

**CITY OF WIXOM  
49045 PONTIAC TRAIL  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2022**

Mayor Beagle called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Present:**

**Mayor:** P. Beagle  
**Deputy Mayor:** T. Rzeznik  
**Councilmembers:** P. Behrmann  
K. Gottschall  
T. Gronlund-Fox  
P. Sharpe  
R. Smiley

**AGENDA CHANGES:** (None)

**MINUTES:**

**CM-02-19-22:** Moved and seconded by Councilmembers Sharpe and Gronlund-Fox to approve the Regular City Council meeting minutes of February 8, 2022.

**Vote:**

**Motion Carried**

**CM-02-20-22:** Moved and seconded by Councilmembers Gronlund-Fox and Sharpe to approve the Goal Setting minutes of February 14, 2022.

**Vote:**

**Motion Carried**

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

**1.) Letter of Resignation from Jennifer Mulder from the Library Board**

Mayor Beagle thanked Ms. Mulder for her time on the Board. He appreciated her services to the City.

**CALL TO THE PUBLIC:**

There were no comments at this time.

**CITY MANAGER REPORTS:**

**1.) Departmental Reports – January 2022**

In regard to the DPW report, Councilmember Sharpe thanked Mr. Sikma for clarifying the chevron replaced on Charms Road. He asked about the drainage issue along the bend on Charms Road near Howell Lane. He assumed the DPW would be cleaning that up in the spring. Mr. Sikma replied that was correct. There were six inches of ice that needed to be dug out. It was damming up the road significantly. He indicated that this spring, they would get a regular ditching bucket to clean that out. Councilmember Sharpe thanked Mr. Sikma for getting with Hubbell, Roth and Clark regarding their monthly report. It contained timely information; the dates seemed to be consistent with the month and what was really happening in the next

few months. Councilmember Sharpe asked Mr. Benson about the Class C Liquor Licenses. Mr. Benson said that those were the on-premise consumption licenses.

Councilmember Gronlund-Fox's first question was regarding the Planning and Zoning Activity Report. Under b(2), it said that the Wixom Assembly Park had two proposed amendments to Phase 2 and she wondered what those were. Mr. Benson said he did not know the specific details but they were related to the width and length of the buildings being changed slightly, including specific locations of parking spots and landscaping details. He noted that they would be seeking Special Land Use approval for outdoor storage for trucks and trailers. Her other question was regarding the Economic Development Report. She asked how it was going with the Parks and Recreation Commission and the DDA working together. Mr. Benson replied that there hadn't been any new meetings lately. This has been a relatively slow process because the City's CDBG funds that were dedicated for this project aren't available until the 2023/2024 fiscal year. It was well-established that there will be a relationship in those discussions. Councilmember Gronlund-Fox knew that there was a lot of work done by the Parks and Recreation Commission in combination with Ms. Magee and her staff on that recreation site. She wanted to make sure that didn't go by the wayside. Mr. Benson said that was the point with the Parks and Recreation Master Plan currently in place. This is a learning exercise across the board but he felt confident everybody would be on the same page as we move forward deliberately.

Deputy Mayor Rzeznik noticed on the DPW Report there were some excursions to Gunnar Mettala Park and to the Gibson House to check the heat in the buildings. He asked if we did remote monitoring of any of our buildings that were not used so much in the winter. Mr. Sikma said that we have remote monitoring for the Gibson House. He was concerned about the boiler there. There have been issues in the past so we double check it. Deputy Mayor Rzeznik asked if the Community Center was monitored and Mr. Sikma replied yes, as well as City Hall. The monitoring systems were not as good as they used to be. Deputy Mayor Rzeznik suggested that he think about that during budget preparation because they are relatively inexpensive changes. Mr. Sikma stated that he was looking at the telephone monitoring as well. The alarm systems are hardwired and are connected with the smoke detectors. He was considering those changes.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**CM-02-21-22:** Motion and seconded made by Deputy Mayor Rzeznik and Councilmember Gronlund-Fox to approve the Consent Agenda as presented which included:

- 1.) Approval to receive and file:
  - a.) Planning Commission Minutes – January 3, 2022
- 2.) 2021 City of Wixom Planning Commission Annual Report

**Vote:**

**Motion Carried**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** (None)

**NEW BUSINESS:****1.) Recommendation that City Council Approve the Formation of a Charter Amendment Subcommittee and Appoint City Councilmember Keenan Gottschall, City Councilmember Tia Gronlund-Fox and City Councilmember Robert Smiley as Members**

**CM-02-22-22:** Motion and seconded made by Councilmembers Sharpe and Behrmann to approve the formation of a Charter Amendment Subcommittee and appoint City Councilmember Keenan Gottschall, City Councilmember Tia Gronlund-Fox and City Councilmember Robert Smiley as members.

Mayor Beagle stated that over the years, City Charters can become outdated. Members of this Council have expressed goals of making necessary changes to the Charter. This Committee was formed during the recent Goal Session.

Deputy Mayor Rzeznik wondered if there was any interest from citizens-at-large or business owners. Mr. Benson said he didn't think it was their intention to make this a broader committee. This would be more of an ad hoc committee with Council and staff. We could put the findings of the Committee out to the public; that was up to the Council's discretion. There would probably be a series of meetings to discuss those items that needed to be amended.

Councilmember Gottschall said that it was his understanding that this Committee would be putting forth changes to consider. If Council agreed, those items would be placed on the ballot for residents to vote on.

**Vote:**

**Motion Carried**

**CALL TO THE PUBLIC:**

Melanie Robinson, 2043 Lamella and President of St. Vincent DePaul, wanted to bring to the Council's attention that they were seeing a larger than normal number of homeless people seeking help from them. She indicated that their fiscal year goes from October to September and last fiscal year they had a total of 14 inquiries for help. Already this year, they have had 7 requests. They generally put them up in local hotels. The conferences of Our Lady of Sorrows and St. Gerald's have spent a lot of their budget on hotel rentals. Rents are going up and they felt like they would be seeing more and more homeless people. She said they really try to sell the shelters in Pontiac, but the majority of the people do not want to go to the shelters. She wanted the Council to be aware that it was becoming an issue and she was sure the Police saw it. She didn't know how much the Police talk to the Council though. She thanked the Council and said she appreciated their time.

**CITY MANAGER COMMENTS:**

Mr. Benson reported that the City Manager was on a well-deserved vacation. He congratulated the eight employees who will be celebrating work anniversaries next month. They range from 31 years to 1 year.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

**Councilmember Smiley** had no comments.

**Councilmember Behrmann** had no comments.

**Councilmember Gottschall** thanked Jennifer Mulder for volunteering on the Library Board and playing an important role at the Library. They have changed leadership over time and they have worked to modernize the Library. He thought those types of positions often times got overlooked.

**Councilmember Gronlund-Fox** thanked Ms. Mulder for her service on the Library Board and all employees who were celebrating work anniversaries.

**Councilmember Sharpe** had no comments.

**Deputy Mayor Rzeznik** thanked Ms. Mulder for her service.

**Mayor Beagle** congratulated the City employees who were celebrating work anniversaries. He has said it before and he said it again; Wixom has the best staff and when you see guys with 31 years, they must like their job.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

Catherine Buck  
City Clerk

Approved 3-8-2022
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