



MINUTES
Committee on Ways and Means
Thursday, February 22, 2018 @ 9:30 a.m.
10th Floor Conference Room, City Hall

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:44 a.m. by Vice-Chairperson Dunbar

ROLL CALL

Council Member Jody Washington, Chair- arrived after the ERS Retirement Board Meeting
Council Member Kathie Dunbar, Vice Chairperson
Council Member Carol Wood, Member

OTHERS PRESENT

LaSondra Crenshaw, Council Staff
Eric Brewer, Council Internal Auditor
Angie Bennett, Finance Director
Denis Prisk, LPD Budget Control Supervisor
Brett Kaschinske – Parks Director
Dan Danke – Public Service Department
Greg Venker, Assistant City Attorney
Jim Smeirtka, City Attorney

Minutes

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER WOOD TO APPROVE THE FEBRUARY 8, 2018 MINUTES AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED 2 - 0

Public Comment

No public comment.

Discussion/Action

RESOLUTION – Amended Adult Baseball Fees

Mr. Kaschinske stated that the Adult League is open to ages eighteen and up. There are also two additional leagues thirty and up and forty and up. Council Member Wood asked what is rationale behind raising the prices. Mr. Kaschinske stated fees had not been raised for some time, and expenses have continued to increase. The closest league is in Battle Creek and Flint and the Department has done some rate comparison with those areas as well. Council Member Wood asked whether the leagues are required to mark fields. Mr. Kaschinske stated leagues do

not do daily maintenance, Parks has volunteers and employees that do that. Council Member Wood asked whether Mr. Kaschinske informed the leagues of the potential of an increase in fees. He stated yes they were made aware and this is the league fee, not individual players. The leagues have sponsors and they usually pick-up the league cost. Also this increase is before the budget because of when the baseball season starts.

Mr. Venker stated the resolution should be consistent. Resolution will be updated to reflect the change.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER WOOD TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION TO AMEND
ADULT BASEBALL FEES MOTION CARRIED 2 - 0

Council Member Washington enters

RESOLUTION – Grant; Baseball Tomorrow Fund

Mr. Kaschinske explained that grant was \$60,000. He advised that the City match was lowered because they will not need as much to complete the infield work. The \$23,000 is coming from the mileage funds for the match. The pitch on the infield is not correct and needs to be improved because it is holding a great deal of water. They would also add dirt and fencing to contain play for pitching league for children eight and nine year olds.

Council Member Dunbar asked why the resolution has different numbers on front and back. Mr. Kaschinske advised we will get \$69,391 from “Baseball Tomorrow”. The amount of \$176,666 should be \$141,414 and would replace total fund amount on page one. Council Member Dunbar asked if the outfield fences would be on the southeast and southwest of park. Mr. Kaschinske indicated yes that was the location, and it would be a 4ft high fence with safety cap on top.

Council Member Wood asked according to the grant sheet there is in kind, what is it. Mr. Kaschinske advised that would include labor, landscape, and architects time; along with the ball field maintenance crew. Council Member Wood asked if maintenance on the fence would be additional work done to maintain. Mr. Kaschinske advised that yes and different ways to combat weeds is with chemical spray on fence edges and weed whip would be needed. There will be gates for mowing crew to mow. Council Member Wood asked what is being done as far as the dugouts. Mr. Kaschinske advised that fencing will be there, to add separation between fans and coaches/players. This will allow coach to address the team and provides protection from the crowds. Construction will begin August 1, 2018 and the ribbon cutting will take place spring of 2019.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER DUNBAR TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR THE
BASEBALL TOMORROW FUND GRANT MOTION CARRIED 3 - 0

RESOLUTION – Local Bridge Program Funding; Michigan Department of Transportation

This is grant the City of Lansing applies for each year and it is submitted to the State. Anywhere from three to none could be funded. Council Member Dunbar asked where is Aurelius over Pawlowski Creek located? Mr. Danke advised that Pawlowski Creek is a County drain and it goes under Aurelius road, south of the campgrounds on Aurelius.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER WOOD TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION LOCAL BRIDGE PROGRAM FUNDING APPROVED 3 - 0.

RESOLUTION – Grant Acceptance; Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement

Mr. Prisk explained that the grant was received last year and fell off the radar. Training was already done and was very successful, it was four one day-training sessions. The training discussed the need to master verbal conflict management skills. The September/October 2017 semi competitive grant pays for 65% of cost for the speaker fees and travel fees. The remaining balance of \$2940.00 the LPD agreed to pay 50%. Council Member Dunbar asked if the grant is normally a multiyear grant. Mr. Prisk advised that no it is not, that was an error on the grant form this is a one year grant.

Council Member Dunbar then asked how the children were chosen to participate. Mr. Prisk advised the students were not children but individuals from other agencies. Information was sent out and they also had to pay for the training to help offset the cost to LPD.

Council Member Wood asked who was the facilitator. Mr. Prisk advised it was Harry P. Dolan a retired police chief of Raleigh Police Department.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER WOOD TO APROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR MICHIGAN COMMISSION ON LAW ENFORCEMENT GRANT APPROVED 3 - 0

City Council FY 2018/2019 Budget Recommendations

Mr. Brewer went over the Budget Recommendations for the City Council FY 2018/2019. He advised there were some increases but most remained the same. The changes were due to increases in staff paid and other adjustments. Council Member Wood advised that part of the financial changes were salary increases that our staff was entitled to due to us following the Teamsters 214. She also informed the group that Ms. Bennett also provided dollar figures for benefits and that type of information. Mr. Brewer advised that there were three adjustments made for new Council Members, Teamsters 214, and carryovers. And that Item five FY 2017 is actual expenditures. And FY 2018 is a projection. Council Member Wood stated since the utilities for City Hall year end were projected at \$33,000.00 but we budgeted for \$50,000.00 as well as telephone. These numbers you just plugged in. Mr. Brewer stated yes City Council is normally under budget. And we would rather be under budget than over budget.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER WOOD TO MOVE BUDGET FORWARD APPROVED 3 - 0.

Pending

Report from Internal Auditor and City Attorney on Retiree Reimbursement Remains pending.
Teamster 580 Retiree Healthcare Coverage Remains pending

ADJOURN

Adjourn at 10:20 a.m.

Submitted by,

LaSondra Crenshaw, Administrative Assistant

Lansing City Council

Approved by the Committee on March 22, 2018