



**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF
THE CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF LANSING
JANUARY 30, 2014**

City Council Chambers
Lansing, Michigan

The City Council of the City of Lansing met in regular session and was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by President Boles

PRESENT: Councilmembers Boles, Brown Clarke, Quinney, Washington, Wood, Yorko

ABSENT: Councilmember Dunbar (arrived 5:03 p.m.), Houghton (arrived 5:06)

The Council observed a moment of Meditation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by President Boles.

APPROVAL OF PRINTED COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

By Vice President Brown Clarke

To approve the printed Council Proceedings of November 18, 2013; December 2, 2013; December 30, 2013; and January 13, 2014

Motion Carried

Councilmember Dunbar arrived at 5:03 p.m.

SPECIAL CEREMONIES

1. In Recognition of individuals nominated by agencies in the Capital Area Mentoring Partnership (CAMP)

Council Member Yorko recognized nominated mentors in honor of National Mentoring Awareness Month.

Elizabeth "Suzie" Chamberlain-Cantwell, Ingham County 4-H, thanked the 4-H organization for their service to the community.

Councilmember Houghton arrived at 5:06 p.m.

Laurie Rhodes-Griffith, Ingham County 4-H, shared her joy of teaching and encouraged others to volunteer to mentor.

Tabitha Sjoberg, Peckham Ready to Achieve Mentoring Partnership, explained how the program teaches job skills and personal finance awareness.

Lauryn Holmes, Girl Scout Heart of Michigan, appreciated the opportunity to work with girls in the outreach program.

Graham Filler, Big Brothers Big Sisters – Capital Region, was recognized for his volunteer work.

Whitney Spotts, Big Brothers Big Sisters – Capital Region, gave credit to Big Brother Big Sister for connecting her with a wonderful child.

**COMMENTS BY COUNCILMEMBERS
AND THE CITY CLERK**

Councilmember Wood announced an event to end domestic violence against women, Capital Area Humane Society event, Lansing Parks & Recreation Dance, and will postpone celebration in honor of Ruth Hallman until summer.

Councilmember Washington will have a First Contact event, and save the date for the Tri-County Office on Aging's Run for the Ages fundraiser on May 17.

Councilmember Dunbar encouraged residents to sign up for Nixle alert system.

**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

Executive Assistant to Mayor Bernero, Randy Hannan, said that Mayor Bernero State of City will start tonight at 7p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

Mary Ann Prince requested that the Board of Water and Light Community Review Team proceedings be open to the public.

LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

CONSENT AGENDA

By Councilmember Brown Clarke

To approve items 1a, 3a, and 3c on the Consent Agenda.

Motion Carried

RESOLUTION #2014-011

BY COUNCILMEMBERS BOLES, BROWN CLARKE, DUNBAR, HOUGHTON, QUINNEY, WASHINGTON, WOOD & YORKO
RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANSING

WHEREAS, William E. Stanley, Jr. served as the 28th International President of the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., currently serving as the President of the Distinguished Service Chapter, and is one of three chairmen for the Fraternity's Centennial Celebration; and

WHEREAS, William E. Stanley, Jr. is currently the President of Creating Clarity, Inc. specializing in managing consumer product businesses including developing strategic plans, designing presentations, and trainings; and

WHEREAS, William E. Stanley, Jr. prior to Creating Clarity, Inc. was

responsible for the military business portion of The Clorox Company, and a sales manager for 40 years, five with Proctor and Gamble; and

WHEREAS, William originally from Durham, North Carolina, went on to graduate with a Bachelors of Arts Degree in Sociology from North Carolina Central University and a Certificate in Leadership Development Program from the University of Maryland; and

WHEREAS, William E. Stanley, Jr. has also served as Chairman of the Board of Directors and CEO of the American Logistics Association which has 352 member companies and 33 chapters worldwide; and

WHEREAS, William E. Stanley, Jr. has been the recipient of multiple awards including but not limited to six (6) Phi Beta Sigma Presidential Citations, Phi Beta Sigma Executive Director's Award, Phi Beta Sigma Southern Region's Outstanding Sigmas and Social Action Awards, National Alliance Business Award, and Friendship of Baptist Church Outstanding and Dedicated Service Award, the 1993 & 1994 Ebony Magazine's "100 Most Influential Blacks in America" list, and awarded the highest honor in Phi Beta Sigma the Distinguished Service Key; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lansing City Council hereby pays tribute to the honors and service that William E. Stanley, Jr. has provided to Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. and acknowledges him for his role in Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. in their continued community building, mentoring, strong commitment to brotherhood, scholarship and service.

Adopted as part of the Consent Agenda

RESOLUTION #2014-012

BY THE COMMITTEE ON DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING
RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANSING

Act-8-13, 1113 and 1119 N. Washington Ave., Private Use of ROW

WHEREAS, Kim DeStigter, Architect, on behalf of SMTS Real Estate Group LLC, requests authorization to construct a barrier free ramp in the public right-of-way in front of 1119 N. Washington Avenue; and

WHEREAS, the applicant is proposing to rehab the existing building and construct a new mixed use building at this location; and

WHEREAS, the right-of-way of between Maple Street and Grand River Avenue is 115.5 feet wide. The west edge of the Washington Avenue right-of-way is the face of the buildings at 1113/1119 N Washington; and

WHEREAS, the sidewalk is 6 feet wide, which is adequate for use as a Pedestrian Access Route; and

WHEREAS, there is approximately 7 feet between the sidewalk and the face of building, which, because of the existing stairs, is not usable as a Pedestrian Access Route; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Board, at its meeting on October 1, 2013, reviewed the location, character, and extent of the proposed ramp, and found that:

- The building renovation and infill building are consistent with the goals of the Master Plan,
- The project is important for the benefit of the Old Town district, the adjacent neighborhood, and the City in general,
- Barrier-free access to the building is crucial to the reuse of the building,
- The 7' of "spare" ROW between the sidewalk and the building face offers an opportunity to install this barrier free access ramp with a negligible impact on the ROW,

- The proposed barrier-free ramp may need to be removed if required by a public project within the ROW (e.g. storm sewer project); and

WHEREAS, the Board voted unanimously (7-0) to recommend approval of the proposal through a license agreement to permit the proposed 7'6" encroachment into the Washington Avenue ROW;

WHEREAS, the Committee on Development and Planning has reviewed the report and recommendation of the Planning Board and concurs therewith; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Lansing City Council hereby approves Act-8-13, a license agreement for a barrier-free ramp in the west side of the Washington Avenue ROW as proposed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the license agreement shall ensure that, at a minimum:

- Adequate indemnification and insurance as determined by the City Attorney is provided at all times by the applicant to address all liability to the City for these facilities while in the City's ROW,
- The facilities are permitted for no more than ten (10) years, subject to renewal periods at the discretion of the Director of Public Service,
- The facilities must be removed within sixty (60) days of notice being sent by the Director of Public Service. In the event of an emergency, the facilities may be removed without notice, or the notice period may be shortened as appropriate,
- In the event any portion of the facilities must be removed temporarily or permanently, the licensee shall be responsible for all restoration costs attributable to the removal or replacement of the facilities,
- Specifically acknowledge the existing BWL water facilities which may require repair or replacement at any time.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the administration, on behalf of the City, is hereby authorized to sign and execute all documents to effectuate this license agreement, subject to prior approval as to content and form by the City Attorney.

Adopted as part of the Consent Agenda

RESOLUTION #2014-013

BY THE COMMITTEE ON DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING
RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANSING

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Lansing that a public hearing be set for Monday, February 24, 2014, at 7 p.m. in City Council Chambers, Tenth Floor, Lansing City Hall, 124 West Michigan Avenue, Lansing, Michigan, for the purpose of approving and/or opposing the Ordinance for rezoning:

SLU-8-2013: Special Land Use Permit – Surface Parking Lot at 122 S. Grand Avenue

Adopted as part of the Consent Agenda

RESOLUTIONS

FAILED

BY THE COUNCILMEMBER WOOD
RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANSING

Requesting that the Community Review Team of the Board of Water and Light abide by the Open Meetings Act

By Councilmember Wood

Motion Failed by the following roll call vote:

Yeas: Councilmembers Boles, Wood, Yorko

Nays: Councilmembers Brown, Clarke, Dunbar, Houghton, Quinney, Washington

RESOLUTION #2014-014

BY THE COMMITTEE ON DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING
RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANSING

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Lansing that a public hearing be set for Monday, February 24, 2014, at 7 p.m. in City Council Chambers, Tenth Floor, Lansing City Hall, 124 West Michigan Avenue, Lansing, Michigan, for the purpose of approving and/or opposing the Special Land Use Request:

SLU-6-2013: Special Land Use Permit to allow an experimental, research, and development laboratory in the existing building at 316 Moores River Drive.

By Councilmember Quinney

Motion Carried

RESOLUTION #2014-015

BY THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANSING

State Infrastructure Bank Initial Project Application

WHEREAS, the City of Lansing (the City) Public Service Department's FY 2014 Budget Reflects \$991,540.00 in bond proceeds for non-motorized projects; and

WHEREAS, the City of Lansing was made aware that additional Transportation Enhancement Funds were available for regionally significant projects; and

WHEREAS, the City of Lansing received Transportation Enhancement Funding for the Waverly Road Regional Network Connection Project and South Lansing Pathway Project; and

WHEREAS, the required match funding was not available to construct a pathway along Waverly Road and Old Lansing Road, and

WHEREAS, the City of Lansing Public Service Department was informed the Waverly Road Regional Network Connection Project would no longer be regionally significant and funding may be reduced or denied, and

WHEREAS, the City revised the non-motorized projects to maintain funding, and

WHEREAS, the Waverly Road Regional Network Connection project is now the Moores River Drive Regional Network Connection project, and

WHEREAS, the City added the center section of the South Lansing Pathway which will create a continuous facility between Cavanaugh Road and Waverly Road, and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) has identified the combined projects as regionally significant and is contributing funding at a higher rate than typically awarded for non-motorized projects; and

WHEREAS, the MDOT has notified the City that funding at this level will be unlikely in the future award years; and

WHEREAS, after the FY 2014 budget was approved, additional project needs have been identified; and

WHEREAS, funding was made available through the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission for roadway projects eligible for National Highway Performance Program funding that were designed and ready to bid; and

WHEREAS, the City's Jolly Road project was ready to bid and was able to secure the additional funding available through the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission; and

WHEREAS, the City must provide a secondary access to the Potter Park Zoo to meet the Association of Zoos and Aquariums' requirements; and

WHEREAS, the City identified a suitable location for the secondary zoo access at the Allen Street dead-end; and

WHEREAS, the additional scope required for the non-motorized projects combined with the Jolly Road and Potter Park Zoo secondary access projects has resulted in an increased budget need; and

WHEREAS, due to the size and overall cost of these projects the Public Service Department intends to apply for a low-interest State Infrastructure Bank (SIB) loan in the amount of \$1,972,600.00 to meet the match requirements for the non-motorized, Jolly Road and Potter Park Zoo secondary access projects; and

WHEREAS, these projects cannot be constructed without the required match funding; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor concurs with the request of the Public Service Department to apply for the SIB loan; and

WHEREAS, the Committee on Ways and Means has reviewed the application and concurs with the Administration,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lansing City Council formally authorizes the request to apply for the State Infrastructure Bank loan in the amount of \$1,972,600.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Chad A. Gamble, P.E., the City's Chief Operating Officer, is designated as the authorized representative for the SIB loan application.

By Councilmember Wood

Motion Carried

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES

ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION

Council Member Quinney, Chair of the Committee on Development and Planning introduced:

An ordinance of the City of Lansing, Michigan, providing for the rezoning of a parcel of real property located in the City of Lansing, Michigan, and for the revision of the district maps adopted by Section 1246.02 of the Code of Ordinances.

Property identified as: Z-6-2013, 316 Moores River Drive, Rezoning from "A" & "C" Residential & "J" Parking Districts to "D-1" Professional Office District

The Ordinance is read a first time and referred to the Committee on Development and Planning.

RESOLUTION #2014-016

BY THE COMMITTEE ON DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING
RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANSING

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Lansing that a public hearing be set for Monday, February 24, 2014, at 7 p.m. in City Council Chambers, Tenth Floor, Lansing City Hall, 124 West Michigan Avenue, Lansing, Michigan, for the purpose of approving and/or opposing the Ordinance for rezoning:

Z-6-2013, 316 Moores River Drive, Rezoning from "A" & "C" Residential & "J" Parking Districts to "D-1" Professional Office District

By Councilmember Quinney

Motion Carried

Council Member Quinney, Chair of the Committee on Development and Planning introduced:

An ordinance of the City of Lansing, Michigan, providing for the rezoning of a parcel of real property located in the City of Lansing, Michigan, and for the revision of the district maps adopted by Section 1246.02 of the Code of Ordinances.

Property identified as: Z-7-2013, 5035 S. ML King, Rezoning from "E-2" Local Shopping District to "F" Commercial District

The Ordinance is read a first time and referred to the Committee on Development and Planning.

RESOLUTION #2014-017

BY THE COMMITTEE ON DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING
RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANSING

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Lansing that a public hearing be set for Monday, February 24, 2014, at 7 p.m. in City Council Chambers, Tenth Floor, Lansing City Hall, 124 West Michigan Avenue, Lansing, Michigan, for the purpose of approving and/or opposing the Ordinance for rezoning:

Z-7-2013, 5035 S. ML King, Rezoning from "E-2" Local Shopping District to "F" Commercial District

By Councilmember Quinney

Motion Carried

ORDINANCES FOR PASSAGE

An Ordinance of the City of Lansing, Michigan, Providing for the Rezoning of a parcel of real property located in the City of Lansing, Michigan and for the revision of the district maps adopted by section 1246.02 of the Code of Ordinances.

Z-5-2013; 2323 W. Holmes Road, Rezoning from "F" Commercial District to "A" Residential District

Was read a second time by its title and adopted by the following roll call vote:

Yeas: Councilmembers Boles, Brown Clarke, Dunbar, Houghton, Quinney, Washington, Wood

Nays: None

ORDINANCE #2574

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LANSING, MICHIGAN, PROVIDING FOR THE REZONING OF A PARCEL OF REAL PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE CITY OF LANSING, MICHIGAN AND FOR THE REVISION OF THE DISTRICT MAPS ADOPTED BY SECTION 1246.02 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES.

The City of Lansing ordains:

Section 1. That the district maps adopted by and incorporated as Section 1246.02 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Lansing, Michigan be amended to provide as follows:

To change the zoning classification of the property described as follows:

Case Number:	Z-5-2013
Address:	2323 W. Holmes Road
Parcel Number:	PPN: 33-01-01-31-226-040
Legal Descriptions:	Commencing 650 Feet West of the Northeast Corner of Section 31, Thence South 210 Feet, East 122 Feet, North 210 Feet, West 122 Feet to the Point of Beginning; Section 31 T4N R2W, City of Lansing, Ingham County, MI, from "F" Commercial district to "A" Residential district.

Section 2. All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent with the provisions hereof are hereby repealed.

Section 3. This ordinance was duly adopted by the Lansing City Council on January 30, 2014, and a copy is available in the office of the Lansing City Clerk, 9th Floor, City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Avenue, Lansing, MI 48933.

Section 4. This ordinance shall take effect upon the expiration of seven (7) days from the date this notice of adoption is published in a newspaper of general circulation.

**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 Brown Clarke that all items be considered as being read in full and that President Boles make the appropriate referrals

Motion Carried

• Reports from City Officers, Boards and Commissions:

1. Letter(s) from the Mayor re:

a. Amendment to Riverfront PILOT

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING

b. Amendment to Capitol Commons Senior PILOT

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING

- c. Traffic Control Order No. 13-019; parking regulations on Grand Avenue between Hillsdale Street and Lenawee Street

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

- d. Traffic Control Order No. 13-015; stop sign on Beulah Street at the intersection of Fayette Street

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

- e. Traffic Control Order No. 13-007; stop sign on Leon Avenue at the intersection of Cumberland Road

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

- f. Traffic Control Order No. 13-010; stop sign on Mildred Street at the intersection of Marquette Street

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

- g. Traffic Control Order No. 13-016; stop sign on Baker Street at the intersection of Washington Avenue

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

- h. Traffic Control Order No. 13-014; stop signs at all approaches to the Clare Street/Olds Avenue and Main Street intersection

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

- i. Traffic Control Order No. 13-012; stop signs on Elm Street at the intersection of Washington Avenue

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

- j. Traffic Control Order No. 13-011; stop signs on Lenawee Street at the intersection of Verlinden Avenue

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

- k. Traffic Control Order No. 13-008; stop signs on Osborn Road at the intersection of Verlinden Avenue

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

- l. Traffic Control Order No. 13-009; parking regulations on Museum Drive between Cedar Street and the Dead End South

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

- m. Traffic Control Order No. 13-013; stop signs on Clare Street at the Clare Street and St. Joseph Street intersection

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

- n. Traffic Control Order; Area 2 Traffic Control Plan

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

• Communications and Petitions, and Other City Related Matters:

- 1. Notices from the Michigan Liquor Control Commission regarding:

- a. Request ID# 718040, applicant Izabella HMC, LLC; transfer ownership of 2013 B-Hotel License

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON GENERAL SERVICES

- b. Request ID #718401, applicant Ravneet, Inc.; transfer stock interest in 2013 SDD and SDM licensed corporation

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON GENERAL SERVICES

- 2. Letters from Comcast regarding channel changes

REFERRED TO THE CABLE ADVISORY BOARD

- 3. Claim denial appeals submitted by:

a. Jinfen Tang for trash removal fee, 3320 Penrose Drive
REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON GENERAL SERVICES

- b. Breonna Bonds for lawn maintenance fee, 2607 Dunlap Street

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON GENERAL SERVICES

- c. Kevin Kildea on behalf of Kildea Kar Kare Inc., 226 Astor Avenue

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON GENERAL SERVICES

- 4. Copy of a letter to the Michigan Public Service Commission from Julie Markham regarding the Board of Water and Light

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

PUBLIC COMMENT ON CITY GOVERNMENT RELATED MATTERS

Mary Ann Prince spoke of her pride in neighborhood residents taking care of each other during the recent weather emergency.

Willy Williams spoke about various City matters.

President Boles recessed the meeting at 6:02 to be reconvened for the State of the City Address.

President Boles called the Council back to order at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Bernero presented his 2014 State of the City address.



Mayor Virg Bernero's
2014 State of the City Address

"Growing Lansing Together!"
General Motors Lansing Grand River Assembly Plant
January 30, 2014

Thank you President Boles.

Good evening, ladies and gentlemen, and welcome to GM's Lansing Grand River Assembly Plant.

I'd like to begin by recognizing the members of City Council: Please join me in welcoming our newest Council member, Vice President Judi Brown Clarke, returning Council members Kathie Dunbar, Tina Houghton, Derrick Quinney, Jessica Yorko, Jody Washington, Carol Wood and, of course, President A'Lynne Boles.

Thanks to all of you for your service. I look forward to working in good faith with you to grow Lansing in the year ahead.

I want to thank my family for their love and support. Teri, Kelly and Virginia, and my father, Giulio, are all with us tonight. You are my daily inspiration, my pride and my strength. Kelly is celebrating her birthday tonight. Happy Birthday my Angel!

Thanks so much to our hosts - our hometown car company General Motors and UAW Local 652, for having us here at Lansing Grand River.

The power of partnership will be a recurring theme in my remarks tonight, and the long-standing partnership between GM, the UAW, the City of Lansing and Delta Township continues to be one of the economic pillars that support the entire Lansing region. That's something to celebrate!

Members of Council, distinguished guests, citizens of Lansing, I stand before you for the ninth time in as many years to express my gratitude for your continued confidence in me, and to share with you my aspirations for our city in the year ahead.

I am pleased to report that the state of our city is strong and getting stronger, especially compared to many of our peers. We have weathered the storm of the Great Recession and true fiscal stability is finally at our doorstep.

Our local economy is roaring back. Unemployment in the Lansing region has been in the single digits for 37 straight months and we've had 27 straight months of job growth in the city. Home values and sales are also on the rebound. Just since last June, the median price of a home sold in Lansing climbed from \$67,000 to over \$95,000.

Prudent financial management has protected Lansing's AA credit rating, and we now project that our FY15 budget will start in balance -- rather than in deficit -- for the first time in a decade.

These things didn't happen by accident; they happened by design. They happened because we made smart choices; we made tough choices. We took the heat for driving change faster than some people thought we should, faster than some thought we could.

Let me be clear: We will keep right on pushing. Harder. Faster. Smarter. My foot will remain planted firmly on the gas pedal, because Lansing cannot wait. Our time is now.

We've accomplished great things over the past eight years, and many of you played a part in it. Thanks to each of you for believing in Lansing and for investing part of your time and your treasure in building an even greater Lansing. Here's to you!

I am blessed with an amazing team at City Hall, and I want to say thanks for their hard work, ingenuity and commitment to the citizens we all serve. Will my executive team and mayoral staff please stand and be recognized.

My friends, the past six weeks have been a challenging time for our city and region. An historic challenge, even, because Mother Nature served up some winter weather the likes of which we've never seen here.

The ice storm, which left thousands of people in the dark for far too long, was a painful experience for many of our citizens. Let me say plainly and unequivocally: The Lansing Board of Water and Light did not live up to our expectations or theirs.

I said it two weeks ago at the inauguration and I say it again tonight: This will be fixed. Multiple reviews are now underway and we will get to the bottom of what went wrong, and what went right, in the aftermath of the ice storm.

We are also reviewing our own performance at the City of Lansing. That review will help us continue to improve and provide the highest level of emergency response possible, if -- God forbid -- a natural disaster of this scale ever strikes again.

When the reviews are complete and recommendations implemented, our hometown power company will be ready for anything. And ready to serve the Lansing region with affordable, reliable power for the next 129 years. I have full confidence in the Board of Water and Light to make this right.

The ice storm was a traumatic event for many, but the things I will remember most include the caring and compassionate response from our citizens, neighbors helping neighbors, all of us pulling together to help our most vulnerable citizens weather the storm.

I'll remember our first responders, human service agencies, front-line city employees, citizen volunteers and our faith community, who toiled around the clock through the holidays. They opened up roads blocked by tree limbs and downed wires, set up shelters to keep people warm, and patrolled our streets to keep our city and citizens safe.

I want to recognize Trinity Church and the American Red Cross in particular for their extraordinary efforts during the storm. Pastor Marvin Williams from Trinity and Regional Executive Officer John Cauley from the Red Cross are with us tonight. Thank you both for your leadership. And please remember them in your charitable giving.

Above all, I will remember the men and women who risked their own lives under the most arduous conditions imaginable to restore our power. Some of those brave and hardy souls are with us tonight. Will the BWL lineworkers from IBEW Local 352 please stand and be recognized.

My friends, we've lived through some extraordinary times together, both challenging and rewarding. Yet through it all I see a future for our city that shines brighter than ever. And nowhere is that light more radiant than right here in this room.

To my left, please help me welcome the 2014 Cadillac ATS. The 2013 ATS won North American Car of the Year, and the 2014 edition is a real stunner. Don't you agree? To my right, allow me to introduce the 2014 Cadillac CTS. What an incredible vehicle!

Seated in front of me are the people who make these amazing machines - the men and women of United Auto Workers Local 652. And united they are, because they work together as a team to achieve a singular goal - building the finest automobiles on this planet. Will all of you please rise to accept our thanks and congratulations.

Next I invite you to join me in welcoming Lansing Regional Plant Manager Tony Francavilla, and UAW Local 652 President Mike Green. I think they have something cool to show us...

The CTS was up against some stiff competition this year from the likes of BMW, Mercedes and Jaguar. But the design prowess, cutting-edge technology and craftsmanship that went into this vehicle blew them all away. We've got the proof here with us tonight...we present to you the 2014 Motor Trend Car of the Year Award!

Gentlemen, thanks for your friendship, your partnership, and your extraordinary accomplishments. Bill Reed, President of UAW 602, representing the Lansing Delta Township Assembly plant, is here tonight as well. The products you make at LGR and Lansing Delta indeed make America great, and put Lansing on the map -- in the most positive way!

And stay tuned, because even more good news is coming from GM. Right now, just south of this building, site preparation is already underway for GM's new, \$44 million Logistics Optimization Center. The new facility is a precursor to the production of the next-generation Chevy Camaro that will soon move to Lansing -- a future winner of Car of the Year Award, no doubt.

We have so much to be proud of, but I have to tell you something: I am almost embarrassed to say that the people who are lucky enough to own one of these world class cars must then drive them on the Third World roads that plague this and every other city in Michigan.

Working within our limited resources, the city is able to invest about \$3 million each year in fixing roads, thanks in part to the special millage approved by our citizens three years ago. Three million sounds like a lot, but city engineers tell me that to really fix the problem, we need to invest five times that much, every year, for a decade.

Right now the State of Michigan has a \$1 billion surplus. I have an idea. Let's put people back to work by investing some of that money in our crumbling roads. Bad roads cost more than good roads. Let's rebuild the infrastructure that drives our economy; let's save working families from having to make expensive car repairs from running into potholes. Call your legislators, call the Governor and help me send them a message: Fix the roads - NOW!

Just as we need to invest in our physical infrastructure, we must also invest in our human capital, starting with our children. The safety of our children and the education of our children are perhaps the most important issues of our time. With rampant gun violence across our nation -- too much of it in our own city -- we must step up to the plate to keep our kids safe in and around our schools.

For the last seven years our School Resource Officers have helped create a school environment where kids can learn and be safe. The Lansing School District does an excellent job in this regard, but I believe we must wrap the arms of our community even more tightly around our children and our schools.

We've had great success with our Neighborhood Watch and Business Watch programs. This year, with the generous sponsorship of Sparrow Health System, we will launch School Watch. This volunteer-based, citizen patrol will keep an eye on our kids, our school campuses and surrounding neighborhoods -- helping to make our kids safe and secure.

The president of Sparrow Health System, Dennis Swan, is with us tonight. He is joined by Lansing Schools Superintendent Yvonne Camaal Canul, and Lansing Police Chief Mike Yankowski. Dennis, Yvonne and Chief, please stand and accept our gratitude for helping us create a safer and healthier community. We're so thankful to have a world-class health care system in our community, keeping our citizens healthy and helping us keep our kids safe.

I'm also grateful for the tremendous partnership between the city and the Lansing School District. Yvonne, together we can make it even stronger, and in the coming months and years that's exactly what we're going to do.

Last year, another visionary leader, Mayor Michael Bloomberg of New York City, granted us more than a million dollars to start Lansing's new Financial Empowerment Center. It's another effort to build our human capital by helping people learn how to manage their money, get out of debt, and improve their credit scores. In the nine months since we launched this amazing program, we have helped nearly 1,000 Lansing area residents chart their own path to financial stability.

One of those residents is with us tonight. Autumn Morris came to the Financial Empowerment Center because she was considering bankruptcy. Instead, her counselor Sonia helped her fix errors on her credit report, and together they designed a plan to pay off 100% of her debt by the end of 2014. She has now purchased life insurance and made a plan for her 5-year-old twins' college education. Autumn, congratulations on finding your path to financial stability!

The director and program manager of our Financial Empowerment

Center are here as well. Amber Paxton and Velma Kyser, thanks to you and your terrific counseling staff for making it happen.

We are blessed to have such amazing partners to help us move Lansing forward. It proves the proposition that we are stronger when we work together. Business and labor. Public and private. City and suburb. In the year ahead, we will do even more.

Tonight I am pleased to announce an exciting new partnership with Michigan State University's world-class Broad College of Business. Last fall, a class of Broad graduate students completed a data-driven analysis that will help us develop new strategies to prevent abandoned, dilapidated houses from endangering the quality of life in our neighborhoods.

This year we will grow that partnership to help us find even more ways to improve the quality of life in our community, and make our city government more innovative, more efficient and more responsive to our residents.

The director of Broad's Data Analytics program, Cheri Speier-Pero, is with us tonight. Cheri, will you please stand and be recognized. Thanks to you and Dean Lenway for your partnership.

Partnership also plays a vital role in the economic health of our city. Without a strong alliance between the public sector and private sector entrepreneurs, we would not have won more than \$1 billion in new investment and 10,000 jobs over the past eight years - even during these tough times!

And we will continue to use every tool in the economic development tool box to win these new job-creating investments, including economic incentives. In fact, without the aggressive use of incentives, we could well have lost major companies to other states, including Accident Fund, Jackson National Life, Emergent Biosolutions and even GM itself.

We never would have succeeded in restoring historic buildings like the Ottawa Power Station, the Mutual Building, the Hollister Building, or the Marshall Street Armory. We never would have fueled the continued revitalization of Old Town, or sparked the construction of new projects like Market Place on our downtown riverfront.

When it comes to economic development, we play to win, and that's exactly what we'll continue to do.

We have even more exciting projects in the pipeline, perhaps none more so than the Red Cedar Renaissance. We've already traveled a long road to breathe new life into that old golf course.

There have been a few bumps along the way, and there are almost certain to be more. But I can promise you this: when we are done, the Red Cedar Renaissance will drive the reinvention of the Michigan Avenue Corridor for decades to come. Community design charrettes begin soon, and I can't wait to see some of the creative ideas our residents will bring to the table as we define a shared vision for Red Cedar.

I also can't wait to see the inside of the newly renovated Knapp's Building downtown. The outside restoration work is stunning, and I want to say thank you once again to Nick Eyde and his family for their devotion and partnership in bringing that majestic icon back to life.

Our vision and our pursuit of partnerships must extend beyond the borders of our city, and even beyond those of our nation. We must have a global perspective to compete and win in the global economy.

You may recall that I recently traveled to Italy in pursuit of new economic opportunities for Lansing. Tonight I am pleased to report our first success. Not one but two Italian companies have decided to open

an office in the Lansing region. Saet, a leading manufacturer of industrial heat treating equipment, and Satiz, a global provider of integrated business communications solutions, will co-locate an office here that will grow to 40 employees within three years.

Please join me in welcoming our special guests from Torino, Italy: Davide Canavio, CEO of Saet and Alessandro Rosso, CEO of Satiz. Davide, Alessandro, you traveled far to be with us tonight. Benvenuto. Grazie mille. Buona fortuna. (Welcome, thank you, and good fortune.)

I also want to thank Bob Trezise and his incredible team at the Lansing Economic Area Partnership for their vision and leadership in relentlessly pursuing global opportunities for the entire Lansing region. Bob and the LEAP team, please stand and take a bow.

Defining Lansing's global brand includes the amazing cars GM builds. But it also includes world-leading companies like Emergent Biosolutions, Jackson National Life, Accident Fund, Blue Cross Blue Shield, Auto Owners, Neogen, and "a little company that could" called Niowave.

Niowave is a tech startup that spun off from MSU's cyclotron laboratory. With the help of economic incentives, they moved into the old Walnut Street School and set up one of the most sophisticated nuclear science labs in the world. They have grown so fast over the past six years that they need more space to manufacture their products. This Spring, Niowave plans to invest more than \$100 million to build a new production facility on the grounds of Capital Region International Airport.

Niowave could have gone anywhere in the world with their expansion, and in fact they were actively courted by folks from all over the country. But they chose Lansing, Michigan because of the power of an incredible partnership between Lansing, Dewitt Township and the airport.

Through that partnership we forged an historic, 425 tax-sharing agreement with Dewitt Township. We established a Next Michigan Development Zone to entice new and expanding businesses to locate there. And we opened a full-service U.S. Customs station and International Port of Entry to connect our airport to the global marketplace.

Together, these key ingredients set the table for Niowave's investment and growth, and the Lansing region will enjoy the fruit of that partnership for decades to come. The CEO of Niowave, Dr. Terry Grimm is with us tonight. Dr. Grimm, thank you for believing in Lansing and investing in Lansing.

We also learned recently that MSU has secured full funding for the Facility for Rare Isotope Beams - better known as F-RIB. That's great news for this region. Combined with the growth of Niowave, the construction of F-RIB will create a critical mass of nuclear science research and development - and hundreds of high-paying jobs - that will make Lansing, Michigan the Accelerator Capital of the World.

Even as we adapt to the new realities of the global economy by leveraging our assets, we must also continue to maintain fiscal discipline in the operations of city government. Our financial situation is improving by the day, but we cannot afford to act as though we are completely out of the woods. We still have long-term challenges that simply must be addressed.

Last year a panel of experts led by Mayor Hollister made a series of recommendations for strengthening Lansing's financial health, and for addressing our long-term pension and retiree health care obligations. We must keep our promise to retirees, but we also must adapt for the future and that means more change. It means more tough decisions. It

means we will continue to implement the Financial Health Team strategies that will secure a strong fiscal foundation for Lansing's future.

We must also make vital strategic investments that enable our city to operate at maximum efficiency and keep up with the information technology revolution. Last year I proposed a major new investment in our city's outdated IT infrastructure. Virtually everything the city does is underpinned by computer technology, and our antiquated systems are a catastrophic failure just waiting to happen. They must be updated. I call upon my partners on the new Council to take up this matter immediately. Let's get it done.

Earlier today, the region's leading business organization -- the Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce -- announced a new regional forum to facilitate dialogue and collaboration between the cities of Lansing and East Lansing; Ingham, Eaton and Clinton Counties; and our neighboring townships.

The forum will meet on a regular basis to build the mutual trust, respect and spirit of cooperation that is so vital to moving this region forward together. And that's the only way we are going to move forward -- together.

The Lansing Chamber will host and facilitate this critical conversation. President and CEO Tim Daman is with us tonight. Tim, thank you and the Chamber board for your partnership, your leadership, and your commitment to growing Lansing -- and the Lansing region -- together.

Several of our regional partners are also here tonight, including Vic Celentino, chair of the Ingham County Board of Commissioners, Delta Township Supervisor Ken Fletcher, and Delhi Township Supervisor C.J. Davis. Will you please stand and be recognized. I look forward to working with each of you and our regional colleagues in the year ahead, and I hope to see you at the first meeting of the forum.

In fact, I already have some ideas for our agenda and hope you will bring yours to the table as well:

1. Regional Representation on the BWL Board of Commissioners. I am open to it; let's talk about the details.
2. Regional Support for Regional Assets. The Lansing River Trail, for example, is enjoyed by citizens from across the region, and a new organization -- Friends of the River Trail -- has been formed to promote and support this incredible, award-winning regional asset. Its founder, Kevin Shaw, is with us tonight. Kevin, thanks for taking the ball and running with it.
3. Regional Facilities. Over the next few years we must make key decisions -- 50-year decisions -- about the future of some of Lansing's government facilities, including City Hall, our police headquarters, courts, and detention center. In several of these areas, there is potential for partnership, mutual benefits, and savings for all of our taxpayers. Let's talk about it at the regional forum. My friends, there are important lessons in partnership. The only way we will grow Lansing -- and the Lansing region -- is to do it together, to unite behind a common cause, on a path that we decide to follow together. The alternative is division and failure, as we've seen in other cities.

We see the power of partnership in so many areas: when neighbors get together and work with our police department to keep their neighborhood safe; when our downtown business community joins together to produce amazing community events. Silver Bells partnering with Radio Disney? Now that's cool.

And so is Lansing. We're a cool city, a proud city, and a resilient city. When we get knocked back a bit, we get up and come out swinging for the fences. Because that's how we roll. It's who we are. It's in our

DNA as Michiganders and as Americans. We know how to work hard, and we know that we get better results when we work together.

The bottom line remains the same: it's still about good jobs for our citizens, so they can buy a home, raise a family, pay the bills and enjoy some of the wondrous pleasures that life has to offer.

We all want to live in a community that is safe, accessible, diverse and prosperous; a place where people are connected, woven together in a fabric so strong that nothing can tear us apart. That's what a great neighborhood feels like. That's also what makes for a great city.

We know in our hearts that we're all in this together. And still, from time to time, we let distrust and old ways of thinking get in the way of adapting to the fast-paced changes that are happening all around us.

My friends, we're in a new global economy where success will require us to drive the innovation, creativity, entrepreneurship and partnership that enables us to compete and win.

We can compete. And we will win. With your help and your partnership, we will keep growing Lansing together for years to come.

Thank you, good night, God Bless you and God Bless the City of Lansing and this great Lansing region.

ADJOURNED TIME 7:39 P.M.

CHRIS SWOPE, CITY CLERK