

©PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COMMISSION
CITY OF EAST GRAND RAPIDS

Regular Meeting Held May 15, 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, Burdick, Hamrick, Schwartz, Schulz, Wessely and Mayor Favale.

Absent: None

Also Present: City Manager Charles; Deputy City Manager LaFave; City Attorney Huff; Finance Director Seath; Parks & Recreation Director Melville; Public Safety Chief Herald; Zoning Administrator Gianotti; City Clerk Parmenter

2023-87. The agenda was approved as submitted.

2023-88. Public comment:

John Chronowski with EGReen commended the City for the initiatives it has taken for sustainability but thinks that more needs to be done.

Brad Hunter, 2252 Hall St, stated that he is part of EGReen and would like the Commission to assist the group with its efforts.

2023-89. Mayor and City Commission comments, including committee liaison reports.

Commissioner Schulz noted that the GVBA is gaining strength and moving forward. They will be holding a Thursday night market and activities on the second Saturdays of each month. He also congratulated the EGR Girls Water Polo team as they won the district championships.

Commissioner Burdick attended the ALPACT meeting with Commissioner Hamrick, City staff and various police units.

Commissioner Hamrick noted the Planning Commission was still discussing accessory dwelling units.

City Manager Charles noted that the GVBA submitted a request for a social district which will be brought to the Commission in June. The Thursday night markets will be held in front of Big Bobs. He also noted that the City obtained Gold status in sustainability.

2023-90. Presentation of Redevelopment Ready Community Essentials Award

Zoning Administrator Gianotti gave a short background on the process and introduced Mackenzie Miller.

Mackenzie Miller, with MEDC, presented the award and noted that East Grand Rapids was only the 14th community to achieve this status in the state.

2023-91. Water Safety Month proclamation presentation.

Parks and Recreation Director Melville briefly spoke about the different programs and introduced Barb Braun as the swim instructor. She has taught 4,000 youths how to swim and has worked for EGR for 11 years.

Mayor Favale read and presented the proclamation to Barb Braun.

2023-92. Consider approving Lions and Rabbits Letter of Understanding.

City Manager Charles highlighted the request.

Jarran Fountain, Lions and Rabbits, presented a slide show of the proposed areas to be painted and the proposed paintings.

Wessely-Schwartz. To approve the Lions and Rabbits Letter of Understanding as presented.

Yeas: Arendshorst, Burdick, Hamrick, Schwartz, Schulz, Wessely and Favale – 7
Nays: -0-

2023-93. Consider rescheduling the June 19th and July 3rd City Commission meetings.

City Manager Charles reviewed the Commission dates.

2023-93-A. Wessely-Arendshorst To reschedule the July 3rd meeting to July 10, 2023.

Yeas: Arendshorst, Burdick, Hamrick, Schwartz, Schulz, Wessely and Favale – 7
Nays: -0-

2023-94. Wessely-Schwartz. To approve the consent agenda as follows:

2023-94-A. Minutes of the regular meeting held May 1, 2023.

2023-94-B. Disbursement of funds: payroll disbursements of \$290,617.24 county and school disbursements of \$309.44, and total remaining disbursements of \$434,493.36.

2023-94-C. Draft minutes of the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting held on February 27, 2023.

2023-94-D. Consider Minutes of the Planning Commission meeting held on March 14, 2023.

2023-94-E. Draft minutes of the EGR Library Commission meeting held on April 24, 2023.

Yeas: Arendshorst, Burdick, Hamrick, Schwartz, Schulz, Wessely and Favale – 7

Nays: -0-

2023-95. Budget discussion and Capital Improvement Plan.

City Manager Charles reviewed the proposed budget and the different scenarios for water rates in relation to replacement of lead service lines.

There was much discussion on rates and how many lead lines need to be replaced each year and what the best approach is.

City staff to come back to the next meeting with three different options for the Commission to look at.

The meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m., subject to the call of the Mayor until June 5, 2023.

Lori A Parmenter, City Clerk