



**Official Proceedings of the City Council
City of Lansing
July 10, 2023**

Tony Benavides Lansing City Council Chambers
Lansing, Michigan

The City Council of the City of Lansing met in regular session and was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Wood

PRESENT: Council Members Brown, Garza, Hussain, Jackson, Kost, Spitzley, Wood

ABSENT: Council Member Spadafore

A quorum was present.

Council Member Wood asked people to remember the family of Wynter Cole Smith, who recently passed away, during the moment of Meditation. The Council observed a moment of Meditation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by President Wood.

Approval of Printed Council Proceedings

By Vice President Garza

To approve the printed Council Proceedings of May 22 and June 12, 2023

Motion Carried

By Council Member Hussain

To approve the printed Council Proceedings of June 26, 2023

Motion Carried

Comments by Council Members and the City Clerk

Council Member Spitzley congratulated Mark Dotson's son for being appointed to the 61st District Court, and recognized the students from the Study of US Institutes for European Leaders and the Mandela Washington Fellowship Program for being in attendance.

Council Member Brown wished his father a Happy 78th Birthday.

Council Member Hussain announced the upcoming South West Action Group meeting. He then thanked Jordan Hankwitz and Nicholas Montry from Economic Development and Planning for their support and meaningful conversation surrounding southwest Lansing. Finally he stated hope to hear updates from the Simtob Apartment Management Company settlement.

City Clerk Swope provided an update on the upcoming primary election.

Community Event Announcements

Loretta Stanaway spoke about the upcoming Friends of Lansing's Historic Cemeteries monument cleanup and the upcoming picnic in the cemetery.

Erica Lynn spoke about the upcoming backpack giveaway hosted by the Village Lansing.

Mike Lynn spoke about the upcoming Candidate Conversation with Adam Hussain on "Merica 20 to Life."

Speaker Registration for Public Comment on Legislative Matters

City Clerk Swope announced that the public comment registration form(s) for those intending to address Council on legislative matters will be collected and that only those persons who have fully completed the form(s) will be permitted to speak.

Mayor's Comments

Deputy Mayor Shelbi Frayer apologized for Mayor Andy Schor's absence, and acknowledged that there is no Simtob Apartment Management Company lawsuit settlement update prepared at the moment.

President Wood spoke about the Mayor's campaign solicitation that was sent to city employees' work email addresses.

Show Cause Hearings

Business License Appeal; DeAndre Thomas for a Transient Merchant License

Business License Appeal; Eugenio Trujillo for a Transient Merchant License

Deputy City Attorney, Lisa Hagen-Lawrence, provided an overview of the show cause hearings.

- Comment on Scheduled Show Cause Hearings:

DeAndre Thomas spoke on his Business License Appeal.

Eugenio Trujillo spoke on his Business License Appeal.

Referral of Show Cause Hearings

Business License Appeal; DeAndre Thomas for a Transient Merchant License
Referred to the Committee on City Operations

Business License Appeal; Eugenio Trujillo for a Transient Merchant License
Referred to the Committee on City Operations

Resolutions

Appointment; Ben Kohrman as an At-Large member of the Elected Officers Compensation Commission for a term to expire October 1, 2029

Resolution #2023-160

By the Committee of the Whole

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Lansing

WHEREAS, the Mayor has made the appointment of Ben Kohrman as an At-Large member of the Elected Officers Compensation Commission for a term to expire October 1, 2029; and

WHEREAS, the nominee has been vetted by the Mayor's Office and meets the qualifications as required by the City Charter; and

WHEREAS, the Committee of the Whole took affirmative action.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lansing City Council, hereby, confirms the appointment of Ben Kohrman as an At-Large member of the Elected Officers Compensation Commission for a term to expire October 1, 2029.

By Vice President Garza

Motion Carried

City Clerk Swope administered the Oath of Office to Ben Kohrman as a member of the Elected Officers Compensation Commission.

Public Comment on Legislative Matters

Legislative Matters included the following public hearings:

Special Assessment; Snow and Ice Removal Winter 2022-2023

Noise Special Permit; Leavitt and Starck Excavating, Inc. to conduct work as part of the CSO 015 South Project

Amendment to Chapter 1460; clarify the parties responsible for prohibiting the occupancy and maintaining the vacancy of placarded equipment and structures

Council Member Hussain gave an overview of the public hearings.

Public Comment on Legislative Matters:

City Clerk Chris Swope acknowledged a written communication from Sylvia Beasley appealing a snow and ice assessment and communications regarding the Noise Special Permit from Heidi Frei, Kimberly Fauson, Deborah Mulcahey, and Peter Ollila against the special permit and from Tamiko Rothhorn in support of the special permit.

David Lackie spoke on the Claim Appeal for Claim #1961.

Sheila Contreras spoke against the Noise Special Permit; Leavitt and Starck Excavating, Inc.

Heidi Frei spoke about the Noise Special Permit; Leavitt and Starck Excavating, Inc.

Legislative Matters

Referral of Public Hearings

Special Assessment; Snow and Ice Removal Winter 2022-2023
Referred to the Committee on City Operations

Noise Special Permit; Leavitt and Starck Excavating, Inc. to conduct work as part of the CSO 015 South Project
Referred to the Committee on City Operations

Amendment to Chapter 1460; clarify the parties responsible for prohibiting the occupancy and maintaining the vacancy of placarded equipment and structures
Referred to the Committee on Public Safety

Consent Agenda

By Council Member Garza

To approve all items on the Consent Agenda.

Motion Carried

Resolution #2023-161

By the Committee of the Whole
Resolved by the City Council of the City of Lansing

WHEREAS, the Tri-County Aging Consortium, known as Tri-County Office on Aging, requests the approval of the Fiscal Year 2024 Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) as required by the Older Americans Act and the Older Michiganians Act; and

WHEREAS, the Committee of the Whole met and reviewed the document at its meeting on July 10, 2023; and

WHEREAS, Lansing City Council has reviewed the Tri-County Office on Aging's Fiscal Year 2024 Annual Implementation Plan (AIP).

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lansing City Council hereby endorses said document.

Adopted as part of the Consent Agenda

Resolution #2023-162

By the Committee on Ways and Means
Resolved by the City Council of the City of Lansing

WHEREAS, the City of Lansing Department of Economic Development and Planning is the fiduciary of the Michigan State Housing and Development Authority HOME Investment Partnerships Program American Rescue Plan (HOME-ARP) Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP); and

WHEREAS, the City of Lansing has been awarded \$349,383 in Michigan State Housing Development Authority HOME Investment Partnerships Program American Rescue Plan (HOME-ARP) Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP) funds for Homelessness Prevention for the grant term March 1, 2023 through February 28, 2024 of which \$244,568 will provide rent and utility assistance for households who qualify per HOME-ARP eligible criteria; and

WHEREAS, rental arrears payments may be used for a one-time payment up to six (6) months of rent in arrears, including late fees or charges on those arrears, if necessary for the household to maintain their existing housing or, for those without housing, if necessary to remove a demonstrated barrier to obtaining housing; and

WHEREAS, \$69,877 is allocated to financial assistance – utilities. Utility arrears can be paid if it is necessary to remove a barrier to obtaining housing or necessary to maintain their existing housing; and

WHEREAS, administration cost constitutes ten percent (10%) or \$34,938 of the total allocation for the payment of expenses associated with fiduciary and/or subgrantee administrative costs related to the planning and execution of the Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Lansing approves the acceptance of the \$349,383 HOME Investment Partnership Program American Rescue Plan (HOME ARP) funds awarded by the Michigan State Housing Development Authority for the purpose funding eligible Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP) activities.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that Andy Schor of the City of Lansing is authorized to receive the funds, create the necessary accounts, and make necessary transfers for administration in accordance with the requirements of the grantor.

Adopted as part of the Consent Agenda

Resolution #2023-163

By the Committee on Ways and Means
Resolved by the City Council of the City of Lansing

WHEREAS, the City of Lansing Department of Economic Development and Planning is the fiduciary of the Michigan State Housing Development Authority HOME Investment Partnerships Program American Rescue Plan (HOME-ARP) Housing Navigation Program (HNP) ; and

WHEREAS, the City of Lansing has been awarded \$150,000 in Michigan State Housing Development Authority HOME Investment Partnerships Program American Rescue Plan (HOME-ARP) funds for the Housing Navigation Program (HNP) for the grant term May 1, 2023 through April 30, 2025, a two-year (2) grant; and

WHEREAS, the Housing Navigation Program (HNP) will provide staffing support for the delivery of services to households who qualify per HOME-ARP eligibility criteria; and.

WHEREAS, the funds from this program will be awarded by the Michigan State Housing Development Authority to perform services to eligible households that are linked to the Homeless Preference Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program or other HUD CoC or Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) housing programs; and

WHEREAS, the specific services will include but are not limited to the following:

- Robust housing search assistance
- Completion of any required eligibility paperwork to access rental assistance
- Completion of any required annual recertification paperwork to maintain eligibility and rental assistance
- Landlord mediation
- Other services identified in partnership with the household to support housing retention and stabilization

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Lansing approves the acceptance of the \$150,000 HOME-ARP funds awarded by the Michigan State Housing Development Authority for the purpose funding eligible Housing Navigation Program (HNP) activities.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Administration of the City of Lansing is authorized to receive the funds, create the necessary accounts, and make necessary transfers for administration in accordance with the requirements of the grantor.

Adopted as part of the Consent Agenda

Resolution #2023-164

By the Committee on Ways and Means
Resolved by the City Council of the City of Lansing

WHEREAS, the City of Lansing Department of Economic Development and Planning is the fiduciary of the Michigan State Housing and Development Authority (MSHDA) Shelter Diversion Pilot Program through the Housing and Community Development Fund (HCDF); and

WHEREAS, MSHDA received a state budget allocation of \$50 million for the Housing and Community Development Fund (HCDF) to expand housing supports for the State of Michigan through a variety of projects and services based on needs; and

WHEREAS, through stakeholder engagement and listening sessions, the Michigan State Housing Development Authority identified shelter diversion as a priority demonstration to test, expand and implement shelter diversion practices and models in select homeless crisis response systems; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan State Housing Development Authority is investing \$3 million for a two-year Shelter Diversion Pilot through a competitive Request for Proposals (RFP) process; and

WHEREAS, Shelter diversion is a strategy that helps people experience in housing crisis to quickly identify and access safe alternatives to shelter where possible and is most effective when implemented collaboratively at the community-level, with shared knowledge and understanding of the diversion practices and goal; and

WHEREAS, MSHDA solicited proposals from eligible agencies to implement or expand effective shelter diversion models; and

WHEREAS, this pilot will demonstrate the impact of effective shelter diversion on homeless crisis response systems and more importantly, the impact on households at risk of experiencing homelessness; and

WHEREAS, through a collaborative approach by several organizations serving the homeless population, including Advent House Ministries (AHM), Child and Family Charities (CFC), the Lansing School District and strong support of the local Continuum of Care (CoC), the Capital Region Housing Collaborative (CRHC), a shelter diversion pilot proposal was submitted to the Michigan State Housing Development Authority; and

WHEREAS, the proposal included an expansion of an existing shelter diversion model that has been working in the community since 2019; and

WHEREAS, existing Shared Housing Intervention Project (SHIP) is a collaborative between Advent House Ministries in Ingham County, Child and Family Charities who serves Ingham, Eaton, and Clinton County youth and young adults, and Housing Services Mid-Michigan who serves Eaton and Clinton

Counties; and

WHEREAS, the project receives referrals from the local school's McKinney-Vento Liaisons along with each agency's Street Outreach/PATH teams and other social service providers; and

WHEREAS, the Shared Housing Intervention Project (SHIP) aims to help youth and families identify and reside in host home settings by supporting the entire host home, thus minimizing the frequent moves often experienced; and

WHEREAS, the fiduciary has been awarded \$ 500,000 for a two-year period, (\$250,000 Year 1 and \$250,000 Year 2) to manage the use of the funds for the expansion of the Shared Housing Intervention Project in this community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Lansing approves the acceptance of the \$500,000 for the Shelter Diversion Pilot over a two-year period.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lansing City Council approves acceptance of the Michigan State Housing Development Authority, Shelter Diversion Pilot with the goal of ending an individual or family's experience of homelessness as quickly as possible while empowering them to regain control over their situation, furthermore, securing safe, appropriated options in the community rather than an emergency shelter stay.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that Andy Schor of the City of Lansing is authorized to receive the funds, create the necessary accounts, and make necessary transfers for administration in accordance with the requirements of the grantor.

Adopted as part of the Consent Agenda

Resolutions

Resolution #2023-165

By the Committee on City Operations
Resolved by the City Council of the City of Lansing

WHEREAS, David Lackie sought to eliminate a special assessment of \$1,630 for trash removal fees, associated penalties, and interest, on the property tax bill for 2033 Culver Avenue (ID #33-01-01-05-478-171); and

WHEREAS, upon filing a claim to the Committee on City Operations, the Committee met on June 26, 2022, and denied the claim in the amount of \$1,630.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the City Council, hereby denies the claim in the amount of \$1,630 for trash removal fees, associated penalties, and interest on the property tax bill for 2033 Culver Avenue (Tax ID #33-01-01-05-478-171).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Attorney shall take the appropriate steps to process this claim.

By Council Member Hussain

Motion Carried

Resolution #2023-166

By the Committee on Ways and Means
Resolved by the City Council of the City of Lansing

WHEREAS, the City of Lansing Parks and Recreation Department will receive a Priority Health and National Fitness Campaign Grant for an outdoor gym at Washington Park; and

WHEREAS, the Priority Health and National Fitness Campaign Grant was the result of a competitive proposal process, and a proposal was submitted by the Department of Parks and Recreation with approval notification received on June 13, 2023 and will be paid in 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Priority Health and National Fitness Campaign Grant is part of a national movement to make world class fitness free and accessible in public spaces; and

WHEREAS, Priority Health and National Fitness Campaign awarded \$40,000.00 to the City of Lansing Department of Parks and Recreation; and

WHEREAS, the award of \$40,000.00 does require a \$140,000.00 city match. Approximately \$30,000.00 would be required to create the necessary concrete foundation. The \$140,000.00 city match and \$30,000.00 material match are available through the Park Millage Account.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Lansing City Council approves acceptance of the Priority Health and National Fitness Campaign Grant in the total amount of \$40,000.00 for the grant for the City of Lansing Parks and Recreation Department.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, the Administration is authorized to create appropriate accounts and to make the necessary operating transfers for the expenditure and control of the balance of the grant funds.

By Council President Wood

Motion Carried

Speaker Registration for Public Comment on City Government Related Matters

City Clerk Swope announced that the public comment registration form(s) for those intending to address Council on City government matters will be collected and that only those persons who have fully completed the form(s) will be permitted to speak.

Reports From City Officers, Boards, and Commissions; Communications and Petitions; and Other City Related Matters

By Vice President Garza that all items be considered as being read in full and that President Wood make the appropriate referrals

Motion Carried

- Reports from City Officers, Boards and Commissions:

Letter(s) from the City Clerk re:

Minutes of Boards and Commissions placed on file in the Clerk's Office
Placed on File

Tri-County Office on Aging's Fiscal Year 2024 Annual Implementation Plan (AIP)
Placed on File

Letter(s) from the Mayor re:

Appointment; Heath Lowry as the 4th Ward member of the Board of Public Service for a term to expire June 30, 2024
Referred to the Committee on City Operations

Workers Compensation Settlement; WC 2062876-01474
Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and to the Internal Auditor

Amendment to Chapter 273; Clarify the role of the Human Relations and Community Services (HRCS) Advisory Board
Referred to the City Attorney

Setting a Public Hearing on Amendment to Chapter 273; Clarify the role of the Human Relations and Community Services (HRCS) Advisory Board
Referred to the City Attorney

Amendment to Chapter 240; Clarify the role of the Human Relations and Community Services (HRCS) Advisory Board
Referred to the City Attorney

Setting a Public Hearing on Amendment to Chapter 240; Clarify the role of the Human Relations and Community Services (HRCS) Advisory Board
Referred to the City Attorney

Amendment to Chapter 273; repeal Section 273.06 to conform with the City Charter
Referred to the City Attorney

Setting a Public Hearing on Amendment to Chapter 273; repeal Section 273.06 to conform with the City Charter
Referred to the City Attorney

Amendment to Chapter 273; repeal Section 273.08 to conform with the City Charter
Referred to the City Attorney

Setting a Public Hearing on Amendment to Chapter 273; repeal Section 273.08 to conform with the City Charter
Referred to the City Attorney

Establish Red Cedar/South Frandor Social District
Referred to the Committee on City Operations

Letter(s) from Council President Wood re:

Communication from Kathy Krafft regarding the Cooley-Haze House
Referred to the Committee of the Whole

- Communications and Petitions, and Other City Related Matters:

Affidavit of Disclosure; Jeffrey Brown, City Council
Referred to the Board of Ethics

Claim Appeal; Claim #1963, Hameed Katawazi for \$493.40 in board up fees at 1017 West Hillsdale St.
Referred to the Committee on City Operations

Claim Appeal; Claim #1972, Rodolfo Perez for \$640 in trash fees at 810 McKinley St.
Referred to the Committee on City Operations

Claim Appeal; Claim #1941, Michael Arafat for \$810.20 in board up fees at 3700 Waverly Rd.
Referred back to the Administration

Communication from Mitch Rice regarding Council Member Brown's ethics violation
Referred to the Committee of the Whole

Motion of Excused Absence

By Council Member Garza to excuse Council Member Spadafore from tonight's proceedings.

Motion Carried

Remarks by Council Members

Council Member Spitzley acknowledged her upcoming Council meeting absence and urged council members to review the Transient Merchant License appeals.

Public Comment on City Government Related Matters

Tony Ruskus spoke about noise from Alobosa Bar.

Jody Washington spoke about various City matters.

Nicklas Zande spoke about various City matters.

Youngerson Matete spoke about access to affordable housing.

Mike Lynn spoke about various City matters.

David Ellis spoke on zoning concerns in Lansing.

Farhan Sheikh-Omar spoke about various City matters.

Erica Lynn spoke about various City matters.

Linda Appling spoke about various City matters.

Christian Nwobu spoke about property tax concerns.

City Clerk Chris Swope acknowledged a written communication from Mitch Rice about the Show Cause Hearings.

Consideration of Late Items

By Council Member Hussain

To suspend City Council Rule #9 to allow for Consideration of a Late Item

Motion Carried

The following item was added to the agenda:

Communications and Petitions, and Other City Related Matters

Communication from Erica Lynn regarding solicitation of funds from the Schor Leadership Fund
Referred to Board of Ethics and to the Committee of the Whole

Adjourned Time 8:41 P.M.



Chris Swope, City Clerk