

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COMMISSION
CITY OF EAST GRAND RAPIDS

Regular Meeting Held June 5, 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 and Mayor Favale.

Absent: Commissioner Wessely.

Also Present: City Manager Charles; Deputy City Manager LaFave; Attorney Mike Roth; Finance Director Seath; Parks & Recreation Director Melville; Public Safety Chief Herald; City Clerk Parmenter

2023-95. The agenda was approved as submitted.

2023-96. Public comment: None.

2023-97. Mayor and City Commission comments, including committee liaison reports.

Commissioner Schulz congratulated the Girl's Track and Field for winning the State Championship and the Girls Water Polo for taking second in the State Championship. He noted that the Community Foundation has canceled the Trail Blazer for this year and they are working with the GVBA on future opportunities. He thanked Kelly Clum-Matthysse for her years of service to the Community Foundation and her leadership as the President.

Mayor Favale mentioned that she received the postcard in the mail regarding the public engagement sessions for Manhattan Park and said that they were great.

City Manager Charles noted that the playground construction is underway, Breton is closed for utility tie ins and Reeds Lake is closed for a watermain project.

2023-98. Public Hearing on Proposed 2023-2024 Budget.

City Manager Charles introduced the proposed budget for 2023-2024 and noted the millage rates and stated that staffing levels will remain the same.

Mayor Favale opened public comment at 6:06 p.m.
No comments were given.
Mayor Favale closed public comment at 6:07 p.m.

2023-99. Consider awarding a contract in the amount not to exceed \$170,000 for the construction of the Manhattan Park Multi-Use Trails.

Parks and Recreation Director Melville introduced the request to award the contract to Trail Sense LLC and the process that has been done leading up to this point. The environmental study came back with no negative impacts. A wetlands delineation was completed which resulted in design modifications. WMMBA will be maintaining the trails going forward.

Commissioner Burdick asked if the City would be sticking with the \$75,000 contribution and if we were seeding any control of the park to WMMBA. Parks and Recreation Director Melville stated yes the City contribution was \$75,000 and no there was no control going to WMMBA.

Commissioner Schwartz asked if the fundraising money would be used first. The response was yes and there are options for extras which will use all the funds allocated for the project.

Nancy Pattison, 2104 Gorham Dr, was thrilled with the park but wondered if there were any thoughts to changing the lighting to point downward so not to interfere with migrating birds.

2023-99-A. Arendshorst-Schulz. To approve the contract with Trail Sense LLC in the amount not to exceed \$170,000.

Yeas: Arendshorst, Burdick, Hamrick, Schwartz, Schulz and Favale – 6
Nays: -0-

2023-100. Consider approval of an easement for re-routing electrical utilities at 2618 Reeds Lake Boulevard with Consumers Energy.

Deputy City Manager La Fave highlighted the request.

Commissioner Burdick asked if we knew where the line goes after that point. The answer was yes.

2023-100-A. Schulz-Burdick. To approve an easement for re-routing utilities at 2618 Reeds Lake Boulevard with Consumers Energy.

Yeas: Arendshorst, Burdick, Hamrick, Schwartz, Schulz and Favale – 6
Nays: -0-

2023-101. Consider adoption of the 2022 Kent County, Ottawa County, and the City of Grand Rapids Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Public Safety Chief Herald reviewed the proposed plan.

2023-101-A. Burdick-Schwartz. To adopt the Kent County, Ottawa County, and the City of Grand Rapids Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Yeas: Arendshorst, Burdick, Hamrick, Schwartz, Schulz and Favale – 6
Nays: -0-

2023-102. Consider first reading of an Ordinance Amendment to Section 5.201 of Chapter 51 of Title V of the Code of the City of East Grand Rapids as requested by the Planning Commission.

Deputy City Manager La Fave reviewed the proposed changes to the ordinance and noted that this was just a housekeeping item.

2023-102-A. Arendshorst-Hamrick. To accept the first reading of an Ordinance Amendment to Section 5.201 of Chapter 51 of Title V of the Code of the City of East Grand Rapids as requested by the Planning Commission.

Yeas: Arendshorst, Burdick, Hamrick, Schwartz, Schulz and Favale – 6
Nays: -0-

2023-103. Schwartz-Schulz. To approve the consent agenda as follows:

2023-103-A. Minutes of the regular meeting held May 15, 2023.

2023-103-B. Disbursement of funds: payroll disbursements of \$239,136.62 county and school disbursements of \$-0-, and total remaining disbursements of \$696,731.47.

2023-103-C. Minutes of the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting held on April 4, 2023.

2023-103-D. Blodgett neighborhood concerns.

Yeas: Arendshorst, Burdick, Hamrick, Schwartz, Schultz and Favale – 6
Nays: -0-

The meeting adjourned at 6:32 p.m., subject to the call of the Mayor until June 19, 2023.

Lori A Parmenter, City Clerk