The regular meeting of the Flat Rock City Council convened on the above date at 7:30 p.m. via Zoom, an electronic video conferencing tool, due to the National Pandemic of the COVID-19 Novel Coronavirus that has spread throughout the world.

1. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

   PRESENT Elected Officials:
   
   PRESENT: Mayor Hammond
   
   Council Members: Bergeron, Martin, Maul, Pardo, Tefend, Wrobel
   
   ABSENT: None
   
   ALSO, PRESENT: City Attorney Matthew Zick, Interim City Clerk Shane Harrison, Police Chief Glen Hoffman, Fire Chief James Katona, Economic Development Director Liz Hendley, Treasurer Joanne Beard, DPS Director Justin Danosky, Building & Safety Director Andy Miller, Library Director Michael Cummings

   3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

   **Resolution 10-19-20-01**

   Motion by Hammond
   
   Supported by Wrobel
   
   RESOLVED, to approve the minutes of the regular City Council meeting of September 21, 2020, as amended by Councilman Maul and to table the minutes of the regular City Council meeting of October 5, 2020 as amended by Council Member Maul due to missed Councilman comments.

   Motion carried unanimously 7-0

4. **CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:**

   Andrew Brodie spoke regarding the sale of the Reading Building. Mr. Brodie stated he understands that when the City purchased the building back from the Schools there was a “handshake” agreement regarding the Schools first right of refusal on the property that was then never documented. Mr. Brodie discussed with the Board of Education the sale of this building; they feel it is important to buy the building back from the City. Mr. Brodie stated that they would re-roof the property ASAP. Councilman Martin questioned if the city would still be able to utilize the building for storage. Mr. Brodie that is something the School District and City can work out a plan.
Mayor Hammond questioned the schools plan of use with this building. Mr. Brodie stated at this point they were unsure. Councilwoman Pardo wants to know if there is no reason in mind to utilize the building and since it needs a lot of work, she was wondering what the phase plan is for the building. Mr. Brodie stated they don’t have a strategic plan yet but understands the building will need a lot of work, but they will ensure the structural integrity is met. The roof will be handled ASAP. Councilman Wrobel asked the City Attorney if this property needed to go back out to bid or can the council make a motion to sell the property back to the school? Mr. Zick stated that the City is in their right to sell the property to the school. Treasurer Joanne Beard questioned the selling price of the building to entail any costs the city may have incurred with the bidding process, Councilman Bergeron questioned the costs, though Joanne did not have exact amounts at that time, Councilman Bergeron stated he didn’t feel they should be to high. Councilman Maul made a motion to sell the Reading Building back to the schools with the roof being replaced ASAP. Councilwoman Pardo just wanted to verify with the Matt Zick, that the City was not breaking any laws by selling this to the property to the schools and Mr. Zick assured her that Council was within their right to sell this property.

**Resolution 10-19-20-02**

Motion by Maul
Supported by Martin

RESOLVED, to approve the sale of the Reading Building to Flat Rock School District for $12,000 with the agreement that the roof will be replaced ASAP.

Motion carried unanimously 7-0

5. **REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS:**

   City Attorney Matt Zick noted that the MI Supreme Court ruled that Executive Orders were no longer in effect. Senate passed a bill (11-08) to allow virtual meetings until December 31, 2020. This bill also allows for meetings going forward to be done virtually if certain criteria is met.

   Interim Clerk Shane Harrison stated that Absentee Ballots are coming in at a record pace. Mayor Hammond questioned how many ballots were out at this time, Interim Clerk Harrison responded with a guesstimate of 2,200 ballots as of 10.12.20. Mr. Zick encouraged the residents to get your ballots in early as they must be received by the Clerk’s office by 8 p.m. on November 3rd.

   Police Chief Glen Hoffman stated that something needs to be done regarding the ball diamonds as a personal vehicle was damaged due to a fly ball. Just wanted to get Council to begin thinking about ways to rectify this for next year.

   Fire Chief James Katona informed Council that the Fire Department has been at the Community Center for some training and that on Saturday, October 17th, the ladder truck was in an incident that caused some significant damage. Chief Katona did state that no one was injured. On a more positive note, Chief Hoffman & Chief Katona were awarded a grant from Marathon Oil for a Fire/Police Chaplain.

Economic Development Director Liz Hendley updated Council on the DDA & Flat Rock Our Hometown Christmas Passport program beginning on November 2, 2020. Business cards have been ordered to replace the past booklets, there is no entrance fees for businesses. Each business will
have an individual punch, cards can be found at City Hall, the Library, the Community Center and participating business locations, and all information can be found on the DDA and Flat Rock Our Hometown webpages & Facebook pages. Six punches are due from three separate businesses for entry, all cards must be dropped off to City Hall by December 17, 2020 at noon. The drawing will be on December 18th.

Treasurer Joanne Beard noted that the auditors will be out beginning on October 26th for the next two weeks. Treasurer Beard invited Council to stop in and talk with the auditors if they had any questions. Councilman Maul questioned Treasurer Beard regarding a payroll payout issue on Thursday October 15th. Treasurer Beard then explained the issue with the bank.

Library Director Michael Cummings stated the Library is open and youth programs are going well.

6. **REPORTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

   Council Member Bergeron said Happy Halloween! Be safe out there, drive slow, be careful and have fun! Thanked Interim Clerk Shane Harrison & DPS Clerk Becca for stepping up to help with this election. Councilman Bergeron also asked that it be notated that absentee ballots were not able to be handed out on October 2nd & 5th due to the Clerk resigning & Deputy Clerk taking vacation days.

   Council Member Wrobel shared Councilman Bergeron’s sentiments on being safe this Halloween. Wear a mask.

7. **MAYOR COMMENTS:**

   Mayor Hammond reminded the City to stay safe this Halloween, wear a mask and light your kids up.

   Mayor Hammond also thanked the Clerks Office for their efforts with this election.

   Mayor Hammond requested the approval of the Council to close City Hall on November 3, 2020 for the election to allow staff to be available for election assistance if needed. The Clerk’s office must stay open and will be staffed all day.

   **Resolution 10-19-20-03**

   Motion by Hammond
   Supported by Wrobel

   RESOLVED, to approve the closure of City Hall, with the exception of the Clerk’s Office on November 3, 2020.

   Motion carried unanimously 7-0

   Mayor Hammond supplied an update on the Community Center, stating they would be opening on Thursday’s and have allowed a shorter cleaning period closer mid-day.

   Mayor Hammond informed Council that Clerk interviews would be beginning this week and the Parks & Recreation Director interviews would begin the week after.
8. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

9. **NEW BUSINESS:**

Item 9-A Purchase of 2021 Ford F-450 4x4 Dump Truck

**Resolution 10-19-20-04**

Motion by Tefend  
Supported by Pardo

RESOLVED, to approve the purchase of a 2021 Ford F-450 4x4 Dump Truck with a budget of $60,000.

Motion carried unanimously 7-0

Item 9-B First Payment to Utility Finance Solutions

**Resolution 10-19-20-05**

Motion by Martin  
Supported by Bergeron

RESOLVED, to approve the first payment to Utility Finance Solutions

Motion carried unanimously 7-0

Item 9-C Project Agreement of Boat Launch

**Resolution 10-19-20-06**

Motion by Martin  
Supported by Maul

Discussion: Council Members Martin, Maul, Wrobel  
Council Member Martin asked if this was solid agreement as he would like to make an announcement at the Huron River Watershed Meeting this week, Economic Development Director Hendley stated it was a done deal with Council approval. Councilman Wrobel questioned whether the matching funds were available for this project. Mayor Hammond stated they are still in the process of matching this $300,000 grant. Treasurer Beard stated if we do not finding the matching funds we will fall below fund balance that Council voted not to go below.

Roll Call Vote:  
Yes Approve: Hammond, Martin
Maul
Pardo
Tefend

No Against: Bergeron
Wrobel

Motion carried 5-2

RESOLVED, to approve the Project Agreement of Boat Launch

Motion Carried

10. **LATE CORRESPONDENCE:**

None

11. **CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:**

Pat Sell is questioning the responsibility of voting on matching funds if we don’t have the funds available. Mayor Hammond stated we would not move forward with this project unless we have the matching funds available.

12. **ADJOURNMENT:**

[Resolution 10-19-20-07](#)

Motion by Wrobel
Supported by Martin

RESOLVED, to adjourn the regular City Council meeting of October 19, 2020 at 8:43pm.

Motion carried unanimously 7-0

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MARK A. HAMMOND, MAYOR

SHANE A. HARRISON, INTERIM CITY CLERK

Approved as presented at the November 2, 2020 Regular City Council Meeting