction of the proposed amendments to Article X as presented.

Yeas: Arendshorst, Hamrick, Schulz, Schwartz, Wessely and Favale – 6

Nays: -0-

- 2023-05-B. Hamrick-Schulz. To approve the introduction of the proposed amendments to Article XI as presented.

Yeas: Arendshorst, Hamrick, Schulz, Schwartz, Wessely and Favale – 6

Nays: -0-

- 2023-06. Consider setting the City's Annual Strategic Planning Retreat for March 4, 2023.

City Manager Charles highlighted the request. He said that it would start at 9:00 am and go until 1:00 – 1:30 pm.

- 2023-06-A. Schulz-Arendshorst. To set the Strategic Planning Retreat as requested.

Yeas: Arendshorst, Hamrick, Schwartz, Schulz, Wessely and Favale – 6

Nays: -0-

- 2023-07. Schulz-Wessely. To approve the consent agenda as follows:

2023-07-A. Minutes of the regular meeting held December 20, 2022.

2023-07-B. Disbursement of funds: payroll disbursements of \$344,498.95; county and school disbursements of \$346,722.57, and total remaining disbursements of \$418,419.19.

Yeas: Arendshorst, Hamrick, Schwartz, Schulz, Wessely and Favale – 6

Nays: -0-

Mayor Favale reminded everyone about the recycling event this Saturday.

The meeting adjourned at 6:31 p.m., subject to the call of the Mayor until January 16, 2023.

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Lori A Parmenter, City Clerk