

DATE: April 3, 2024

TO: City Council

FROM: Melissa R. Marsh, City Manager

SUBJECT: Agenda Comments - Regular Council Meeting of Monday, April 8, 2024

The following are my comments on items appearing on the agenda of the Regular Council Meeting on Monday, April 8, 2024.

PRESENTATIONS:

The City Council is set to present the family of Lila Richards, a long-time resident and active member of the community, with a Condolence Resolution. Lila's daughter Rochelle Karl will be in attendance to accept the resolution.

CONSENT:

2024 FIREWORKS DISPLAY PERMIT APPROVAL

The permit application process for a commercial or public fireworks display in the State of Michigan requires approval of the legislative body. The permit is for the 2024 Festival in the Park Fireworks Display scheduled for June 30th.

2024 ARBOR DAY RESOLUTION

As a requirement for our continued participation as a Tree City, Council is asked to approve a resolution declaring April 20th as Arbor Day in the City of Madison Heights as a commitment to trees and tree maintenance in the City as included in the FY 2024 and FY 2025 budgets.

CIVIC CENTER BASKETBALL COURT PAVING

The FY 2024 Budget includes \$88,000 for the replacement and improvement of the 20+ year-old Civic Center Park basketball courts. Additionally, this funding was augmented by a grant from Oakland County Parks and Recreation in the amount of \$22,500. This project is being done in several phases due to the nature of the work. The replacement of the failing pavement has been quoted by Italia Construction, which is currently under bid with the City for the sidewalk program, as well as miscellaneous flatwork and restoration. Overall, this project will result in an enhancement of these baseball courts and the repair of the seating area.

Staff recommends that the Council approve the quote from Italia Construction for the Civic Center Basket Ball Court Paving in an amount not to exceed \$27,556. Funding for this project is budgeted and available.

2024 DRINKING WATER WEEK PROCLAMATION

City Council is asked to adopt this proclamation declaring the week of May 5-11, 2024, Drinking Water Week in the City of Madison Heights. The American Water Works Association (AWWA) and its members annually celebrate Drinking Water Week, a unique opportunity for the community and its skilled water works professionals to recognize the vital role that clean, abundant, and potable water plays in their daily lives.

2024 WEST NILE VIRUS REIMBURSEMENT RESOLUTION

City Council is requested to approve the 2024 West Nile Virus Reimbursement Resolution which will enable the Department of Public Services to request the annual West Nile Virus Fund Expense Reimbursement from Oakland County.

ARAB HERITAGE MONTH

At the request for Mayor Grafstein and Councilman Fleming City Council is being requested to designate April annually as Arab Heritage Month.

CHALDEAN HERITAGE MONTH

At the request for Mayor Grafstein and Councilman Fleming City Council is being requested to designate April annually as Chaldean Heritage Month.

BID AWARDS/PURCHASES:

MICHIGAN INDIGENT DEFENSE COMMISSION ADMINISTRATIVE AGREEMENT

The current Michigan Indigent Defense Commission (MIDC) administrative services agreement is expiring. Wilson & Wilson P.C. has provided MIDC Administrative services since 2019. This proposed agreement is for a one-year term, renewable yearly for up to four additional years. Legal fees, costs, or other compensation related to Wilson's compliance with this agreement are paid solely from MIDC grant funds the City receives from the State of Michigan.

Staff recommends that the City Council approves an agreement with Wilson & Wilson P.C. for MIDC administrative services for up to a five-year term and authorize the City Manager to sign the agreement, subject to legal review.

PROFESSIONAL AUDITING FIRM CONTRACT

The current agreement for professional auditing services is expiring. An RFP for a five-year term was issued, and six firms submitted proposals. Staff evaluated the proposals for qualifications and fees.

Staff recommends that the City Council approve a five-year contract with Rehmann Robson LLC (Rehmann) for professional auditing services and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the contract, subject to legal review.

ORDINANCES:

ORDINANCE 2198 - NEW ZONING ORDINANCE AND ZONING MAP, FIRST READING

On March 19th, 2024, the City Council and the Planning Commission held a joint public hearing to discuss the complete draft of the new Zoning Ordinance and Map. At this meeting, staff and the City's planning consultants (McKenna) highlighted the key components of the new Zoning Ordinance and answered questions from the Planning Commissioners and the City Council. After the public hearing, the Planning Commission recommended approval of the new Zoning Ordinance and Map with conditions.

After the new zoning ordinance is approved, staff proposes to set aside at least two upcoming Planning Commission meetings to discuss revisions and touch-ups to the ordinance. This approach will allow the Planning Commission to send a comprehensive package of minor zoning amendments to the City Council rather than piecemeal revisions.

Based on the Planning Commission's recommendation of approval at the March 19th, 2024, joint meeting, staff recommends that the City Council approve the first reading of Ordinance #2198 and schedule the second and final reading and a public hearing for the May 13th, 2024, City Council meeting.