

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NOVI  
MONDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2015 AT 7:00 P.M.  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS – NOVI CIVIC CENTER – 45175 TEN MILE ROAD**

**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, Markham, Mutch, Poupard, Wrobel

**ALSO PRESENT:** Peter Auger, City Manager  
Victor Cardenas, Assistant City Manager  
Thomas Schultz, City Attorney

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

**CM 15-10-142 Moved by Staudt, seconded by Markham; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY:**

**To approve the Agenda as amended with the addition to Mayor and Council Issues, item 1. Update on Vision Plan for the City of Novi.**

**Roll call vote on CM 15-10-142 Yeas: Staudt, Casey, Markham, Mutch, Poupard, Wrobel, Gatt  
Nays: None**

**PUBLIC HEARING**

1. Creation of Special Assessment District 178C to finance road and utility construction related to Crossroads Commerce Park Parcel Nos. 22-17-101-010 and 22-17-101-012 located south of Grand River Avenue and west of Providence Parkway.

Public hearing opened at 7:02 p.m. No audience comment, closed at 7:03 p.m.

**PRESENTATIONS**

1. Proclamation recognizing October as Fire Prevention Month – Jeff Johnson, Director of Emergency Services and Fire Operations

Mayor Gatt presented the proclamation to Jeff Johnson, Director of Emergency Services and Fire Operations. Director Johnson spoke about a few of the fire prevention programs the City offers. The Fire Department will install a smoke detector and replace batteries for no charge in any home in the City. They offer a free home inspection for any kind of fire hazards. They have a child safety seat program that is a free public service to make sure it is safely installed. Anyone can go to the City web site, [cityofnovi.org](http://cityofnovi.org), to register for any of the programs. He thanked Council for the recognition.

**REPORTS:**

1. MANAGER/STAFF – None

2. ATTORNEY – None

**AUDIENCE COMMENT:**

Chris Brallier, Knightsbridge Gate, 27699 Belgrave Place, spoke about their developer not completing their community of 350 homes where the roads have become quite dangerous. The performance bonds were not enough to cover the cost to finish the roads. They are hoping for some action plan by Council, as the developer has stopped taking all their calls.

Robert Baker, 27023 Ladbroke Street, spoke about the roads. When asked about the roads, they were told they were bonded to finish the roads. Construction was finished about a year ago and now there are manhole covers popped out and holes in the road. It was disappointing that they haven't completed the roads. They understand the amount the developer has bonded was not enough for the road completion. He asked for options to help them.

Joe Kwasniewski, 27037 Ladbroke Street, noted the roads are deteriorating and causing hazards. They have to dodge manhole covers and his concern was for the children on the sidewalks that are near the roads. Novi has always been a place where they wanted to be. They've also heard about more thefts and requested more patrols to help alleviate it.

Steve Clark, 51243 Luke Lane, noted they are getting to the season where winter maintenance is going to be an issue. They are concerned about this, as all the patching has disappeared around the manhole covers since the past winter. They've had lots of snow in the past season and couldn't keep it from their yards. A resident of Knightsbridge Gate had a vehicle stolen a week and a half ago and he would like to have a more focused effort from the police department to help in the neighborhood. Their neighborhood is not the only one targeted lately. They don't want a crime infestation just because they were close to the freeway.

Sean Bradley, 27303 Benjamins Way, noted the bond that was facilitated 8 years ago would have been able to effectively complete the final wearing course at that time; but now they are at a shortfall of nearly \$2 million. He felt this company has a history of doing this throughout their developments. They want to know how these funds will be facilitated. The safety, the esthetic look, how people's cars are affected, people falling into potholes; all these types of things should be considered. This also affects them economically.

Rahul Shah, 27489 Cromwell, noted his son has been injured several times in the roads. He noted that last year, there were several packages missing from their subdivision. He also hoped to have a plan in place to make this area safe and sound. He's always heard the City has been working with the residents and they appreciate that.

Jim Craig, 27653 Sloan, stated he sent a letter to Council and noted they were looking for some type of time line, as the developer made a conscious decision to leave the streets incomplete. The residents would like Council to apply the bond and then fund the rest of the repairs. They felt that the bond was grossly deficient and felt Novi accepted that bond at the time. They've been dealing with this problem since 2007 and heard this was in litigation already. He asked for a time frame immediately to get work done next summer and default them immediately so repairs can be done.

Andrew Sarpolis, candidate for Council, 31036 Beachwalk Drive, stated he asked Member Casey for her support. He agreed to not engage in negative campaigning. He had hoped such a pledge could help to keep a civil, organized and respectful campaign this year. However, there was a mailer that was sent out that was a personal attack on him. He felt that this type of material would suppress voter turnout. He noted he was accused of being a renter, but he thought 40% of the City's residents were renters. There was also an accusation that he is young. He felt many young people were disenfranchised. He stated if you are young, old, male, female, etc., his platform is that he is running for everyone.

A resident now living in Knightsbridge Gate stated he grew up in Dearborn then lived in Royal Oak and never had any problems. In Novi, they have had crime and cars broken into where he lives. They have Twelve Mile that is a dirt road in bad shape. They have the worst light that only blinks yellow at Napier and Ten Mile. He felt forgotten in this corner of the City. He talks about this at work and everywhere he goes. He would like to get some support from Council.

Pradeep Prabhakaran, 27601 Cromwell, moved to Knightsbridge Gate in 2006. He commented that every few years, something has happened that makes their area feel unsafe. The potholes used to be filled up, but no one has taken any action on the potholes recently to ensure safety. There should be a time line for the road repairs and should include proper water flow. The signal light at Napier seems to be useless because you can't turn left there with the speed limit at 50 mph. He asked Council for a resolution of these issues.

**CONSENT AGENDA REMOVALS AND APPROVALS:**

**CM 15-10-143            Moved by Casey, seconded by Poupard; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY:**

**To approve the Consent Agenda as presented.**

- A. Approve Minutes of:
  - 1. September 28, 2015 – Regular meeting
- B. Enter Executive Session immediately following the regular meeting of October 12, 2015 in the Council Annex for the purpose of discussing privileged correspondence from legal counsel.
- C. Approval to award contract for the 2015 Fall Tree and Landscape Planting to the lowest bidder, RC Tuttle Refinishing Co., for the amount of \$70,413, and to concurrently amend the FY 15/16 budget.
- D. Approval of Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation of Resource Recovery and Recycling Authority of Southwest Oakland County (RRRASOC).
- E. Approval of the FY15/16 Winter Maintenance Agreement between the City of Novi and the Road Commission for Oakland County for snow and ice control on selected County roads in Novi; and adoption of resolution authorizing Novi to provide winter maintenance of selected County roads.
- F. Approval of Ordinance Amendment 15-185 to amend the City of Novi Code of Ordinances, at Chapter 22, "Offenses", Article V, "Offenses Against Public Peace," in order to add a new Section 22-102, "Conduct in Cemeteries," to establish rules for appropriate conduct in cemeteries within the City. **SECOND READING**
- G. Approval to award engineering design services to Spalding DeDecker for the 2016 Pathways and ADA Compliance program (which includes segments 1B, 10 and a mid-block crossing at Taft and Jacob) in the amount of \$26,927.
- H. Approval of a resolution authorizing termination of an existing sanitary sewer easement (recorded at Liber 22132, Page 169, Oakland County Records), which was replaced by a revised sanitary sewer easement (recorded at Liber 40820, page 72, Oakland County Records) in 2009.
- I. Approval to award a unit price contract to United Resource, LLC, the low bidder, for the FY15/16 Snow Removal – Major Pathways program in an estimated amount of \$60,000. The contract term is one year with two one-year extensions.
- J. Approval to enter into Oakland County Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area Memorandum of Understanding and authorization to submit letter of commitment for grant under the 2015 Michigan Invasive Species Grant Project (MISGP).
- K. Approval of Claims and Accounts – Warrant No. 949

**Roll call vote on CM 15-10-143**

**Yeas: Casey, Markham, Mutch, Poupard,  
Wrobel, Gatt, Staudt**  
**Nays: None**

**MATTERS FOR COUNCIL ACTION:**

1. Approval to award a professional services agreement to The Corradino Group of Michigan, Inc. for preparation of a Thoroughfare Master Plan in the amount of \$119,480, subject to final review and approval of form of agreement by City Manager's office and the City Attorney.

**CM 15-10-144 Moved by Wrobel, seconded by Staudt; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY:**

**To approve an award of a professional services agreement to The Corradino Group of Michigan, Inc. for preparation of a Thoroughfare Master Plan in the amount of \$119,480, subject to final review and approval of form of agreement by City Manager's office and the City Attorney.**

Member Markham was pleased to see this moving forward because it was part of the budget. She thought it was time to look holistically at transportation issues in the City as a whole. Member Markham said the Plan talked about being multi-mobile but most of it was about roads. She hoped they were looking at all the forms of transit and not just automotive focused transportation. She would like to see how they would link with potential public transit, bikes, etc. Deputy Director McBeth said that was the intent. It was to look at the automotive, bicycle, pedestrian, and the possibility of transit issues being addressed. Member Markham noted there will be several public information sessions in the plan and suggested up to 6-10 public input sessions between now and next spring. She suggested targeted groups sessions as part of the process to hear their issues. She spoke about a hotel manager contacting her about transit issues and how he has had trouble keeping people on staff. She pointed out there will be many pieces to this. She suggested including the tourism piece of the Community. Tourists necessarily don't have any means of getting around without their own cars which adds to the traffic. She wanted to make sure potential funding sources were acquired, for example, Federal granting or green space organizations, etc. She would like the City to look at different ways it can be funded. She said no one wants to raise taxes to improve transportation. This sets the tone for the future of the City.

Member Mutch directed staff to page 33, item 2.6 task 5 that describes a number of factors that will be evaluated through the study process. He was interested in looking at a wide range of improvements. He questioned the language that was in the proposal that talks about how reclassification of thoroughfares may affect the complete streets policy that was adopted by the City and how it would impact road way improvements. City Engineer Hayes said hopefully, there is sufficient capacity. If

there is not sufficient capacity, the roads can be widened assuming there is right-of-way or that can be purchased at a reasonable cost, but is not always the case. Complete streets cannot be built as has been envisioned on some thoroughfares. He thought that is what the consultant was referring to. Member Mutch said he understood and since it was based on the complete streets concept, there may be other factors involved. He liked the language in the proposal and thought it was comprehensive. It recognizes how important roads and traffic issues are to the City. Fiscal reality will be the biggest determination of implementing aspects of the Plan. He thought creating the balance of economic development and quality of life was an important part of the Plan. He hoped Council will have input in the process.

Mayor Gatt was pleased with the report. He agreed that nobody wants to raise taxes for transportation. Anything that can be done to improve the transportation in the City would be welcomed. He thought this Council and Councils in the future will have to look at Beck Road first.

**Roll call vote on CM 15-10-144**

**Yeas: Markham, Mutch, Poupard, Wrobel,  
Gatt, Staudt, Casey  
Nays: None**

**AUDIENCE COMMENT – None**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS – None**

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL ISSUES:**

1. Update on Vision Plan – Member Casey sought an update from Administration on the Vision Plan, as there was discussion during the budget session and in June, there was a motion that was approved to include the Vision Plan. Her expectation was that she would see the results of the survey, then there would be an updated plan of what would happen next. Council's feedback from the survey would help with the visioning work that would be taking place next week. City Manager Auger noted they thought they would go into the goals and objectives session after the election in November with a new seated Council. Member Casey confirmed that the expectation was to have the conversation after the public input on the Master Plan in the January goal setting session and whether it would cause any concerns with getting Council's input at the right time. City Manager Auger thought it could be incorporated. He said since the Master Plan was moving forward first. He encouraged Council to participate in that, then incorporate the visioning after. She also asked for survey results.

**CONSENT AGENDA REMOVALS FOR COUNCIL ACTION – None**

**ADJOURNMENT** – There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 P.M.

---

Maryanne Cornelius, City Clerk

---

Robert J. Gatt, Mayor

---

Transcribed by Jane Keller

Date approved October 26, 2015