The regular meeting of the Flat Rock City Council convened on the above date and time 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:
   Mayor Mark A. Hammond 
   Council Members: Bergeron, Martin, Maul, Pardo, Tefend, Wrobel

   ALSO, PRESENT: City Attorney Matthew Zick, City Clerk Meaghan Bachman, Chief of Police Glen Hoffman, Fire Chief James Katona, Economic Development Director Liz Hendley, Recreation Director Rodney Wade, Treasurer Joanne Beard, DPS Director Justin Danosky, Building Director Andrew Miller.

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

   **Resolution 05-04-20-01**

   Motion by Martin
   Supported by Wrobel

   RESOLVED, to approve the minutes of the regular City Council meeting of April 20, 2020 as presented.

   Motion carried unanimously 7-0

4. **CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:**

   Huron River Drive resident Tim Welch spoke of concerns regarding a considerable amount of gun fire across the river, perhaps in Monroe County. Council Member Martin and Council Member Maul noted they hear the gun fire as well. This topic was discussed, and the Mayor noted he will contact Monroe County and check into it.

   Business owner Erica Hussey thanked the City for keeping services going during the pandemic. She praised the building and water department for being accessible and returning calls and emails. She noted it is difficult or even impossible to get through to other communities.

   Residents Tina and Ross Szalay asked when Huroc Park will be open. The Mayor noted the City would like to open it, but the issue is the footbridge and trying to social distance. This topic was discussed further, and it was noted by the Mayor, it will be discussed at the Department Head meeting the next day and will figure out a plan to open it back up.
5. REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS:

City Attorney Matt Zick noted he has a couple agenda items. He also added that the Governor’s Executive Order for virtual meetings ends next week but might be extended. He noted he will advise once he finds out more.

City Clerk Meaghan Bachman noted she has an agenda item for the meeting but nothing further to report.

Fire Chief James Katona noted the department is staying healthy and now only has one staff member in quarantine.

Economic Development Director Liz Hendley noted she is working to setup a virtual meeting with Flat Rock Business Owners on what the City can do to help them out. Council Member Bergeron thanked Liz for doing a great job. He noted it is important to gather the businesses together and see how they are doing. He noted we need to continue to be flexible with signage and help the businesses out. The Mayor suggested if business owners have questions or topics they would like to discuss, to send them beforehand. Council Member Martin asked Liz if she knew why there was a large gathering behind the old Big Boy restaurant. It was noted by the Treasurer that a contractor of Ford Motor Company and Manheim Auto Auction, meet at that location regarding vehicle transportation. This topic was discussed further, and it was noted that Ford Motor Company would be contacted.

Chief of Police Glen Hoffman also spoke on the issue that Mr. Welch brought forth regarding the gun fire across the river.

Recreation Director Rodney Wade thanked the Senior Coordinator, Fire Chief Katona and the DPS for helping with the delivery of commodities. He further thanked the Building Department for the sneeze guards.

Treasurer Joanne Beard spoke of the budget and public hearing. She noted the State of Michigan keeps changing the budget numbers, so the budget is still subject to change.

DPS Director Justin Danosky announced his full staff is now back to work and they are working out of separate buildings (DPS and Warming Building) to ensure social distancing. He thanked City Clerk Meaghan Bachman and Fire Chief James Katona for the supplies of mask, gloves, and hand sanitizer. Council Member Martin asked if part-time employees were brought back; Justin responded, no.

Building Director Andy Miller noted the Governor is allowing construction to open on May 7, 2020 and will discuss procedures at the Department Head Meeting. He thanked Building Inspector Tom Chorkey and Plan Reviewer Mike Dalton for their hard work on building the sneeze guards. He spoke of ordinances on tall grass and complaints. He noted the department will be changing the fence ordinance. Discussion took place when an Ordinance Officer would be hired. Director Miller noted he has a candidate, just did not want to hire him during the pandemic shutdown. The Mayor also thanked the Building Department for the sneeze guards and noted they drove all over to find the materials to make them.

Council Member Wrobel asked when City Hall would be open to the public. They Mayor noted department heads have a draft plan to open and once we have the authority to open from the Governor. The Mayor noted we cannot do any work outside that does not support life safety. More discussion took place on the topic.
6. **REPORTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

City Council Member John Bergeron thanked the Department Heads for their hard work. He noted he would like to open City Hall sooner than later. He spoke of certain individuals and safety concerns that need to be discussed and noted to try and get back to a new normal at work and appreciates the work everyone has done.

City Council Member Jim Martin thanked the city employees for banning together and helping in this time of crisis. He noted everyone is doing a great job at moving things forward and appreciates all the efforts. He noted that Summer Blast is officially cancelled due to COVID-19, and the committee agreed that we could not put everyone at risk. They will revisit the topic in the fall. The Memorial Day Parade was mentioned, and Council Member Martin asked if it was cancelled. The Clerk noted it was not yet cancelled nor approved. It was suggested by Council Member Wrobel that participants could drive around town with flags honoring Memorial Day. The Mayor noted he did not want to dismiss it, but also did not want to put the Veterans at risk. More discussion took place between the Council. The City Clerk noted she will contact Bill Clark of the American Legion and see what they think of the ideas.

Council Member Maul thanked the first responders and city employees for their work during this difficult time.

Council Member Kim Pardo thanked everyone for their hard work. She suggested the City honor and recognize city employees and individuals for all their hard work once City Hall reopens. She suggested we keep a list of those folks and present them with certificates of appreciation once we reopen. She spoke of Chief Hoffman, Andy Miller, Meaghan Bachman, and the team for their contributions.

Council Member Rick Tefend thanked the first responders and staff for their hard work for all they do. He spoke of the DPS and Director Danosky and how they have been around the entire city, picking up curbside and noted Justin is doing a great job. The Mayor noted people are cleaning up the city while out on walks and acknowledged how great that is.

Council Member Ken Wrobel thanked the department heads who are coming into City Hall working, especially the first responders who put themselves at risk. He asked Director Danosky if any road repair will be done in Hawthorne or Huron Woods this year. The DPS Director noted it was not planned for this year. He noted touch ups could be done with leftover spray patch. Council Member Wrobel asked if the DPS employees could pick up trash before mowing the grass. Wrobel also responded to the gun fire concerns brought forth by Mr. Welch and noted he will check with the Metro Parks.

7. **MAYOR COMMENTS:**

Mayor Hammond thanked everyone for their efforts with COVID-19. He noted although there have been fewer positive cases, there are still new cases this week in Flat Rock. This is not gone or going away just yet. He noted they way things have been done will change and become a new normal. Social distancing will still take place and will do their best to get city services and business open. He noted the City is closed to the public but still staffing employees to continue city services. He noted many employees have been laid off and staff is working from home. The Mayor noted the City is monitoring health and offering testing to employees and the City Clerk worked with our Occupational Health to offer testing to all staff members if they desire. The Mayor noted some people are positive but have no symptoms.
The Mayor also spoke of the budget and asked for the Council to review it. He further spoke of contract negotiations with the bargaining units. The Mayor thanked the Council for supporting Department Heads and thanked the employees for all their efforts. Council Member Martin noted someone he knew passed away with two negative COVID-19 results, but the death certificate said he died from COVID and cautioned to watch the statistics.

8. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**Item 8-A-2nd and Final Reading of Ordinance - Malicious Destruction of Property in a Cemetery**

**Resolution 05-04-20-02**

Motion by Tefend  
Supported by Martin

RESOLVED, to suspend the 2nd reading of the ordinance for Malicious Destruction of Property in a Cemetery.

Motion carried unanimously 7-0

**Resolution 05-04-20-03**

Motion by Martin  
Supported by Tefend

RESOLVED, to adopt the Malicious Destruction of Property in a Cemetery Ordinance as follows:

**ORDINANCE NO. 448**  
AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 58, ARTICLE IV, DIVISION 1 ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF FLAT ROCK, ENTITLED "OFFENSES AGAINST PROPERTY - GENERALLY"  

THE CITY OF FLAT ROCK ORDAINS TO:

Amend Chapter 58, Article IV, Division 1 by adding Section 58-91 which will read as follows:

Sec. 58-91- Willful destruction of property; memorials of dead; protective or ornamental structures; trees, shrubs, or plants; violation as misdemeanor penalties.

(1) A person, other than the burial right owner or his or her representative, heir at law, or a person having care, custody, or control of a cemetery pursuant to law, a contract, or other legal right, shall not willfully destroy, mutilate, deface, injure, or remove a tomb, monument, gravestone, or other structure or tiling placed or designed for a memorial of the dead, or a fence, railing, curb, or other thing intended for the protection or for the ornament of any tomb, monument, gravestone, or other structure described in this subsection or any other enclosure for the burial of the dead and shall not willfully destroy, mutilate, remove, cut, break, or injure any tree, shrub, or plant, placed or being within such an enclosure.

(2) Prosecution under subsection (1) may commence upon complaint by the burial right owner or his or her representative, heir at law, or person having care, custody, or control of a cemetery, tomb, monument, gravestone, or other structure or thing described in subsection (1).
(3) If the total amount of damage is less than $200.00, a person who violates subsection (1) is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 93 days or a fine of not more than $500.00 or both imprisonment and a fine.

State Law reference - similar provisions, MCL 750.387.

Motion carried unanimously 7-0

9. **NEW BUSINESS**

**Item 9-A-Chip Sealing Project – 2nd Phase/Layer**

**Resolution 05-04-20-04**

Motion by Tefend
Supported by Martin

RESOLVED, to approve the 2nd layer of chip seal on Seneca, Cahill, and Woodruff (bridge to Huron River Drive), in the amount of $70,000. The project will be funded by the road millage that was voted on for road repair and the work is to be done by Highway Maintenance and Construction.

Discussion: Council Member Bergeron noted past concerns that were mentioned about these funds and that the funding would not be spent on the roads and he noted these funds are being spent on road repairs. He reminded everyone this project is being paid for by road millage funding and thanked the citizens. Council Member Maul noted $280,000 was collected from that millage and this is a $70,000 invoice. City Treasurer responded, spending began on July 1st and this is what is left after summer jobs were completed. Council member Rick Tefend asked is $30,000 was left; it was noted yes.

Motion carried unanimously 7-0

**Item 9-B-Deposit for Sale of Lot 112 Huron Woods Subdivision Phase 2**

**Resolution 05-04-20-05**

Motion by Martin
Supported by Bergeron

RESOLVED, to approve the forfeiture of deposit for Sale of Lot 112 Huron Woods Subdivision Phase 2.

Discussion: Council Member Martin asked the Attorney if he needs to draft a resolution before Council approves; the attorney responded, no he will draft after.

Council Member Bergeron noted, not looking to get anything out of this, just looking into covering the City expense put forth. The Mayor added this goes back to Attorney David Grunow files.

Council Member Tefend noted he has a problem keeping the deposit if she did everything in good faith. He noted $1500.00 could be a lot of money to someone (especially now), and noted the City
still has the property. Council Member Tefend would like to return the deposit and not have the City keep it.

Roll Call Vote:
Yes Approve: Hammond
Bergeron
Martin
Maul
Pardo
Wrobel

No Against: Tefend

Motion carried 6-1 with Tefend voting no

**Item 9-C-Request to Submit an RFP for the 2020 Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)**

**Resolution 05-04-20-06**

Motion by Bergeron
Supported by Hammond

RESOLVED, to approve the request from the City Clerk to Submit an RFP for the 2020 Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the project funding will be allocated as follows: $20,000 to senior services and approximately $350,000 to Peters Road Bridge Project.

Discussion: Council Member Bergeron spoke of road repair on Vreeland Road and to seek the interest of the City of Woodhaven on applying for the project together. Council Member Martin suggested we submit the Peters Road Bridge Project again for this year and consider Vreeland Road next year with Woodhaven. The Mayor asked what the plans would be for the resurfacing/reconstruction of Vreeland concrete. Council Member Martin mentioned the previous Mayor spoke of turning the road over to Wayne County and they are more likely to take ownership of Vreeland Road (as previously discussed) if the road is in better condition.

Motion carried unanimously 7-0

10. **CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:**
None

11. **LATE CORRESPONDENCE:**
None
12. **ADJOURNMENT:**

**Resolution 05-04-20-07**

Motion by Martin  
Supported by Pardo

RESOLVED, to adjourn the regular City Council meeting of May 4, 2020 at 9:14 PM.  

Motion carried unanimously 7-0

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MARK A. HAMMOND, MAYOR

_______________________________________  
MEAGHAN K. BACHMAN, CITY CLERK

Approved as presented at the May 18, 2020 Regular City Council Meeting