



MINUTES
Committee on City Operations
Wednesday, August 7, 2024 @ 4:00 p.m.
City Council Conference Room

CALL TO ORDER

Council Member Hussain called the meeting to order at 4:01pm

PRESENT

Council Member Jackson, Chair - unexcused
Council Member Hussain, Vice-Chair
Council Member Kost, Member

OTHERS PRESENT

Renee Richmond, Council Administrative Assistant
Lisa Hagen-Lawrence, OCA
Kimberly Whitfield
Mitch Whisler, Dept. Public Service

MINUTES

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER KOST TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM JULY 17, 2024, AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

Discussion/Action

RESOLUTION – Reappointment; Kimberly Whitfield as the 4th Ward member of the Park Board for a term to expire June 30, 2028

Councilmember Hussain referenced attendance issues and asked Ms. Whitfield to speak on that.

Ms. Whitfield stated she was in talks with Brett and needed to step back and take some time for herself. She sees a lot of good things happening with the Board now and the time off was refreshing for her.

Councilmember Kost said he understands mental health is needed but is concerned with missing 9 meetings in a row and with another member not there in a while, the Parks Board is important. He knows she has been to the most recent 2 meetings and taking care of oneself is important but has she considered stepping down and revisit serving community at a later date. Ms. Whitfield appreciated the question and some concerns arose from the pandemic and she was not comfortable with the way things were going and what the role of the Board was going. Adding

not agreeing with parks being open all night. Councilmember Kost asked if park hours came up again what would she do. She answered if something was planned like an event that's different, but with all the gun violence safety is a concern. She's open to discussion on all hours. Councilmember Hussain inquired if things get contentious again in the meetings can she take it on, she has value to add. Ms. Whitfield responded she is all in. Councilmember Kost referenced other contentious issues when he was at a meeting for Bancroft and Ms. Whitfield got upset, indicating people with deep emotions and very passionate attend those meeting. He doesn't want her in another situation to have to take leave again. He asked what's going to be different. Ms. Whitfield responded she is proud she advocated at Bancroft. Councilmember Hussain noted he hopes if she feels she needs time again, that she steps down let and administration know, as it puts pressure on other board members. Ms. Whitfield reiterated she did think about everything prior to filling out paperwork for the leave and spoke with Brett for the time off.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER KOST TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR THE REAPPOINTMENT OF KIMBERLY WHITFIELD AS THE 4TH WARD MEMBER OF THE PARK BOARD FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE JUNE 30, 2028. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

RESOLUTION – Traffic Control Order Nos. 24-01 and 24-02; parking prohibited between 2 a.m. and 5 a.m. on Westchester Road and East Westchester Road

Mr. Whisler informed the Committee they received a request from a resident in Cambridge Downs subdivision to prohibit parking from 2a-5a for entire subdivision. Informed them they needed a petition and they had 62% support, enough for a study. In reviewing and looking at addresses block by block, there was not a high level of support needed for the whole neighborhood. Also, upon further investigation there was not a lot of geometric issues on those streets with concerns, and consulted with LPD and LFD they didn't see any issues with current unrestricted parking the way it is. Did traffic counts in the evening and those are low. Traffic and safety wise they see no issue with the way it is now, however, based on the significant support from those two streets they would support along with Public Service Department. Councilmember Kost read from the report under Recommendations that "Public Service Department does not believe on-street parking is an issue... would not recommend the prohibition based on safety merits and asked Mr. Whisler if this is correct, he responded yes. Councilmember Kost continued he drove through the area on two separate occasions during the day and night and only seen the same five cars parked and does not support the TCO. Councilmember Hussain asked the OCA if it dies in Committee does it have to go to Council for a vote and continued that the previous parking ordinance prohibiting 2a-5a parking was complaint based that was eventually repealed. Ms. Hagen-Lawrence was unsure at the time and would check and get back to the Committee. Councilmember Hussain noted he was concerned in setting a precedent in denying and asked Councilmember Kost if the recommendations in the report supported the request would he in the future support, he replied yes.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER KOST TO DENY THE RESOLUTION FOR THE TRAFFIC CONTROL ORDER NOS. 24-01 AND 24-02; PARKING PROHIBITED BETWEEN 2 A.M. AND 5 A.M. ON WESTCHESTER ROAD AND EAST WESTCHESTER ROAD. MOTION FAILED 1-1.

Other

Adjourn

Adjourned at pm

Submitted by Renee Richmond

Recording Secretary, Lansing City Council

Approved by the Committee on August 21, 2024