

**REGULAR COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS**

**CITY OF FLAT ROCK, MICHIGAN  
25500 GIBRALTAR ROAD  
FLAT ROCK, MI 48134**

**MONDAY, JULY 1, 2019**

The regular meeting of the Flat Rock City Council convened at the Municipal Building, 25500 Gibraltar Road, Flat Rock, Michigan 48134, on the above date at 7:30 p.m.

**1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**2. ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

PRESENT ELECTED OFFICIALS:

Mayor Dropiewski

Council Members: Bergeron, Maul, Tefend

ALSO PRESENT: City Attorney Matthew Zick, Deputy City Clerk Katherine Tomasik, Fire Chief Bill Vack, Police Chief John Leacher, DPS Director Jim Lancaster, Recreation Director Rodney Wade, Treasurer/City Administrator Brian Marciniak, Economic Development Director Liz Hendley

**Resolution 07-01-19-01**

Motion by Tefend

Supported by Bergeron

RESOLVED, that Flat Rock City Council hereby excuses Council Member Little, Council Member Martin, and Council Member Wrobel as absent at the regular City Council meeting of July 1, 2019.

Motion carried unanimously 4-0

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**Resolution 07-01-19-02**

Motion by Bergeron

Supported by Tefend

RESOLVED, to approve the minutes of the regular City Council meeting of June 17, 2019 as presented.

Motion carried unanimously 4-0

**4. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:**

Al Herfi, building owner of 26324 East Huron River Drive, asked if there has been a resolution with McKenna since the previous council meeting. Mayor Dropiewski informed Mr.

Herfi that Tom Chorkey from the Building Department spoke with Mr. Herfi's architect that afternoon and he should check with his architect regarding what was discussed.

**5. REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS:**

Police Chief John Leacher was joined by Deputy Chief Nicole Ford, Officer Brian Tetreau, K9 Officer Xander, and Christopher Powell of the Collin Rose Memorial Foundation. Chief Leacher spoke of the new bullet-proof vest that Xander was wearing. The bullet-proof vest and a Buddy Bag were donated to the Police Department by the Collin Rose Memorial Foundation. The bullet-proof vest was valued at \$1,000.00, and the Buddy Bag contains various life-saving items that can be administered by the K9 handler should the dog become injured. Chief Leacher thanked Deputy Chief Ford, Chris Powell, and the Collin Rose Memorial Foundation for their efforts in making sure Xander is properly protected.

Economic Development Director Liz Hendley provided an update on Mrs. Patricia Simeck's requests that were discussed at the previous council meeting regarding the Safe Routes to School program. Liz stated that she and the engineers from Fishbeck visited Mrs. Simeck the day after the last council meeting. Liz noted that Mrs. Simeck's concerns over her driveway being torn up will depend on the grading. Mrs. Simeck wanted the sidewalk to go around one of her pine trees and the engineers said they may be able to do that, but they might have to trim the tree so there is enough height (7 feet) for people to walk beneath the tree. Liz said that Mrs. Simeck asked what will happen if she does not like that, and the engineers said then they will remove the tree for her, and the linden tree that she was concerned about will stay and the sidewalk where it meets the school sidewalk will be angled.

DPS Director Jim Lancaster announced that the Phase 4 Sewer project is in motion. He asked residents who live on an alley to put their garbage in front of their house for pick-up instead of in the alley. He also reminded residents of the special pick-up/chipper process and residents must call in or email to schedule a pick-up. He stated that special garbage pick-ups are done on Mondays and the chipper collects branches on Wednesdays. He noted that both chippers are currently down due to mechanical issues.

Treasurer/City Administrator Brian Marciniak announced that tax bills went out that day and they are due Tuesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>. He also noted that the Flat Rock Monroe Bank & Trust is the only bank that will accept current tax bills; however, they will no longer accept water bills. Brian also announced that he has decided to pursue another opportunity and he will be resigning from his position on July 15<sup>th</sup>.

**6. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

City Council Member Mark Maul wished everyone a good 4<sup>th</sup> of July and to be safe.

City Council Member John Bergeron wished everyone a good 4<sup>th</sup> of July. He also thanked Brian for the outstanding job he has done for the City, and he commended the DPS workers on their outstanding work, especially in the summer heat.

City Council Member Rick Tefend asked Director Lancaster questions regarding the status of the DPS Department. Council Member Tefend asked how the department is doing on grass-cutting. Director Lancaster responded that because of the recent dry weather, they have been able to catch up on grass-cutting and if it stays dry, they should remain caught up. Council Member Tefend asked if there is enough crew to keep up on it, and Director Lancaster responded yes.

Council Member Tefend asked if there is anything that needs to be subbed out or anything that can be done to help the department, to which Director Lancaster responded that the recent dry weather helped them catch up. Council Member Maul noted that Summer Blast also recently occurred. Council Member Tefend asked Director Lancaster about the Playscape. Director Lancaster responded that the Playscape is old and some of the boards and the fence are dry-rotted and need to be addressed. He noted that because the Playscape was built by the community, it makes things tough. He also mentioned that he has a Certified Playground Inspector on his staff now and he will hopefully be going through the Playscape to certify everything but fears the Playscape will be beyond certification. Council Member Tefend asked if the Playscape is safe now, Director Lancaster responded yes. He mentioned that the Playscape is so old that parts for it are no longer made so the department bought everything they had; however, those parts will only fix the equipment one more time and eventually there needs to be a solution. Director Lancaster noted that there are grants available to help with the cost, but they are in high demand and even a small Playscape is very expensive. Council Member Tefend asked Director Lancaster and Sue Farrar about the weeding around the City and if there is something that can be done to prevent the weeds from coming back so quickly. Sue Farrar spoke on her work weeding around the city and how the recent rain made it difficult to get any weeding done. Mayor Dropiewski suggested a barrier be put down before the next layer of mulch goes down. Council Member Tefend said he wanted to make sure Director Lancaster had all the crew and resources he needs to get the jobs done. Director Lancaster noted that part of the reason for the special pick-up schedule is to ensure that there are enough workers to make sure all jobs get done. He mentioned that he researched surrounding cities and Flat Rock is the only city that collects special pick-ups, especially free of charge. Council Member Tefend commended Director Lancaster on the good job he does and wished Brian good luck.

**7. MAYOR COMMENTS:**

Mayor Dropiewski reminded everyone that there is a new state law regarding fireworks and the City of Flat Rock has amended their ordinance to be as restrictive as the state law will allow. He noted if anyone has any problems in their neighborhoods regarding fireworks, then they can contact the Police Department and they will come out to make sure the ordinance is being followed.

Mayor Dropiewski noted the City is nearing the time to make a decision regarding garbage and recycling collection. He proposed a study session be held before the next council meeting regarding this topic. The following motion was made:

**Resolution 07-01-19-03**

Motion by Maul  
Supported by Bergeron

RESOLVED, to hold a City Council Study Session at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, July 15, 2019 regarding the discussion of solid waste and recycling options.

Motion carried unanimously 4-0

Mayor Dropiewski announced the first Flat Rock River Run to be held during Riverfest this year. It will be a family-oriented 5K and a one-mile run/walk that will take place Saturday morning during Riverfest.

Mayor Dropiewski mentioned that he will have an interim plan to present to Council at the next meeting regarding Brian's position. He noted that Brian's departure will be a huge loss to the City, and he wishes him success.

**8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

None

**9. NEW BUSINESS**

**Item 9-A- Charitable Gaming License for the Flat Rock Ram Boosters Club**

**Resolution 07-01-19-04**

Motion by Bergeron  
Supported by Maul

RESOLVED, to approve the Charitable Gaming License for the Flat Rock Ram Boosters Club.

Motion carried unanimously 4-0

**Item 9-B-Appointment of an Acting Building Department Official**

**Resolution 07-01-19-05**

Motion by Tefend  
Supported by Maul

RESOLVED, to table the appointment of an acting Building Department Official.

Motion carried unanimously to TABLE 4-0

**Item 9-C-Amendment of Previously Adopted Water Rates**

**Resolution 07-01-19-06**

Motion by Maul  
Supported by Bergeron

RESOLVED, to approve the amendment of the previously adopted water rates.

Motion carried unanimously 4-0

**Item 9-D-Extension of Consulting Services with Linden Industries, Inc.**

**Resolution 07-01-19-07**

Motion by Maul  
Supported by Bergeron

RESOLVED, to approve the extension of consulting services with Linden Industries, Inc.

Motion carried unanimously 4-0

**Item 9-E-Ball Field Fencing**

**Resolution 07-01-19-08**

Motion by Tefend  
Supported by Mayor Dropiewski

RESOLVED, to approve the purchase to repair the south gate at the ballfield complex and to replace the west gate at the ballfield complex in the amount of \$4,500.00 through Owen's Fence Company, pending DPS Director Jim Lancaster's review of the materials that will be used.

Motion carried unanimously 4-0

**Item 9-F-33<sup>rd</sup> District Court Annual Financial Report**

**Resolution 07-01-19-09**

Motion by Maul  
Supported by Bergeron

RESOLVED, to approve the 33<sup>rd</sup> District Court Annual Financial Report.

Motion carried unanimously 4-0

**Item 9-G- Flat Rock DDA 2019-2020 Fiscal Year Budget**

**Resolution 07-01-19-10**

Motion by Tefend  
Supported by Bergeron

RESOLVED, to table the approval of the Flat Rock DDA 2019-2020 Fiscal Year Budget.

Motion carried unanimously to TABLE 4-0

**Item 9-H- TIFA 2018-2019 Budget Amendments**

**Resolution 07-01-19-11**

Motion by Maul  
Supported by Mayor Dropiewski

RESOLVED, to approve the TIFA 2018-2019 Budget Amendments

Motion carried unanimously 4-0

**Item 9-I-TIFA 2019-2020 Fiscal Year Budget**

**Resolution 07-01-19-12**

Motion by Maul  
Supported by Bergeron

RESOLVED, to approve the TIFA 2019-2020 Fiscal Year Budget

Motion carried unanimously 4-0

**Item 9-J-Flat Rock Library 2019-2020 Fiscal Year Budget**

**Resolution 07-01-19-13**

Motion by Mayor Dropiewski  
Supported by Maul

RESOLVED, to approve the Flat Rock Library 2019-2020 Fiscal Year Budget.

Motion carried unanimously 4-0

**Item 9-K-Resolution Requesting Reallocation of Asset by MERS**

**Resolution 07-01-19-14**

Motion by Bergeron  
Supported by Tefend

RESOLVED, to approve the Resolution Requesting Reallocation of Asset by MERS.

WHEREAS, City of Flat Rock has been a participating municipality in the Municipal Employees' Retirement System of Michigan ("MERS"); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Municipal Employees' Retirement Board requirements, since December 31, 1994, asset accounting had been separate for each division, instead of aggregate for the entire municipality; and

WHEREAS, over time, significant disparities have arisen in the City's MERS plan as a result of allocating the fair market value of plan assets on a divisional basis instead of on an aggregate basis, which disparities City of Flat Rock wishes to eliminate; and

WHEREAS, in order to address the anticipated increase in unfunded liability for pensions to be provided participants in the defined benefit plan that is likely to occur as a result of diminished contributions to that plan, the City wishes to reallocate certain divisional market assets between these divisions;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the governing body of City of Flat Rock, a participating municipality as defined in the Municipal Employees' Retirement Act as recodified by

Act No. 427 of the Public Acts of 1984, as amended, and as the employer, hereby requests MERS to reallocate the total market value of assets as of July 1, 2019 as follows:

Division Number	Division Name	Decrease in Employer Reserve Assets	Increase in Employer Reserve Assets
82120102	Police POAM	\$168,324	
82120113	Admin EE's after 9/1/2011	\$8,186	
82120114	Dept Heads after 9/1/2011	\$249,248	
82120115	General Clerical after 7/1/15	\$17,126	
82120122	Police after 5/1/2014	\$22,084	
82120111	Dept Heads		\$464,968

This will enable the actuary to prepare the 2019 actuarial valuation with the transferred assets.

Motion carried unanimously 4-0

**10. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:**

Sue Farrar spoke of the fall City Wide Garage Sale to be held on September 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

**11. LATE CORRESPONDENCE:**

None

**12. ADJOURNMENT:**

**Resolution 07-01-19-15**

Motion by Tefend  
Supported by Bergeron

RESOLVED, to adjourn the regular City Council meeting of July 1, 2019 at 8:09 PM.

All voting yes; motion carried unanimously 4-0

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

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JONATHAN D. DROPIEWSKI, MAYOR

\_\_\_\_\_  
KATHERINE TOMASIK, DEPUTY CITY CLERK