

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NOVI
MONDAY, JUNE 6, 2022 AT 7:00 P.M.**

Mayor Gatt called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL: Mayor Gatt, Mayor Pro Tem Staudt, Council Members Casey, Crawford, Fischer, Smith, Thomas

ALSO PRESENT: Victor Cardenas, Assistant City Manager
Tom Schultz, City Attorney

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

CM 22-06-066 Moved by Crawford, seconded by Casey; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

To approve the Agenda as presented.

Roll call vote on CM 22-06-066 **Yeas: Staudt, Casey, Crawford, Fischer, Smith,
Thomas, Gatt**
Nays: None

PUBLIC HEARINGS: None

PRESENTATIONS: None

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Gatt announced we have six members of the public applying for various Board and Commissions. He reminded everyone that City Council has a copy of your application and resume, we have studied them at great lengths. He explained that tonight there will not be any questions. He said this evening you will each be given two minutes to address City Council and tell us why you believe that you should be put on the Board or Commission you are asking for. He said he will hold it to the two minutes to be fair to everybody. He said there will be no decisions made that evening, the announcements for the Boards and Commissions will be made at our next meeting.

1. John Avdoulos - Planning Commission

John Avdoulos stated he lived at 48980 W. Nine Mile Road and has been a resident for almost 30 years, and just realized that he has spent exactly half of his life in the city of Novi. He said over those 30 years he has seen Novi grow into the vibrant city that it has become. He said as a member of the Planning Commission he was proud that he was able to see projects like Catholic Central High School, Ascension Providence Park Hospital, The Suburban Collection Showplace, along with a variety of quality residential developments, R & D facilities, and retail developments come to fruition. He highlighted most recently, the Living and Learning Center which has a wonderful mission and has already embedded itself in a community to support the highest quality of life for young adults with autistic disabilities. He said he was looking forward to Sakura Novi, a unique

Asian inspired village that will showcase the cultures and cuisines of Japan, as well as other Asian nations, and will be another destination location in Novi. He stated currently, he was honored to be representing the city of Novi as a member of the Planning Commission and as such accepting the responsibility to protect the personality and vitality of our community, and to provide guidance for land use and development in the community. He stated he would like to continue to serve on the Planning Commission. He felt that with his current and previous planning commission experience, as well as his background and professional experience as an architect, he has been able to engage and contribute to the city of Novi development in a positive way, setting a high bar for quality while adhering to the goals and vision of the Master Plan. Thank you.

2. Gary Becker - Planning Commission

Gary Becker thanked members of the City Council. He stated 19 months ago, Council honored him by agreeing to appoint him to an open position of the Planning Commission. He said he could tell you full disclosure at that time, he knew very little about what the Planning Commission did, and what a Planning Commissioner did. He said he used that last 19 months to overcome those deficits. He mentioned he has taken two online courses from the Michigan Association of Planners to learn about how the Planning Commission process works and the rules. He learned a great deal from his fellow commissioners, and especially from our outstanding and very patient Planning Department staff. He listened and learned from every applicant and resident who has addressed the Planning Commission during their meetings. He participated as a member on the Capital Improvement Plan Committee. He said he has done the due diligence required for every proposal that has come before the Planning Commission. He said during the 19 months he has served; he has only missed two meeting. He no longer felt like the inexperienced rookie on the Planning Commission. He found his participation in the important work of the Planning Commission to be intellectually stimulating, and personally regarding. He said he would be most grateful to be given the opportunity and responsibility to be reappointed for a full-term and then to be able to play a role in continuation of the city of Novi, being the absolute best place to live, work, and play in the great state of Michigan. He thanked them for their consideration.

3. Salene Riggins - Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Commission

Salene Riggins stated she was reapplying for the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services. She said she would like to continue to serve because she was passionate about helping her community. She said she was committed to expressing sound reasoning to analyze and make decision to grow Novi where people from all walks of life will want to live, work, and raise their family in the great city of Novi. She stated that during her term, she participated in the Villa Barr strategic planning sessions. She stated that she was also on the Walkable Novi Committee, currently on the Board of Older Adult Services, and the Novi Parks Foundation. She was also a panelist on selecting the Recreation Supervisor. She was proud to say that Madison has been doing a fantastic job and she is a great addition to the team. She said she has had the pleasure of doing presentations on our lovely parks, such as the Pavilion Shore Park, Villa Barr, and Village Wood Lake Park to name a few. She said she lived in Novi for nine years. She mentioned in her current

occupation, she helped protect the public against fraud in our community by performing her duties as a Notary Public, the position aligned as with her duty as a commissioner, protecting and caring for our community. She said her wish is to make a positive impact on her community that will make a difference in people's lives. She noted that she ad so much more to accomplish, such as planting and implementing community gardens in our neighborhoods. She said she was confident she would be a great fit to continue to serve in her current role on the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Commission. She thanked them for their time.

4. Edward Roney - Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Commission

Edward Roney thanked City Council for their time. He mentioned he has been a resident of Novi for 37 years, and he has proudly served on the Planning Commission the last 14 or 15 months, it was an open position. He said it has been a great experience, so he asked for Council's reappointment. Regarding accomplishments that we have had, he did not want to talk about any of the requests, however, he thought they have had a lot of nice public hearings. He thought they are listening to the community about what their comments are and reflecting that in their decisions is probably a great accomplishment. He noted that they had a nice training class that was coordinated by the Planning Department with the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) along with the Planning Department and legal. He said he would like to see us do that again, and maybe include the City Council, so we get a good balance between all of that. He thanked City Council for their consideration for his reappointment.

5. Sara Srinivasan - Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Commission

Sara Srinivasan said she and her husband have resided in Novi for six years and she was applying to serve on the Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services Commission. She hoped to bring to the table over 10 years of experience in environmental conservation, management, and environmental education. She most recently worked at Wildlife Habitat Council organizing a network of stakeholders in various habitat projects across Southeast Michigan in public and private projects. She is currently a board member with Detroit Audubon, where she helped lead a lot of our education programs around Southeast Michigan. She noted she has a master's degree from U of M, Ann Arbor, the School of Natural Resources and Environment which as been renamed to the School of Environment and Sustainability. She said she studied and very much enjoyed learning about the human dimensions of environmental issues, including how to motivate people to participate in environmental programs, how to collect data and evaluate those programs, and how to empower people to participate as changemaker's in their communities. She said she also has a bachelor's degree from Wayne State University where she did environmental science education and about half of her 10 years has been in the field of education outdoors. She stated she was interested in serving on the commission for two main reasons. One is to provide support to the existing programs outlined in the City of Novi Strategic Community and Recreation Master Park Plan. Second that support can be in the form of finding new partners, securing funding, increasing participation and impact, or generating new ideas such as a Novi Native Plant Library, or a Homeowner Habitat Recognition Program, as well as maybe a GIS database

to track participants. She said she was interested in exploring ways in which to engage our diverse citizenry from all walks of life in environmental stewardship activities in our city of Novi. She stated through her service, she promised to support whatever initiatives that made our Parks, Recreation and Cultural opportunities exceptional and diverse for both nature and our infrastructure, and people too.

6. Charles A. Staab - Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Commission

Charles Staab greeted the Mayor, Mayor Pro Tem, and City Council. He said he was there that evening seeking reappointment to the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Commission. He mentioned that he would like to go over some achievements and milestones they achieved over the past three years during his recent tenure on the Commission. He said they brought back the Memorial Day Parade with the institution of the new program of the Field of Honor he thought was a very special program to commemorate our fallen heroes and our veterans. He specially wanted to reinforce that today being the 78th Anniversary of D-Day. He stated during our period of time, most recently on the Commission, we remodeled the play structure at Tim Pope play structure, Community Sports Park, the most used play structure in the City. He stated they renovated Lakeshore Park with new buildings, and pavilion that was dedicated back in the spring of 2021. He mentioned this spring, we came online with new soccer fields at Bosco Fields to help satisfy the need for more fields and participation. He said the last thing he wanted to re-emphasize is our recertification as a CAPRA designated department, we are only one of three departments in the whole state of Michigan that are recognized with that designation, and only one of 132 countrywide on the rise and going into the next fiscal year. He said they will be coming online with our splash pad at Bosco Field in 2023. He mentioned the planning and preliminary site development of the Northwest Park.

MANAGER/STAFF REPORT: None

ATTORNEY REPORT: None

AUDIENCE COMMENTS: None

CONSENT AGENDA REMOVALS AND APPROVALS:

CM 22-06-067 Moved by Casey, seconded by Smith; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

To approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

- A. Approve Minutes of:
May 23, 2022 - Regular Meeting
- B. Approval to award services to HESCO for sanitary sewer metering tasks for the Sanitary Sewer Master Plan update, in the amount of \$29,750.
- C. Approval to award engineering design services to AECOM for an Industrial Road Rehabilitation program, in the amount of \$95,281.67.

D. Approval of resolution recognizing Smile 4 Kids as a nonprofit organization operating in the City of Novi for the purpose of obtaining a charitable gaming license from the State of Michigan.

E. Approval of claims and warrants – Warrant 1109

Roll call vote on CM 22-06-067 **Yeas: Casey, Crawford, Fischer, Smith, Thomas, Gatt, Staudt**
Nays: None

MATTERS FOR COUNCIL ACTION:

1. Consideration of approval to purchase a AccuBrine NXT-Gen automated brine maker, to Cargill Road Safety Inc. using the Sourcwell Cooperative Purchasing Contract, in the amount of \$122,807.43.

CM 22-06-068 **Moved by Casey, seconded by Thomas; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Approval to purchase a AccuBrine NXT-Gen automated brine maker, to Cargill Road Safety Inc. using the Sourcwell Cooperative Purchasing Contract, in the amount of \$122,807.43.

Roll call vote on CM 22-06-068 **Yeas: Crawford, Fischer, Smith, Thomas, Gatt, Staudt, Casey**
Nays: None

2. Consideration of approval to award engineering design services to OHM Advisors for Wixom Road Rehabilitation, from Ten Mile Road to 800 feet south of Grand River Avenue, in the amount of \$241,920.00.

Member Fischer commented that this sounded like preliminary design work, and construction will begin next year sometime, he wondered if he was correct? Assistant City Manager Cardenas replied yes.

CM 22-06-069 **Moved by Fischer, seconded by Casey; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Approval to award engineering design services to OHM Advisors for Wixom Road Rehabilitation, from Ten Mile Road to 800 feet south of Grand River Avenue, in the amount of \$241,920.00.

Roll call vote on CM 22-06-069 **Yeas: Fischer, Smith, Thomas, Gatt, Staudt, Casey, Crawford**
Nays: None

3. Consideration of approval to award engineering design services to AECOM for Phase 1 of the Beck Road Reconstruction project, from 11 Mile Road to the southern

limits of the Grand River Avenue intersection, in the amount of \$447,375.84, and to conduct a Traffic Noise Analysis for the proposed Beck Road improvements from 8 Mile Road to Pontiac Trail, in the amount of \$59,844.94.

Assistant City Manager Cardenas noted that this will not be done this year, but in future years. This is also part of the federal dollars we received for the Infrastructure Bill that passed this past session.

Member Casey was pleased to see the inclusion of the Traffic Noise Analysis, that was one of the largest pieces of feedback that she heard at our public session a couple months ago. She was happy to see that included.

CM 22-06-070 Moved by Casey, seconded by Fischer; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Approval to award engineering design services to AECOM for Phase 1 of the Beck Road Reconstruction project, from 11 Mile Road to the southern limits of the Grand River Avenue intersection, in the amount of \$447,375.84, and to conduct a Traffic Noise Analysis for the proposed Beck Road improvements from 8 Mile Road to Pontiac Trail, in the amount of \$59,844.94.

Roll call vote on CM 22-06-070

**Yeas: Smith, Thomas, Gatt, Staudt, Casey,
Fischer, Crawford**

Nays: None

4. Consideration of setting interviews for candidates for City Assessor position.

Assistant City Manager Cardenas explained this is a position that is appointed by City Council, the candidates have asked for anonymity per State Statute. He said all the candidates have been given a number and you as Council have all those numbers. He stated that all we will be looking for is that rank order, or those numbers of up to five candidates that you want to bring in for interviews. He said we currently have the interviews scheduled for the next City Council meeting on June 20, 2022. Assistant City Manager Cardenas said we will make them aware of that and then those names will become public when the Agenda gets posted.

CM 22-06-071 Moved by Staudt, seconded by Fischer; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Move to invite candidate numbers two (2), three (3), and five (5) to interview with the City Council for the position of City Assessor on June 20, 2022.

Roll call vote on CM 22-06-071

**Yeas: Thomas, Gatt, Staudt, Casey, Crawford,
Fischer Smith,**

Nays: None

CONSENT AGENDA REMOVALS FOR COUNCIL ACTION: None

AUDIENCE COMMENT: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Member Casey was pleased to let her colleagues know that our Youth Council has met and gone through all their conversations with the City staff and departments. She said they were meeting tomorrow to talk about what their Keystone or the Capstone Program is going to be. She said hopefully with luck of calendars permit, we will see them at our meeting on June 20, 2022. She said if not, then most likely it will be on July 11, 2022. She wanted to give her colleagues a heads up to start looking forward to hearing from the Youth Council and what they plan to do based on everything they have learned from the City. Mayor Gatt asked if these were Youth Council members from the prior year, or are these for next year? Member Casey replied these are the current, when we did the appointment, they were appointed for two-year terms.

Mayor Pro Tem Staudt announced the Broadband Committee had met and they are in the process of doing a Broadband Survey. He said that survey is on the city website, and he encouraged Councilmembers to put it on their social media and pass it around. He commented the more feedback we get, the more effective the survey will be. He said it going to run through the end of June. He said we will have some feedback from the community, and he believed there will be another community evaluation period. He said they have had two meetings with their consultant. He said they are moving along, and this is an important part of that. He encouraged everybody to share the link and do it yourself if you haven't.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL ISSUES: None

Mayor Gatt reminded everyone that the next meeting will begin at 5:30 P.M. This will not be a special meeting. It will start at 5:30 P.M. with Assessor interviews. He noted when the interviews are done, we will just move right on into City business on the regular Agenda.

ADJOURNMENT – There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:22 P.M.

Cortney Hanson, City Clerk

Robert J. Gatt, Mayor

Transcribed by Deborah S. Aubry

Date approved: June 20, 2022