

**CITY OF SOUTHGATE
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
May 18, 2022
122 Electric Ave.
City building**

Call to Order: Mayor Hamberg called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

The following answered roll call: Council Members Anderson, Melville, Okura, Messmer, and Wegener were present. Council Member Robisch was absent. Also present: City Clerk Barton, Finance Director/Treasurer Franklin, Police Chief Christmann, Public Works Foreman Bowman, Fire Chief Beatsch, and City Attorney Stewart.

Public Comments: Sonny Silverton (136 Harvard Pl) requested Council to amend the animal ordinance to allow residents to raise chickens. Mayor Hamberg asked Council if they wanted to move forward on this request. A motion was made to have City Attorney Stewart amend the animal ordinance to allow chickens in the City. **Motion/Second: Messmer/Okura. Approved by vote: Aye 4 Nay 1.**

Approval of regular meeting minutes 5/4/22. Motion/Second: Anderson/Melville. Approved by vote: Aye 5 Nay 0.

Public Works: Councilman Melville reported that the curbs on Joyce Ave. should be completed by May 24 and all construction should be finished by May 29. There was a meeting today with the contractor who will be starting on Ridgeway Ave. resurfacing around mid August. Public Works Foreman said the swing seats were replaced at the park playground.

Public Safety: Councilman Anderson reported that the Police Dept. has a case where a trailer was stolen. The trailer is at the impound lot accruing fees to the owner. Mr. Anderson asked if the City could create a storage area for vehicles like this during the time when evidence needs to be stored until it is released by the prosecutor. Mayor Hamberg asked Police Chief Christmann, Public Works Foreman Bowman, and Councilman Melville to meet and discuss options. They will then bring a proposal to Council.

Police Chief Christmann said there were several burglaries and a house fire earlier this week. The Police Dept. arrested a suspect in these cases. Fire Chief Beatsch talked about the fire at 9 Dexter that occurred Sunday night. It is being investigated as suspicious.

Code Enforcement: Councilman Messmer has no report. He asked that residents maintain their sidewalks.

Community Relations & Recreation: Council Member Okura made a **Motion to tear down the tennis courts and build a green space/park subject to the signed modified agreement with the Optimist Club. Motion/Second: Okura/Messmer. Approved by vote: Aye 5 Nay 0.** There was discussion about the LWCF grant and details of what is included in the park. Council wanted flexibility to possibly use that space for public facilities in the future.

Public Buildings: Councilman Robisch was absent.

Finance and Administration: Councilman Wegener reviewed the payables.

Finance Director/Treasurer Franklin said she emailed the budget to Council today. At the June 1st meeting the first reading of budget will be done. She asked Fire Chief Beach about the July 1, 2021 invoice for new radios that the City just received. Ms. Franklin said it wasn't in the 2021-22 budget, but she will amend it. **Motion to pay the invoice of \$23,456 dated 7/1/21. Motion/Second: Anderson/Wegener. Approved by vote: Aye 4 Nay 0. Councilman Messmer abstained from voting because he is President of the Fire Dept.**

City Clerk Barton had no report, but said there is a public hearing after the meeting for the Land Water Conservation Fund grant for the tennis courts. City Attorney Stewart said Code Enforcement Officer Lauber is working with her on two properties with numerous violations. A letter was sent to a resident on Bluegrass. Mr. Lauber will meet with the resident on Valley View to sign an agreement for the correction of multiple violations. Ms. Stewart read the following:

Resolution 22-03. Motion Authorizing the Mayor to sign the LWCF grant application for the tennis courts. Motion/Second: Okura/Melville. Approved by vote: Aye 5 Nay 0.

Order 22-03 Disposition of Public Works 2007 John Deere riding lawn mower. The Mayor will sign.

Old Business: none

New Business: none

Payment of Vouchers: Check vouchers #32533-32567 were presented for Council's review.

Mayor & Council Comments: Mayor Hamberg talked about the upcoming changes expected in Frankfort due to the primary elections.

Announcements: none.

Adjournment: There being no further business, **Motion/Second: Messmer/Anderson. Approved by vote: Aye 5 Nay 0.**

ATTEST: Brandi Barton
Brandi Barton, City Clerk

James Hamberg
James Hamberg, Mayor