

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NOVI  
MONDAY, MAY 18, 2020 AT 7:00 P.M.**

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

In accordance with Executive Order 2020-75, this meeting was held remotely.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL:** Mayor Gatt, Mayor Pro Tem Staudt, Council Members Breen, Casey, Crawford, Fischer, Mutch

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

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Member Casey added to Mayor and Council Issues: Review process for City Manager.

**CM 20-05-055 Moved by Fischer, seconded by Casey; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**To approve the Agenda as amended.**

**Roll call vote on CM 20-05-055**                      **Yeas: Staudt, Breen, Casey, Crawford, Fischer, Mutch, Gatt**  
**Nays: None**

**PUBLIC HEARINGS: None**

**PRESENTATIONS: None**

**MANAGER/STAFF REPORT:**

City Manager Auger said the Novi residents and City staff team are doing a really good job and we have seemed to flatten out the curve. The numbers are trending the right way. Our staff is continuing to do a great job as we bring more staff on board to keep up with the new businesses that are being opened.

Mayor Gatt pointed out he had several emails and calls from residents praising our City staff and the work they are doing during this.

**ATTORNEY REPORT: None**

**CONSENT AGENDA REMOVALS AND APPROVALS:**

**CM 20-05-056 Moved by Fischer, seconded by Casey; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

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

- A. Approve minutes of:
  - 1. April 29, 2020 - Special Meeting
  - 2. May 4, 2020 - Regular Meeting
  
- B. Adoption of a resolution requesting the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) include the existing bridge on 9 Mile Road over Thornton Creek in the State Local Bridge Program List for Replacement. If MDOT selects this bridge, the City of Novi will accept 100% of the design engineering costs and 5% of the total construction cost.
  
- C. Approval of an addendum to the agreement with the Michigan Employee Retirement System (MERS) to allow employee borrowing against their respective retirement accounts
  
- D. Approval of Claims and Warrants – Warrant No. 1060.

**Roll call vote on CM 20-05-056**                      **Yeas: Breen, Casey, Crawford, Fischer, Mutch, Gatt, Staudt**  
**Nays: None**

**MATTERS FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

**1. Consideration of a resolution to authorize Budget Amendment #2020-5.**

City Manager Auger stated as Council predicted and staff responded we have been watching the revenue streams. He said you will see that the last couple meetings of this fiscal year will have continued budget amendments so we stay in tune with the revenues coming in and the expenditures that we have to reduce. He said that Finance Director Johnson was on the line if City Council had any questions regarding this budget amendment.

**CM 20-05-057**                      **Moved by Fischer, seconded by Casey; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Approval of resolution to authorize Budget Amendment #2020-5**

**Roll call vote on CM 20-05-057**                      **Yeas: Casey, Crawford, Fischer, Mutch, Gatt, Staudt, Breen**  
**Nays: None**

**2. Consideration of approval to award the construction contract for 2020 and 2021 Concrete Neighborhood Roads Program to Mattioli Cement Company LLC, the low-bidder, in the amount of \$2,402,824.**

Member Breen wondered if we have information on how these roads are selected according to the PASER ratings. She said she had some inquiries from residents and they want to know why their roads haven't been fixed. She also noted that PASER ratings seem to vary from year to year depending on who does them. She wondered if



**Nays: None**

**AUDIENCE COMMENT:**

Michel Duchesneau, 1191 S. Lake Dr. thanked the City Council for allowing audience comment during these trying times. He felt that City Council was doing a good job with handling budget issues and maintaining city services.

Jim Bullock commented on Garfield Lake and the surrounding wetland area. He said since the dewatering has happened on 9 Mile and Garfield the wetlands have come down to the point where they are all dry and dying. Garfield Road and the adjoining pond in his backyard as well as a canal are all down at least 12 feet. He said they were hoping someone could shed some light on what is being done to rectify this. Mayor Gatt said he thought he saw some correspondence on this. Mayor Gatt asked City Manager Auger to look into this and report back to Council as soon as possible. City Manager Auger said yes they can, they are currently looking at the situation.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS: None**

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL ISSUES:**

Member Casey added Review Process for the City Manager to Mayor and Council Issues. She said back in February Council made a goal to change the process for the Performance Review for the City Manager. Obviously we know what has happened since then, but we are coming up to June, and the month of June is when we typically have our conversations and Performance Reviews with the City Manager, City Clerk and City Assessor. She asked City Manager Auger to give them some information in the Thursday Packet on how this will be done. She asked who would schedule the City Manager's review. She wondered how they want to handle the conversation; can they do it in Zoom? She also wondered when they could expect to have the conversation with the City Clerk and the City Assessor as well.

Mayor Gatt asked if she expected the City Manager to respond to that request to all of Council on how he would like to be contacted regarding this matter. Member Casey said absolutely, that is why she brought it up at the table. She said we set the goal, and we just haven't had any conversation on how to have the conversation, so she didn't know if City Manager Auger wanted all of Council to contact him to schedule or does he want to reach out to Council, etc. She was looking for that guidance.

City Manager Auger said he could do both. As a reminder his office will reach out to everyone and it will be up to Council if they want a phone conversation or a Zoom meeting. He said they will set up a time that is convenient for Council.

Mayor Gatt said while they are on the topic there are two others that Council does evaluate. He said during the goal session they didn't address the way they do that. He wondered if anyone wanted to change the way they do that right now through a

motion or do we keep it the way they have always done it with the City Clerk and City Assessor.

Member Casey thought that they should handle this year the way we have always done it in the past. Next year, once we see how this process works with the City Manager we can then have the conversation about running the same process with City Clerk and City Assessor if they so wish. Mayor Gatt agreed with Member Casey.

**COMMUNICATIONS: None**

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

**ADJOURNMENT** – There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 P.M.

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Cortney Hanson, City Clerk

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Robert J. Gatt, Mayor

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Transcribed by Deborah S. Aubry

Date approved: June 1, 2020