

City Council Regular Meeting
Madison Heights, Michigan
August 22, 2022

A City Council Regular Meeting was held on Monday, August 22, 2022 at 7:30 PM at Fire Station 1 Training Room - 31313 Brush Street

PRESENT

Mayor Roslyn Grafstein
Councilwoman Toya Aaron
Mayor Pro Tem Mark Bliss
Councilor Emily Rohrbach
Councilman David Soltis
Councilor Quinn Wright

ABSENT

Councilman Sean Fleming

ALSO PRESENT

Melissa Marsh, City Manager
Assistant City Attorney J. Sherman
City Clerk Cheryl Rottmann

Councilor Wright gave the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance followed.

CM-22-253. Excuse Councilmember.

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Bliss, Seconded by Councilor Rohrbach, to excuse Councilman Fleming from tonight's meeting.

Voting Yea: Mayor Grafstein, Councilwoman Aaron, Mayor Pro Tem Bliss, Councilor Rohrbach, Councilman Soltis, Councilor Wright

Absent: Councilman Fleming

Motion carried.

CM-22-254. Madison Heights Community Coalition Update.

Madison Heights Community Coalition Executive Director Kim Heisler and staff member Anthony Leverett provided a presentation to City Council regarding the MHCC vision, updates, and action plan for the upcoming school year.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

Crime Commission Chairperson Martha Covert announced that Attorney General Nessel will be speaking on consumer fraud protection on September 6th. The Crime Commission is also planning a canine visit for the community and their goal is to bring the community and police together. She expressed her concern with the DTE outages. Mayor Grafstein stated that Council and staff are very aware of the DTE outages. We expect to have daily access to reliable electricity. Occasionally it is annoying, but it has become excessive; the outages are taking a toll financially, create health hazards, and even cause people to have to find alternate work environments. Staff is having a meeting with DTE this week to address the matter and the City is doing what they can.

CM-22-255. Sandra Quackenbush - Resignation from the Human Relations & Equity Commission and Parks & Recreation Advisory Board.

Motion made by Councilor Rohrbach, Seconded by Councilor Wright, to accept the resignation of Sandra Quackenbush from the Human Relations & Equity Commission and Parks & Recreation Advisory Board, declare the seats vacant, and issue a Certificate of Appreciation for her service.

Voting Yea: Mayor Grafstein, Councilwoman Aaron, Mayor Pro Tem Bliss, Councilor Rohrbach, Councilman Soltis, Councilor Wright

Absent: Councilman Fleming

Motion carried.

CM-22-256. Consent Agenda Policy.

Motion made by Councilor Rohrbach, Seconded by Councilwoman Aaron, to adopt the Consent Agenda Policy to be effective September 12, 2022, as presented.

Voting Yea: Mayor Grafstein, Councilwoman Aaron, Mayor Pro Tem Bliss, Councilor Rohrbach, Councilman Soltis, Councilor Wright

Absent: Councilman Fleming

Motion carried.

CM-22-257. Special Event - Cyclocross Race.

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Bliss, Seconded by Councilor Rohrbach, to approve the Cyclocross Bike Race on September 29 - October 1, 2022; subject to compliance with the Policy on Uniform Insurance Requirements for Special Events, and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the Park Use Agreement on behalf of the City.

Voting Yea: Mayor Grafstein, Councilwoman Aaron, Mayor Pro Tem Bliss, Councilor Rohrbach, Councilman Soltis, Councilor Wright

Absent: Councilman Fleming

Motion carried.

CM-22-258. Boards and Commission Appointments.

Active Adult Center Advisory Board

Motion by Councilor Wright, Seconded by Councilor Rohrbach, to appoint Margaret Topping as a Regular member to the Active Adult Center Advisory Board with a term to expire August 31, 2025.

Voting Yea: Mayor Grafstein, Councilwoman Aaron, Mayor Pro Tem Bliss, Councilor Rohrbach, Councilman Soltis, Councilor Wright

Absent: Councilman Fleming

Motion carried.

Arts Board

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Bliss, Seconded by Councilor Rohrbach, to appoint the following to the Arts Board:

Name:	Term Type:	Term Expiration:
Jennifer Nagle	Regular	08-31-25
Ahnalee Basler	Regular	08-31-25
Jennifer Zmarzlik	Regular	08-31-23
Jillian Sweet	Alternate	08-31-24
Amy Lewis	Alternate	08-31-23

Voting Yea: Mayor Grafstein, Councilwoman Aaron, Mayor Pro Tem Bliss, Councilor Rohrbach, Councilman Soltis, Councilor Wright

Absent: Councilman Fleming

Motion carried.

Construction Board of Appeals

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Bliss, Seconded by Councilman Soltis, to appoint Brad Brickel to the Construction Board of Appeals with a term to expire August 31, 2024.

Voting Yea: Mayor Grafstein, Councilwoman Aaron, Mayor Pro Tem Bliss, Councilor Rohrbach, Councilman Soltis, Councilor Wright

Absent: Councilman Fleming

Motion carried.

Crime Commission

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Bliss, Seconded by Councilor Wright, to appoint Alexandra Iaquinto as an Alternate member to the Crime Commission with a term to expire August 31, 2024.

Voting Yea: Mayor Grafstein, Councilwoman Aaron, Mayor Pro Tem Bliss, Councilor Rohrbach, Councilman Soltis, Councilor Wright

Absent: Councilman Fleming

Motion carried.

Elected Officials Compensation Commission

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Bliss, Seconded by Councilman Soltis, to appoint Jennifer Zmarzlik to the Elected Officials Compensation Commission with a term to expire August 31, 2029.

Voting Yea: Mayor Grafstein, Councilwoman Aaron, Mayor Pro Tem Bliss, Councilor Rohrbach, Councilman Soltis, Councilor Wright
Absent: Councilman Fleming
Motion carried.

Environmental Citizens Committee

Motion by Councilor Rohrbach, Seconded by Councilor Wright, to appoint Anthony Klepacki as a Regular member to the Environmental Citizens Committee with a term to expire February 28, 2024.

Voting Yea: Mayor Grafstein, Councilwoman Aaron, Mayor Pro Tem Bliss, Councilor Rohrbach, Councilman Soltis, Councilor Wright
Absent: Councilman Fleming
Motion carried.

Historical Commission

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Bliss, Seconded by Councilman Soltis, to appoint the following to the Historical Commission:

Name:	Term Type:	Term Expiration:
Nicholas Cobb	Regular	02-28-23
Kevin Wright	Regular	02-28-24

Voting Yea: Mayor Grafstein, Councilwoman Aaron, Mayor Pro Tem Bliss, Councilor Rohrbach, Councilman Soltis, Councilor Wright
Absent: Councilman Fleming
Motion carried.

Human Relations and Equity Commission

Motion by Councilor Rohrbach, Second by Councilor Wright to appoint the following to the Human Relations and Equity Commission:

Name:	Term Type:	Term Expiration:
Paige Szymanski	Regular	08-31-24
Amy Pugh	Regular	08-31-24
Marie Urban	Regular	08-31-23
Emily Reetz	Regular	08-31-23

Voting Yea: Mayor Grafstein, Councilwoman Aaron, Mayor Pro Tem Bliss, Councilor Rohrbach, Councilman Soltis, Councilor Wright

Absent: Councilman Fleming

Motion carried.

Library Advisory Board

Motion by Councilwoman Aaron, Second by Mayor Pro Tem Bliss, to appoint the following to the Library Advisory Board:

Name:	Term Type:	Term Expiration:
Deborah Shepherd	Regular	08-31-24
Kristina Mentzer	Regular	08-31-24
Jeffrey Scott	Regular	08-31-23
William Meir	Regular	08-31-24
Anjela Freeman	Regular	08-31-24
Amanda May	Regular	08-31-23
Cassia Jackson	Alternate	08-31-23

Voting Yea: Mayor Grafstein, Councilwoman Aaron, Mayor Pro Tem Bliss, Councilman Soltis, Councilor Wright

Abstain: Councilor Rohrbach

Absent: Councilman Fleming

Motion carried.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

Motion by Councilor Rohrbach, Second by Councilwoman Aaron, to confirm the following Mayor's appointment to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board:

Name:	Term Type:	Term Expiration:
Christopher Molencupp	Regular	02-28-24

Voting Yea: Mayor Grafstein, Councilwoman Aaron, Mayor Pro Tem Bliss, Councilor Rohrbach, Councilman Soltis, Councilor Wright

Absent: Councilman Fleming

Motion carried.

Motion by Councilor Rohrbach, Second by Councilman Soltis, to confirm the following Mayor's appointments to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board:

Name:	Term Type:	Term Expiration:
Vita Palazzolo	Regular	02-28-23
Deliza Lee	Alternate	02-28-23

Voting Yea: Mayor Grafstein, Councilwoman Aaron, Mayor Pro Tem Bliss, Councilor Rohrbach, Councilman Soltis, Councilor Wright

Absent: Councilman Fleming

Motion carried.

Planning Commission

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Bliss, Seconded by Councilor Wright, to confirm the Mayor's appoint Melissa Kalnasy as a Regular member to the Planning Commission with a term to expire August 31, 2025.

Voting Yea: Mayor Grafstein, Councilwoman Aaron, Mayor Pro Tem Bliss, Councilor Rohrbach, Councilman Soltis, Councilor Wright

Absent: Councilman Fleming

Motion carried.

Police and Fire Retirement System

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Bliss, Seconded by Councilor Wright, to appoint Anthony Roberts to the Police and Fire Retirement System with a term to expire August 31, 2026.

Voting Yea: Mayor Grafstein, Councilwoman Aaron, Mayor Pro Tem Bliss, Councilor Rohrbach, Councilman Soltis, Councilor Wright

Absent: Councilman Fleming

Motion carried.

Zoning Board of Appeals

Motion by Councilwoman Aaron, Seconded by Councilor Wright, to appoint Del Loranger to the Zoning Board of Appeals with a term to expire February 28, 2025.

Voting Yea: Mayor Grafstein, Councilwoman Aaron, Mayor Pro Tem Bliss, Councilor Rohrbach, Councilman Soltis, Councilor Wright

Absent: Councilman Fleming

Motion carried.

CM-22-259. City Manager - Change Order - Basement Water Removal and Treatment 945 E. Ten Mile Road.

Motion made by Councilor Wright, Seconded by Councilor Rohrbach, to approve the work plan change with an additional fee of \$93,057.40 for The Adams Group for basement water removal and treatment at 945 E. Ten Mile Road.

Voting Yea: Mayor Grafstein, Councilwoman Aaron, Mayor Pro Tem Bliss, Councilor Rohrbach, Councilman Soltis, Councilor Wright

Absent: Councilman Fleming

Motion carried.

CM-22-260. Scheduled Replacement of Forklift #320 – Budget Amendment.

Motion made by Councilor Rohrbach, Seconded by Councilwoman Aaron, to approve a Budget Amendment of \$9,001 to account 592-901-982-0000.

Voting Yea: Mayor Grafstein, Councilwoman Aaron, Mayor Pro Tem Bliss, Councilor Rohrbach, Councilman Soltis, Councilor Wright

Absent: Councilman Fleming

Motion carried.

CM-22-261. Scheduled Replacement of Forklift #320.

Motion made by Councilor Rohrbach, Seconded by Councilwoman Aaron, to approve the purchase of one Toyota Model 40-8FGU30 Lift Truck from Bell Fork Lift, Inc., of Clinton Township, Michigan in the amount of \$49,001 under the sole source provision of the City's purchasing ordinance.

Voting Yea: Mayor Grafstein, Councilwoman Aaron, Mayor Pro Tem Bliss, Councilor Rohrbach, Councilman Soltis, Councilor Wright

Absent: Councilman Fleming

Motion carried.

CM-22-262. Scheduled Replacement of Street Sweeper #408.

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Bliss, Seconded by Councilor Rohrbach, to award the purchase of one Bucher CityCat 5006 to MTech, of Cleveland, Ohio for a total purchase price of \$258,190 under the Wayne County RESA CoPro+ Contract #2018-WR-060-M.

Voting Yea: Mayor Grafstein, Councilwoman Aaron, Mayor Pro Tem Bliss, Councilor Rohrbach, Councilman Soltis, Councilor Wright

Absent: Councilman Fleming

Motion carried.

CM-22-263. Regular City Council Meeting Minutes of August 8, 2022.

Motion made by Councilwoman Aaron, Seconded by Councilor Wright, to approve the Regular City Council Meeting Minutes of August 8, 2022, as printed.

Voting Yea: Mayor Grafstein, Councilwoman Aaron, Mayor Pro Tem Bliss, Councilor Rohrbach, Councilman Soltis, Councilor Wright

Absent: Councilman Fleming

Motion carried.

COUNCIL COMMENTS.

Councilwoman Aaron stated that she was so proud of her son, Jordan for participating in the Madison Heights Community Coalition presentation this evening. She stated that she is proud that he participated in the conference in Orlando. She continued by stating Madison Heights Community Coalition staff member Anthony Leverett is goal driven, his passion for the youth of this community is incredible and she thanked him for his service. She asked about the possibility of cancelling the Council meeting during Rosh Hashanah out of respect for our Jewish community.

Mayor Pro Tem Bliss agrees with Councilman Aaron perspective on possibly cancelling meetings due to religious holidays as well as other meetings that have light agendas. We may want to explore amending Charter for more flexibility. He stated that he was incredibly disappointed in DTE. DTE was before Council previously and promised several improvements, but to his knowledge no improvements were made to the substation that failed. He also stated it may be time to have DTE before Council again or at the least have a resolution crafted to send to the regulatory agency.

Councilor Wright offered thanks and gratitude to the line workers at DTE, noting they work hard and often. Those who have electrical equipment and experience power failures could prove to be life-threatening. Please prepare for the power to go out; have a backup plan and prepare for things to go wrong. Kudos to the MHCC and agreed Mr. Leverett is a game-changer and stated that he is proud to be the Council representative on this board. He also noted that Jordan is impressive, and he will leave a great footprint in our community. Please remember to be kind.

Assistant City Attorney Sherman had no comments this evening.

City Manager Marsh had no comments this evening.

City Clerk Rottmann had no comments this evening.

Councilor Rohrbach stated that the Environmental Citizens Committee had a successful plant sale this month and she thanked Nickole Fox for making it go seamlessly. The HREC is having a native plant sale on September 18th. She concurs with Council's comments on DTE. School starts on Monday, good luck to all our kids as they head into their next year of schooling. She expressed thanks to everyone that applied to our boards and commissions, there are still some vacancies, so please if you are interested, apply. There will be a new round of appointments in February.

Councilman Soltis stated that he rides his bike daily and asked that dogs be kept on short leashes. He noted that it was about six years ago that DTE presented to Council, and they just kept saying they had to trim trees, the current situation is not acceptable. In the past he presented reports on child poverty as well as child maltreatment and abuse and stated that he is planning another one soon.

Mayor Grafstein thanked those that came to the meeting tonight. She expressed gratitude to all the board and commission applicants, and noted that if you haven't been appointed, please consider coming to a meeting and becoming active or joining a subcommittee. She concurred with Council's comments on DTE and stated that the City is meeting with DTE this week. Thank you to Council for acknowledging the two important Jewish holidays and agreed that perhaps a meeting could be cancelled or postponed. She recognized all the line workers from DTE; noting she is upset because outages keep happening, but she is not upset with the workers. It is not an acceptable situation and staff is working on the issue. The next Council meeting is September 12, 2022.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:02 p.m.