

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NOVI
MONDAY, JUNE 8, 2015 AT 7:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS – NOVI CIVIC CENTER – 45175 TEN MILE ROAD**

Mayor Gatt called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL: Mayor Gatt, Mayor Pro Tem Staudt (absent, excused), Council Members Casey, Markham, Mutch (absent, excused), Poupard, Wrobel

ALSO PRESENT: Peter Auger, City Manager
Victor Cardenas, Assistant City Manager
Thomas Schultz, City Attorney

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

CM 15-06-73 Moved by Wrobel, seconded by Markham; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY:

To approve the Agenda as amended to add item 1. The Library Traffic to Mayor and Council Issues.

**Roll call vote on CM 15-06-73 Yeas: Casey, Markham, Poupard, Wrobel, Gatt
Nays: None**

INTERVIEWS FOR BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

1. Mark Pehrson – Planning Commission

Mr. Pehrson thanked everyone for the opportunity to reapply for the Planning Commission.

Members Casey and Wrobel had no questions and but thanked him for stepping forward.

Member Poupard asked him if there were any major lessons learned from serving on the Planning Commission. Mr. Pehrson said that times have changed and nothing remains static. They have to do a much better job looking forward in planning the remaining parcels available. They are much more complicated. They use data to determine some of the decisions they make. The Planning staff that supports the Planning Commission is outstanding and makes the difference as to the work level put forward.

Member Markham thanked him for stepping forward and asked him what he would like to accomplish looking forward. Mr. Pehrson said he would like to see working in harmony with the Economic Development Group to find ways in which they can bring real change to some of the parcels remaining. The biggest thing they can do is to listen to the citizens and feels it is important on certain issues.

Mayor Gatt mentioned Mr. Pehrson is a paid on call fire fighter for the Novi Fire Department. He does a lot for the City and thanked him for his service.

2. Mike Lynch – Planning Commission

Mr. Lynch said he is reapplying for the Planning Commission. He enjoys working with City staff and Council. He hoped the opinions he expresses during open session helps make a final decision.

Member Poupard asked him what were his major lessons learned. Mr. Lynch said that it is important to listen. He said in audience participation a lot of times what people are saying are not the true issues. They try to determine what the people actually want. If they listen and get rid of the emotion it is easier to focus on the issues and make good decisions.

Member Wrobel thanked Mr. Lynch for reapplying and is aware of his service.

Member Markham thanked Mr. Lynch for reapplying and asked if he had thoughts about the traffic congestion in Novi. Mr. Lynch said he looks at traffic as a system. He said there is a lot of building in South Lyon coming into Novi. He understood Oakland County will pave Napier Road between 9 and 10 Mile to give the people another way to go to relieve the traffic strain. He thinks Beck Road will have to be expanded. It is the only connector between I-96 and M-14. We will have to deal with the traffic from the new developments west of Novi. Initially, he thinks there are plans for things we can do. He thinks we are on the right path.

Member Casey and Mayor Gatt thanked Mr. Lynch for reapplying and supports him.

3. James Zanoni – Planning Commission

Mr. Zanoni said he has been a resident of Novi for 10 years and has been a Project Manager for 16 years. He would like to serve on the Planning Commission to give back to the Community.

Member Wrobel asked Mr. Zanoni what he believed is the role the Master Plan for the City and how should the Planning Commission relate to it. Mr. Zanoni understood that the Master Plan is what is used to determine how the properties are used.

Member Markham asked what special interests he had and why he is stepping forward now. Mr. Zanoni said he has lived here for 10 years and is interested in how the Community grows going forward. His family visits the parks and wishes to be a part of the Community.

Member Casey mentioned that serving on the Planning Commission can be a challenge. Some decisions are not what the residents like. She asked if he would speak about similarities in his work where he had to share a tough decision. Mr. Zanoni said he works at GM and daily he confirms regulations, risk assessment, and costs on a project.

Member Poupard and Mayor Gatt thanked him for his desire to serve and didn't have a question for him. They said volunteers make the City special.

4. Shelley Thomopoulos – Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Commission

Ms. Thomopoulos said she has been a resident for 14 years. She walks her dog daily and enjoys the Community. She would like to be on the commission that helps to ensure the Parks ongoing success.

Member Markham asked about the parks that she uses and what she saw as a potential improvement of the parks. Ms. Thomopoulos said she lives between Lakeshore and Pavilion Park and frequents them. She agreed with the phase strategy and thought additional amenities would be the restrooms. It was unsafe before and it has improved.

Member Casey asked if she had a particular project if chosen for the Commission. Ms. Thomopoulos said she is passionate about walkable Novi. She works with the World Business Council for a sustainable development. They are interested in working with cities around the globe. She noted one of the things heard repeatedly is trying to provide opportunities for active mobility and walkable access not only for services of the community but also for parks. She said walking to a nearby park encourages community involvement.

Member Poupard thought Ms. Thomopoulos's background would be an interesting insight to be able to bring to the Commission because that is part of their values. She asked why she is stepping forward now. Ms. Thomopoulos said it has to do with her professional career and her family development. She is self-employed and has the time.

Member Wrobel asked what program would she like added to the Parks and Recreation Programs that is not offered. Ms. Thomopoulos said there is not a specific program but she has read the minutes that citizens have expressed interest of more indoor recreational opportunities. It is unfortunate that in Michigan there are a significant number of days of inclement weather. She thought the Parks Department has done a great job working throughout the Community but still thought more indoor opportunities should be explored.

Mayor Gatt didn't have any questions.

5. Joi McGillivray – Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Commission

Not present.

6. Gary Frick – Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Commission

Mr. Frick gave a brief background. He has lived in the City of Novi since 2002. His family participates in the programs. While participating in the Memorial Day Parade, he noticed the residents of Whitehall Nursing Home enjoyed it very much. He has been a

volunteer coach in several Parks programs. He has interacted with the Parks staff and commented how they are always very helpful.

Member Casey thanked him and said she appreciated what he does. She asked if there were programs he thought should be offered. Mr. Frick said the biggest one is evening camps because many families have both parents working.

Member Poupard asked why he is applying now for a position on the Commission after 13 years of volunteering. He received a telephone call from Greg Morris, Recreation Supervisor. He said he hadn't been aware of the Commission but was interested after hearing about it.

Member Wrobel asked what aspect of his skill set he thought would be a benefit to the Parks and Recreation Commission. Mr. Frick said he is able to listen to the citizens of the community. He listens to the parents' concerns and addresses issues with their children. Professionally, he works with customer service. He tries to resolve the issues right away instead of passing them on within the company.

Member Markham thanked everyone who recruits and volunteers for the Boards and Commissions because it is part of making the City government better. She asked if he has seen things other communities offer that Novi doesn't. Mr. Frick said the City of Brighton has an indoor facility that the City of Novi does not. He suggested a building that offers programs so residents don't have to go to other communities.

7. Jay Dooley – Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Commission; Board of Review;
Planning Commission

Mr. Dooley has been in Novi since 1999 and has served in several different capacities.

Member Poupard said she knew he has a sterling reputation with other Council members. She asked why he is applying for these committees. Mr. Dooley said he has devoted a lot of his time to the City. He started about 9 years ago with various activities within the City. His premise has been safety for children. He has been involved with several task forces throughout the City. He gave an example of an emergency situation that helped develop signage in the Parks. He goes out to talk to parents and voters to make sure they are aware of the signs in the ITC Park.

Member Wrobel thanked him and asked why he would want to serve on the Board of Review. Mr. Dooley said he knew of someone that served on the Board of Review and talked to him about it. He wanted to get involved in the City again. He is fully committed and if he couldn't be on the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Commission he would hope to serve on another committee.

Member Markham was glad to see him back and said his experience turned into helping the City because he cared and was committed.

Member Casey said she was grateful that he was dedicating his time for the City.

Mayor Gatt said he had his support.

PUBLIC HEARING – None

PRESENTATIONS – None

REPORTS:

1. MANAGER/STAFF - None

2. ATTORNEY - None

AUDIENCE COMMENT:

Drew Lathin, 24291 Homestead Ct., said twenty years ago there were 1 billion Monarch butterflies that made the annual migration to their wintering grounds in Mexico. It is an amazing journey because of the distance involved and they are fourth generation Monarchs that make the journey. The Monarchs that make the 2,000 mile journey in the fall are the great grandchildren of the Monarchs that started their journey north in the spring. Of the 1 billion Monarchs that made the journey 20 years ago, only 35 million make the journey now. It is greater than a 96% decline. At one time they were the most abundant butterfly in our area. Monarch caterpillars can only eat the leaves from the milkweed species. No milkweeds means no Monarch butterflies. There is a decline in milkweeds because of environmental reasons. Novi has an ordinance that prohibits the growth of milkweeds. It is a poorly written ordinance. He grows milkweeds in his garden. It is time for Novi to change the ordinance.

CONSENT AGENDA REMOVALS AND APPROVALS:

CM 15-06-74 Moved by Casey, seconded by Wrobel; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY:

To approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

- A. Approve Minutes of:
 - 1. May 18, 2015 – Regular meeting
- B. Enter Executive Session immediately following the regular meeting of June 8, 2015 in the Council Annex for the purpose of discussing labor negotiations.
- C. Approval of an agreement with Suburban Collection Showplace to host the 2015 Evening of Appreciation, an annual event honoring Boards, Commissions, Committees and Employees for their dedication to Novi, on Friday, December 11, 2015 for the estimated amount of \$18,360.
- D. Adoption of Resolution seeking reimbursement from Oakland County for expenses associated with the City of Novi's annual Mosquito Control Program.

- E. Approval to award an amendment to the engineering services agreement with Spalding DeDecker for construction engineering services for the 2015 Neighborhood Road Program—Contract 1 (White Pines Drive) in the amount of \$93,898.
- F. Acceptance of Liberty Park Single Family Residential—Phase II subdivision streets and adoption of Act 51 New Street Resolution accepting Bartlett Drive and Wolcott Drive as public, adding 0.74 miles of roadway to the City's street system.
- G. Approval of Traffic Control Orders 15-03 through 15-05 for the streets within Liberty Park Single Family Residential—Phase 2 subdivision.
- H. Approval of a request from Diversified Members Credit Union for a variance from Section 11-94(b)(3)(1) of the Design and Construction Standards, which requires storm sewers receiving surface runoff to be a minimum diameter of 12 inches, to allow the applicant to install a 6-inch diameter storm sewer in order to make a connection for the outlet and to avoid conflicts with AT&T conduits, for the Diversified Members Credit Union project (parcel 50-22-23-176-033).
- I. Approval of contract with Basso Design Group LLC. for development of an “online community attraction tool,” or web-based marketing tool, to provide information about the Greater Novi Community (including the School Districts located therein), its features, attributes, resources, amenities, and the services that the City and the School Districts have to offer both current and prospective residents and businesses; and amend the budget.
- J. Approval of contract with Novi Community School District, Northville Public Schools, and Walled Lake Consolidated Schools to share the costs for the development of the creation of an “online community attraction tool” by Basso Design Group.
- K. Approval of Master Equity Lease Agreement between the City of Novi and Enterprise FM Trust, and related Maintenance Agreement between the City and Enterprise Fleet Management, and also Corporate Partner Program Services Agreement between the City and EAN Services, L.L.C, all relating to lease segments of the City's light equipment vehicle fleet, subject to final review as to form, including minor non-substantive changes, by the City Attorney and City Manager.
- L. Approval of Claims and Accounts – Warrant No. 941

Roll call vote on CM 15-06-74

**Yeas: Markham, Poupard, Wrobel, Gatt, Casey
Nays: None**

MATTERS FOR COUNCIL ACTION:

1. Approval to award a contract for professional services to Clearzoning for review of the Master Plan for Land Use and facilitation of a Vision Plan, in an amount not to exceed \$77,700.

City Manager Auger said it is a very large project that looks like it is going to be under budget.

CM 15-06-75 Moved by Casey, seconded by Poupard; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY:

To approve an award of a contract for professional services to Clearzoning for review of the Master Plan for Land Use and facilitation of a Vision Plan, in an amount not to exceed \$77,700.

Roll call vote on CM 15-06-75

**Yeas: Poupard, Wrobel, Gatt, Casey, Markham
Nays: None**

2. Approval to award a contract for the purchase and implementation of Avaya IP Office Unified Communications to SunTel Services in the amount of \$142,941.18 based on the results of a Qualification Based Selection (QBS) process. Subject to final review and approval as to form by the City Attorney and City Manager.

CM 15-06-76 Moved by Wrobel, seconded by Casey; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY:

To approve an award of a contract for the purchase and implementation of Avaya IP Office Unified Communications to SunTel Services in the amount of \$142,941.18 based on the results of a Qualification Based Selection (QBS) process. Subject to final review and approval as to form by the City Attorney and City Manager.

Roll call vote on CM 15-06-76

**Yeas: Wrobel, Gatt, Casey, Markham, Poupard
Nays: None**

3. Discussion of the future of Novi Cable/Video Operations.

City Manager Auger explained Brighthouse Communications has notified Novi that they will not be going under the same Act under the present contract. They are going to go with Public Act 480, under cable franchising. He thought now is a good time to look at operations. It has been 30 years with SWOCC. There have been meetings with the schools to find out what they do for cable programming and what the future may entitle. The equipment at SWOCC is outdated and needs to be replaced. Before the City makes a large capital expenditure or for staff to recommend continuing the present agreement, he felt there should be discussion to see what would best for the City.

Mayor Gatt said he has been in discussion about this matter with City Manager Auger in the past week. There is a discussion group forming with the School Board elected officials, School Administration and he felt City elected officials should be included. He has asked Member Wrobel and Mayor Pro Tem Staudt to be a part of the discussion group.

Member Wrobel said he was a member of the Cable Access Commission a while ago. He believes SWOCC has outlived its usefulness and the City should have more control of what is provided. Hopefully, he said, there can be a much better product provided to the residents.

Member Poupard said she commends reaching out to work with the schools. She commends the fact that this has been made a priority to engage in discussion with the schools.

Member Casey said she is fully supportive of the progress of these discussions. It makes the Community stronger when the City and School District can partner. Her only comment for the group that is being formed is, hopefully, it will be an opportunity to continue to record and store some of the larger committee meetings more than we do today.

Mayor Gatt said it is just a discussion group and no one is sure where it will end up.

4. Approval to renew the City's 2015-16 Property and Liability insurance coverage with the Stevenson Company in the amount of \$326,724.

CM 15-06-77 Moved by Wrobel, seconded by Casey; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY:

To approve the renewal of the City's 2015-16 Property and Liability insurance coverage with the Stevenson Company in the amount of \$326,724.

Roll call vote on CM 15-06-77

**Yeas: Gatt, Casey, Markham, Poupard, Wrobel
Nays: None**

5. Approval to award a construction contract for 2015 Neighborhood Road Program—Contract 1 (White Pines Drive) to Fiore Enterprises, LLC, the low bidder, in the amount of \$871,629, subject to final review and approval of form of agreement by the City Manager's office and the City Attorney.

Member Casey commended the staff for the work they have done and the way that they looked at other opportunities and made it safer for the people who live in the neighborhood.

CM 15-06-78 **Moved by Casey, seconded by Poupard; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY:**

To approve an award of a construction contract for 2015 Neighborhood Road Program—Contract 1 (White Pines Drive) to Fiore Enterprises, LLC, the low bidder, in the amount of \$871,629, subject to final review and approval of form of agreement by the City Manager's office and the City Attorney.

Roll call vote on CM 15-06-78

**Yeas: Casey, Markham, Poupard, Wrobel, Gatt
Nays: None**

Member Wrobel thanked the citizens of Novi because this is part of the road millage approval and looked forward to spend as much as possible each year.

Member Markham said her subdivision will benefit from the repair and it is a badly needed improvement. She noticed the road had been repaired by patch work previously and the road didn't last long. It only delays the inevitable of redoing the roads and appreciates that traffic will be slowed down.

AUDIENCE COMMENT:

Drew Lathin, 24291 Homestead Ct., thanked Council for starting to move Novi forward with changing garbage collection. He wished to make a few suggestions to City staff. He wants the City to benchmark other communities and don't settle with what they do. Strive to be the best. Any waste program should have garbage, recycling, and compost collection. Ambitious goals should be set for recycling rates and ask them to measure a progress against those. It should educate citizens on recycling to improve rates. Regular newsletters should be sent to households about recycling, compost, and what to put in recycling containers with other relevant information. He suggests spending the necessary resources to have a great program. There should be a kitchen compost program. There should be recycling containers that are at least as large as garbage bins.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Member Casey wished to pass on congratulations to the Youth Council for their Spring Carnival held a couple of weeks ago. It was extremely well run and residents had a good time.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL ISSUES:

1. The Library Traffic – Member Wrobel spoke about a request he made a year ago to review ongoing traffic issues at the Library and determine alternatives and costs to resolve it. He thanked the City Engineering and Library staff for their hard work in working with the Novi School District to propose three alternatives to alleviate the traffic

issues. A memo from the Engineering Department stated the Novi School has chosen not to participate in any alternatives to correct the Library traffic issues. Since the problem still exists, he believes the City needs to act now to correct the problems with or without the Novi School Districts cooperation. He asked Council to approve a motion to add to the 2015-2016 Budget the approximate \$53,000 required to widen the existing main entrance drive from 2 to 3 lanes to facilitate left and right turn traffic onto 10 Mile Road from the Library parking lot. The City Engineering Department is directed to report back to Council with firm costs and time lines to complete the project.

CM 15-06-79 Moved by Wrobel, seconded by Poupard; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY:

To approve amending the 2015-2016 Budget to appropriate \$53,000 to widen the existing Library main entrance drive from 2 to 3 lanes to facilitate left and right turn traffic onto 10 Mile Road from the Library parking lot. The City Engineering Department is directed to report back to Council with firm costs and time lines to complete the project.

Member Markham had it clarified that the \$53,000 was the total for the entire project.

Member Poupard could support it if it doesn't negate other alternative options that they are looking at. Mr. Auger said they will continue discussions with the school, but it is time to resolve what we can at this time.

Roll call vote on CM 15-06-79

**Yeas: Markham, Poupard, Wrobel, Gatt, Casey
Nays: None**

COMMUNICATIONS:

ADJOURNMENT – There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:52 P.M.

Cortney Hanson, Deputy City Clerk

Robert J. Gatt, Mayor

Transcribed by Jane Keller

Date approved: June 22, 2015