

**CITY OF LINDEN**  
**Minutes for City Council Regular Meeting**  
**Held at 7pm on May 13, 2019**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7pm by Mayor Danielle Cusson. The meeting was held in the Council Chambers on the lower level of the Mill Building at 201 N. Main Street, Linden, Michigan.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was recited by all present. A moment of silence for first responders and in memory of those who have served on behalf of the United States was observed by all.

**ROLL CALL**

**City Council Present:** Mayor Danielle Cusson, Pam Howd, Ray Culbert, Dave Franz, Brenda Simons, Heather MacDermaid

**Absent:** Brad Dick

**Others Present:** Scott Sutter, Interim City Manager, Mike Gildner, City Attorney

**MINUTES**

Motion by Culbert, seconded by MacDermaid, to approve the minutes of the April 22, 2019 Regular City Council meeting. Motion carried 6-0.

**PUBLIC HEARING/PRESENTATION**

None.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

None.

**CITIZENS COMMENTS**

Ramona Deese made comments regarding pedestrian signs being placed in the downtown.

Paul Jackson made comments regarding the condition of Rolston Road and would like to know Council's plan for it.

Chris Kinyon made comments regarding the condition of Rolston Rd. and the potential for bonding for improvements. She also commented thanking everyone for their support at the recent fundraiser for the Linden Arts Council, and asked everyone to attend the Ballet in June.

Mike Phaneuf made comments about the recent millage proposal that did not pass, inquired as to why it was not planned for previously, and wants Council to consider a plan for the future.

Jack Furry made comments regarding the Dr. Wax development, concerns regarding the need for additional parking downtown, and suggested assessing businesses in order to generate funds to make more parking downtown.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion by Cusson, seconded by MacDermaid to strike the consent items from the agenda for further consideration of newly received applications before appointment. Motion carried 6-0.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **(A) CAS 22-19**

### **Resolution No. 06-19 – Adoption of FY 2019-2020 Budget and Resolution 07-19 – Wages**

The City Manager's proposed budget for the fiscal year scheduled to begin July 1, 2019 was submitted to the City Council on April 8, 2019. The City Council conducted a work session regarding the proposed budget on April 11, 2019. The required public hearing regarding the proposed budget was conducted as part of the regular City Council meeting on April 22, 2019. To date, no comments have been presented regarding the proposed budget. Also presented to the City Council is the proposed resolution establishing salary and wages for the fiscal year. The figures included in the proposed resolution are the same as discussed at the budget work session.

Motion by Culbert, seconded by Howd, to adopt the City of Linden 2019-2020 Fiscal Year Budget and approve Resolution No. 06-19. Motion carried 6-0.

**YEAS: MacDermaid, Franz, Simons, Culbert, Cusson, Howd**

**NAYS: None**

**ABSENT: Dick**

Motion by Simons, seconded by Cusson, to adopt Resolution No. 07-19 to Authorize the Compensation for All City Officers, Employees and Volunteer Fire Department. Motion Carried 6-0.

**YEAS: Cusson, Culbert, Simons, Howd, MacDermaid, Franz**

**NAYS: None**

**ABSENT: Dick**

### **(B) CAS 23-19**

### **City Manager Search**

The City was informed by Mr. Mark Borden that he has taken another position and is no longer interested in the City Managers Position. I have asked Jerry Richard, our MML facilitator for the City Managers search, to convey to us the options and associated costs for moving forward in the search process.

Council discussed the options from moving forward with the Manager's search including considering other candidates interview, interviewing other candidates who already applied but were not interviewed, or re-advertising the position.

Motion by Howd, seconded by Culbert to re-advertise the position and move through the applicant evaluations, closed session meeting, and hiring process through the MML with costs not to exceed \$2,250 plus mileage and incidentals. Motion carried 6-0.

**YEAS: Cusson, Culbert, Simons, Howd, MacDermaid, Franz**

**NAYS: None**

**ABSENT: Dick**

Motion by MacDermaid, seconded by Cusson to increase the Manager's salary range for the search to be listed as \$75,000 to \$90,000. Motion carried 6-0.

**YEAS: Simons, Howd, MacDermaid, Culbert, Franz, Cusson**

**NAYS: None**

**ABSENT: Dick**

#### **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

**DPW Position:** We have conducted interviews for the DPW position and a new employee will start tentatively June 1st.

**City Hall:** We have received a quote from Case Construction in reference to the damage from the vehicle collision to City Hall. We have forwarded this to our insurance company and we are awaiting their response. This quote does not address the other issues that were brought up in the Structural Engineers report in reference to the roof and the second floor at City Hall. We anticipate receiving this information within the next few weeks.

**MDOT Grant:** We received word from MDOT that 2019 Transportation Economic Development Fund application was not approved for funding. They have not yet selected the FY 2020 grant recipients. It is anticipated that the FY 2020 grants will be announced sometime near the first full week of June 2019.

**Eagles Wooden Park Bathroom:** Per our engineer, Mike Darga, the contractor is pretty much done with the restroom. The light fixtures that had been spec'd have not been delivered yet, so the Contractor is installing temporary ones for now. The permanent fixtures will be installed as soon as they arrive. They have been trying to hydroseed these last few days, but the weather has not cooperated. A final walk thru is planned on Thursday and a punch-list will be generated, which they will need to complete by June 1.

**Memorial Day Parade and Picnic:** The Memorial Day Parade and Picnic is May 27th. Please plan on attending all the ceremonies, which begins at 10:00am.

#### **CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

Attorney Gildner reported on the Schrock lawsuit that we were still waiting to hear from the Supreme Court and hoping for more information next month.

#### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

The Council reviewed the Police, Fire, and Code Enforcement, Building Department monthly activity reports as well as the Treasurer's Financial Statements and the Clerk provided a verbal update on the passage of the Mosquito millage, the failure of the pathway millage, and high voter turnout for a special election.

#### **COUNCIL COMMENTS AND REPORTS**

MacDermaid report on the park clean up, which went well and had about 75 volunteers. They worked on the millpond area, the wooden park, canoe launch, and cemetery.

Culbert commented on SLPR determining where to go with the pathway, with a big meeting coming and that they are still going for grants. He also commented on the Box City ribbon cuttings.

Simons commented thanking the DPW Director for the clean up help as well as expressed disappointment regarding the millage but believes good things are coming.

Franz commented about potential paving projects and was informed that the City did not receive grant funding from MDOT.

Cusson commented regarding the recent Small Cities meeting where there was a speaker from the child advocacy center and also discussed them potentially having a table at the National Night Out event. Cusson also commented on potentially creating an advisory committee to discuss creating park rules or rules for City property. Additionally, Cusson commented on Gary from EZ Kayak wanting to install an accessible launch near the millpond and will come to Council in the future. He is currently seeking grant opportunities. Cusson also noted that we will be recognizing new Linden firefighters in June.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS**

Motion by Culbert, seconded by Simons, to approve accounts payable in the amount of \$327,427.22  
Motion passed 6-0.

**YEAS: Simons, MacDermaid, Culbert, Cusson, Howd, Franz**

**NAYS: None**

**ABSENT: Dick**

**CLOSED SESSION**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Erica Armstrong, Clerk

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_