

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NOVI
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2024, AT 7:00 P.M.**

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL: Mayor Fischer, Mayor Pro Tem Casey, Council Members Gurumurthy, Heintz, Smith, Staudt, Thomas

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

CM 24-09-122 Moved by Smith, seconded by Gurumurthy; MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

Mayor Pro Tem Casey added "Older Adults Need Committee recommendation" to the Mayor and Council portion of the agenda.

To approve the agenda as amended.

Roll call vote on CM 24-09-122 **Yeas: Casey, Gurumurthy, Heintz, Smith, Staudt, Thomas, Fischer**
Nays: None

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Proposed Vacation of North Karevich Drive

The public hearing opened at 7:02 pm and closed at 7:03 pm with no public comment.

PRESENTATIONS:

First Quarter Goals Update – City Manager Cardenas stated that the City condensed their goals into three buckets. The three buckets are operate, build and invest. There are 23 total goals and almost half are in progress. For the remainder, the City is in the planning stages for 22% of those and 30% have not started. The biggest thing is the different committees that were either created by the City Council or condensed. Three committees added are Finance and Administration, Public Utilities, and Mobility. Two ad hoc committees added are Environmental Sustainability and the Long-Range Strategic Planning. Six committees were either dissolved or re-organized into one of the new committees (Youth Council Liaison, PRCS Grant Citizen Advisory, Walkable Novi, Roads, Broadband, and Recreation). With respect to fiscal governance, the City is waiting for an RFP evaluation of its healthcare investments that will be due this Friday. This goes back to supporting the current offering for long-term, post-employment benefits for employees. For assessing and creating a Novi Town Center, we have the Townes at Main Street, which is currently under construction. There is The Bond, which is going to add 329 apartments and there is Sakura which is currently under construction as well. Not only are those developments being constructed, but there is also some redevelopment going on. At the

Town Center the facades are being redone. There is the new Michigan State Credit Union on the northwest corner. There are some new restaurants going in like Shake Shack, Houston Hot Chicken and Cane's Chicken will be replacing Wendy's. There is a prior plan from a master plan that is being looked at in the new light of this redevelopment. The City is excited that redevelopment is happening without the City's support in terms of programs or finances. The City will be looking for financing from the CAA to help with lighting because it's not the most sustainable and reliable. The 2023 Road Report Update will address the current PASER condition and should be done this Fall. There were two different goals with respect to having sustainable senior transit. The City has two months of data so far in terms of ridership. It's gone up since People's Express took over in July and the cost has been around \$3,100 to \$4,000. The People's Express has committed to providing data for the 10th of every month. There are plans for Eight Mile and right now the work from Haggerty, just past Meadowbrook Road, is wrapping up. The work west of Meadowbrook to the bridge will be going again next spring and the bridge itself will be going up for bid early in 2025. There are commitments from Wayne County that this is going to get done this year.

Mayor Fischer stated that staff has done an amazing job of supporting Council.

Member Gorumurthy thanked the team for being able to initiate as many goals as possible and said it would be nice to incorporate some kind of prioritization if possible.

CITY MANAGER REPORT: None

ATTORNEY REPORT: None

AUDIENCE COMMENTS:

Dawn Frederick, 50820 Glades Court East, was present to speak about the Nine Mile and Napier intersection. The people who live in that area are concerned about that intersection. If not familiar with it, Napier Road runs north and south and Nine Mile runs east and west, but Nine Mile does not meet up, it is offset. When trying to navigate that intersection people are dealing with traffic coming from Eight Mile and Ten Mile. By the time they get to Nine, they're usually driving 60 miles per hour. There are people trying to turn out onto Napier from Nine Mile and it causes a hazard. There is an issue where if coming north or south on Napier and someone what to turn onto Nine Mile, going east or west, two people end up in the turn lane are head-to-head and not able to see around the other car as they're trying to turn. The other day she was going south on Napier Road and was going to turn east onto Nine Mile when a car coming north on Napier wanted to go west on Nine Mile. She was not able to see around the other driver and was almost hit by another car. She found out there was a head on collision earlier that morning at that same intersection. There have been numerous accidents, and, in the summer of 2023 a young boy was hit while trying to cross Napier on his bike. The more growth that happens in that area, the more dangerous that intersection is becoming. Residents in the area have contacted the Oakland County Road Commission, Lyon Township and people in Novi. It seems that no one wants to take responsibility.

CONSENT AGENDA REMOVALS AND APPROVALS:

CM 24-09-123 Moved by Casey, seconded by Thomas; MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

To approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

- A. Approve Minutes of:
September 9, 2024 - Regular Meeting
- B. Approval of the grant acceptance from the Institute for Responsive Government in the amount of \$30,000.
- C. Approval to award Great Lakes Power and Lighting the Fire Station #4 LED lighting replacement project in the amount of \$37,986.
- D. Approval to purchase twelve (12) sets of protective turnout gear for the Novi Fire Department from Phoenix Safety Outfitters, an authorized dealer for LION, who holds the National Purchasing Partners (NPP) cooperative purchase agreement for \$45,394.20.
- E. Approval to award engineering design services to Spalding DeDecker for the design of East Lake Drive Storm Sewer Improvements, in the amount of \$50,851.
- F. Approval of the final payments to Mattioli Cement Company, LLC for the 2022 and 2023 Neighborhood Road Program – Concrete Streets in the amount of \$42,382.83 and \$76,400.87, respectively, plus interest earned on retainage.
- G. Approval of the request from the property owner at 22168 Beck Road (parcel no. 50-22-33-100-023) for a variance from the Design and Construction Standards in Section 11-256 (b) to dismiss the sidewalk requirement along Beck Road and pay into the City Sidewalk Fund.
- H. Approval of a Street Lighting Purchase Agreement with Detroit Edison Company (DTE) for the installation and ongoing operation cost of one (1) additional decorative light fixture on an existing light post located at the 10 Mile Road entrance of Valencia South Estates Phase 3, and approval of an amendment to the Street Light Agreement with the Valencia South Estates Condominium Association.
- I. Acceptance of a Conservation Easement associated with PBR23-0427 30551 Novi Road Woodland Permit, for property in Section 3, located west of Novi Road, and north of Thirteen Mile Road.
- J. Acceptance of a Conservation Easement associated with JSP19-34: Taft Knolls III for property in Section 22, located north of Ten Mile Road, and east of Taft Road.
- K. Approval of claims and warrants – Warrant 1164

Roll call vote on CM 24-09-123

**Yeas: Gurumurthy, Heintz, Smith, Staudt,
Thomas, Fischer, Casey
Nays: None**

MATTERS FOR COUNCIL ACTION:

- 1. Approve the recommendation from the Consultant Review Committee to approve Plante Moran Realpoint as consultant to assist the City with the construction of new Public Safety Facilities.**

City Manager Cardenas stated that this is the next step in the process that began last year with the work from the Public Safety Needs Committee. After receipt of the public safety feasibility study, the committee directed staff to advise for an owner's representative to be publicized for in an RFP. Staff evaluated four proposals that were submitted. The top two scored firms were presented to the Consultant Review Committee earlier this month. The CRC recommended moving forward with Plante Moran Realpoint. They had an impressive resume in the field representing clients, which was the main factor for the recommendation. Additionally, Realpoint successfully represented the City of Royal Oak with construction of their admissible complex and with Novi Public Schools with the construction of the new metals fifth and sixth grade house and currently with the relocation of the baseball and softball field.

Member Thomas noted that the packet included a list of tasks and fees but requested someone could review what is included in the scope of work. The City Manager responded that if the City Council is in favor of moving forward with Realpoint then the proposed consultant would solidify a scope of work and that could be taken to the Finance Administration Committee for its blessing before moving with the engagement with Realpoint. Brian Weber, plant manager & senior vice president with Realpoint, will be the account manager on the program and he added that the proposal included a range of services, and the intent would be to have the initial kickoff meeting with the appropriate committees and stakeholders to understand exactly what the needs would be and then they can tailor their services and fees. Member Thomas expressed that since she is not part of the process that would have those conversations, she is wondering if that is part of what the Council's looking at doing because there are multiple buildings and multiple buildings that will be vacated. She wants to make sure that this is an all-inclusive project and that they're starting at the beginning and not leaving anything off the table that should be addressed. City Manager Cardenas replied that he did not know where the beginning would be, but he guesses staff would be looking at taking the feasibility study from Redstone, looking at space needs and then working with Plante Moran in terms of evaluating construction costs, then working with the Finance Administration Committee and then determining when there would be an ideal time for an election. If anything in between that needs to be modified, it was on the table and that kickoff is going to help in terms of the process which to secure the necessary consultants, architects and whatnot to help with the process. The big thing is that price point and then determining how much the City needs to plan for in terms of a ballot initiative. Member Thomas said it's tricky for her because multiple buildings are being discussed. She feels like Council needs confirmation that those are the right places. She's

said multiple times that the proposed site for the public safety building doesn't make sense to her and would like to see information on that. There are places where there are proposed fire stations and some there are no proposed fire stations that Council knows a replacement fire station is needed. She wondered if the community as a whole has to be looked at to determine if there is the right number of fire stations. It's important to her moving forward to know what's the current use of the property that's there, what's the possibilities if the current police station is vacated, and consideration of a building that needs to be torn down. She wants to make sure that Council is not only considering what's being built, where it's being built and then what's it going to take to take care of the remnants from the past. When she looked at the task list, she didn't see those items being addressed. She reiterated that she thinks these items should be a part of the scope of work.

Member Staudt stated that the selection of their representative is the beginning a process that starts with them helping plot things out that are necessary. He wants to be clear that this is the staff who is going to provide decisions and suggestions. This isn't a consultant driven type of thing. When at their recent meeting in Kansas, their staff determined their facility needs. He wants their guys to make the final decisions. The role of Realpoint is to help structure the process and help them get the right tools in place. They're not the consultant. Their responsibility is to make sure staff is working with the selected architects and consultants that may provide us with additional information. If the staff feel they don't have enough information to make good decisions, then they can recommend moving down that path. He asked Brian Weber if that is a description of what Realpoint is doing. Mr. Weber responded that Member Staudt was correct and that it is a matter of helping to make sure that the right stakeholders are in the room, and the right questions are being asked. They promote those conversations, the right people are in place, the right order is taken so it can get done in an efficient and timely manner. Member Staudt is confident that starting with the City Manager to the Public Safety Director, they have a good idea of what they think is the appropriate place to put police and fire stations so he will acquiesce to them. What he wants to know is get to the point where they can move forward with a good company in terms of structuring things and when considering a big project like this, there are a lot of moving parts. One piece that is critically important is the selection of an architect. He is confident that this will be organized in a way that is managed by an outside voice that answers the Council. If they have questions, they can call Realpoint to the podium anytime. He is confident that staff will provide Council with much of the information needed to do what is wanted in the end, which is to provide a first class, world class public safety facilities. He sees Realpoint people who are not going to pick what is built but they are going to make the process to build it work.

CM 24-09-124 Moved by Casey, seconded by Thomas: MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

Approval of the recommendation from the Consultant Review Committee to approve Plante Moran Realpoint as consultant to assist the City with the construction of new Public Safety Facilities.

Member Smith stated that he agreed with Member Thomas and would like to see a lot of the up-front work done. He says hopefully, after assuming Council votes to approve hiring Realpoint, they will get feedback on what the scope of work is. He wants to make sure that Council and residents gets all the information, not just the individual subcommittees. This is a gigantic project and it's going to take a buy-in from the City and people need to know what's going on.

Member Gurumurthy wanted to say that in regard to the scope of work, she hopes the team will come back at least once in two months to provide a report to the Council in terms of what they've done because phase one is a 10-month project. It's important for Council to keep focus on where things are so she requests a report out.

Member Heintz stated that for confirmation and understanding, is it the Public Safety Building Needs Committee that's going to be direct and support or make decisions? He's just trying to understand the process or some of the questions brought up by other Council members. The Mayor replied that at this point, the Public Safety Needs Committee has been disbanded. At some point maybe Council will pull together a select group of people. The Mayor sees this on Council's shoulders now. It's the biggest project they've seen in 40 - 50 years. He sees staff reporting to Council as they are the decision makers going forward.

Mayor Pro Tem Casey states that what's clear to her is a deep interest in understanding what the process is and what the next steps are going to be while moving through the process. She addresses Mr. Weber and states that she hopes he heard that clearly because none of them are construction experts. She wants to make sure Mr. Weber understands what Council's expectations are and what's coming next would be helpful. There was an earlier request to have Mr. Weber come back every couple of months and the Mayor Pro Tem asked if was unreasonable to ask him for a monthly update presented to Council and he responded, no it was not. Mr. Weber said the first phase, the first 10 months, is the planning and deep dive to understand exactly what the program needs are. Phase two would kick in with the ballot proposal. Realpoint exists to help communities, school districts and everybody that aren't construction people and the developers' knowledge and understanding that they are on your side and there's no other interest in it other than making sure it is a successful project. He continued to say that he assumed that during the first 10 months they assumed a 10 to 12 committee meetings and if they need to adapt that, they can adjust accordingly. The biggest thing is they'll promote communication and understanding that voices are being heard and they help manage that program. They'll provide timelines and structure everything to go to whatever date. Mayor Pro Tem Casey concluded that it should be planned that it's a monthly update to Council.

Mayor Fischer said that Mr. Cardenas mentioned this proposal going back to the Finance Committee and that it was to have a re-look at the final scope of the project in support of staff. He has no problem if it gets sent in an admin packet to Council before signing on the dotted line. He thinks the best process instead of going back to Finance would be to send it out for all of Council's review where they can make comments and if there's no

comments, then it can be signed on. He thinks it was a good explanation from Mr. Weber regarding phase one and phase two. They have a recommendation from the police chief that he wants to vet out and potentially take it to the voters. He said it's scary for him as a mayor to take on something that's never been done as a city administration, as a council something of this magnitude. He is excited to see them moving forward because for several years now, whether being on a committee to study this or touring the police and fire stations, he knows that the facilities are inadequate, and the workforce deserves better. They say it's a great city, they want the best and it's time to ask the voters if they agree with that mission and vision for Novi and do they want to support this. He likes a lot of the questions that Member Thomas has but doesn't know if all of it will be scoped out before going to the voters. This is where phase two comes in and they will continue to scope and home in on what they're going to do and get the job done from there. He is not of the opinion that they're going to have every aspect answered before taking this to the voters, but they can continue to have those conversations. He thinks a follow up packet to the Council that's more detailed is needed and he wants that on record as far as his understanding and his recommendation moving forward and how to get that on the ballot. He thanked the Public Safety department and the staff that put all the work into this and the Consultant Review Committee for doing a great job vetting these firms.

Member Thomas wanted to clear and thinks they need to make sure 100% that these buildings are going to be in place and it's for a growing community and it's going to have to last for another 50 years. She wants to make sure that the work is done on the front end and that they are making all the best decisions before a shovel is put on the ground because once it's moving, that's it. She doesn't want to have a bunch of buildings that need to be replaced all at the same time.

Roll call vote on CM 24-09-124

**Yeas: Heintz, Smith, Staudt, Thomas, Fischer,
Casey, Gurumurthy**

Nays: None

- 2. Approval of the final payment to Pamar Enterprises, Inc. for the 2022 Asbestos Cement Water Main Replacement Program, in the amount of \$188,511, plus interest earned on retainage.**

CM 24-09-125

Moved by Staudt, seconded by Smith: MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

Approval of the final payment to Pamar Enterprises, Inc. for the 2022 Asbestos Cement Water Main Replacement Program, in the amount of \$188,511, plus interest earned on retainage.

Roll call vote on CM 24-09-125

**Yeas: Smith, Staudt, Thomas, Fischer, Casey,
Gurumurthy, Heintz**

Nays: None

3. Consideration of an award to SysTemp Corporation for the Civic Center and Department of Public Works HVAC automation project in the amount of \$256,698.

City Manager Cardenas stated that this is another step to modernizing the HVAC system.

CM 24-09-126 Moved by Smith, seconded by Thomas: MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

Approval of consideration of an award to SysTemp Corporation for the Civic Center and Department of Public Works HVAC automation project in the amount of \$256,698.

Roll call vote on CM 24-09-126 **Yeas: Staudt, Thomas, Fischer, Casey, Gurumurthy, Heintz, Smith**
Nays: None

4. Approval of a Resolution to vacate North Karevich Drive, which is located between West Oaks Drive and the West Oaks Access Road and convey the vacated road via Quit Claim Deed to the applicant.

Mr. Cardenas stated this is the first step in the process for the development of the proposed Culvers. This is only the consideration of vacating the road between the two West Oaks. Staff have no opposition to this request.

CM 24-09-127 Moved by Casey, seconded by Thomas: MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

Approval of a Resolution to vacate North Karevich Drive, which is located between West Oaks Drive and the West Oaks Access Road and convey the vacated road via Quit Claim Deed to the applicant.

Roll call vote on CM 24-098-127 **Yeas: Thomas, Fischer, Casey, Gurumurthy, Heintz, Smith, Staudt**
Nays: None

5. Consideration of approval at the request of Union Pacific Holdings, LLC for Preliminary Site Plan with a Planned Development Option, Special Land Use and Stormwater Management Plan to construct a Culvers located at the northwest of the corner of Novi Road and West Oaks.

City Manager Cardenas commented that staff is here to answer questions, and the applicant is here to answer questions.

Tyler Smith, with Kimley Horn of Michigan, stated that they already went through the vacation part so they're at the special end use and preliminary site plan with the PD option. They were here recently for the Planning Commission, and they have recommended approval to Kimley Horn. Also, with him is Mike Sabrosky of Oliver Hatcher Construction, and Charles Paisley with Union Pacific Holdings who is the applicant. The

approval from the Planning Commission had conditions with which they have revised their plans accordingly already. This is actually three separate parcels that are supposed to be combined into one parcel in the end. Summary of the benefits to the City include the developer taking responsibility for future maintenance of the vacated Karevich Drive which includes landscaping and estimated \$20-\$30,000 per year in maintenance cost savings for the City, the developer agrees to a 2" mill and overlay of Karevich Drive and proposed sidewalk, signage, benches & landscaping. Initially there were concerns about the traffic flows through the site specifically at Novi Road with left turns.

The intention is for traffic to come in from the West Oaks Drive existing curb cut and flow north throughout the property or rotate to West Oaks Drive where there's an intersection and less concerns with left turns on to West Oaks Drive to Novi Road. There is an offsite agreement for the sanitary and sewer extension which all three parties have agreed upon.

Mayor Pro Tem Casey asked City Attorney Schultz if this moves forward, does it goes back to the Planning Commission or does Council see it again. Mr. Schultz responded that this is part of the process where City Council is exercising its discretion on whether or not it wants the project to go forward, and the next step is administrative for the final cycle. The Mayor Pro Tem then stated that her most significant concern is the traffic, specifically northbound Novi Road turning left into West Oaks. She asked Mr. Weber to explain the signage in the area. Mr. Weber said that by the existing curb cut across from Twelve Oaks Mall is a way of finding signs that says Culver's Drive as well as a Value City sign. He stated that the site plan indicated that there will be signage and pavement markings that will direct most of the traffic to and away from the site. Mayor Pro Tem reiterated that people who come in for the drive-thru are going to be directed north and Mr. Weber responded, yes. Mayor Pro Tem then asked if they were talking about making a no left turn out of the driveway on West Oak or is the issue solved by directing drive-thru traffic people specifically. Mr. Weber responded that the traffic study approved for full access. Mayor Pro Tem asked if Mr. Weber knew if the restaurant's customers were going to be mostly sit down or drive-thru and he responded that he was told that 60% of customers are expected to use the drive-thru. Mayor Pro Tem commented that she was concerned about how close the curb cutout was to Novi Road and asked if it was known how close it was to Novi Road and what kind of concerns they might have about traffic stacking up on West Oaks as people are trying to turn in. Mr. Weber replied that it was a concern for serviceability when the traffic study was done. Mayor Pro Tem then asked how many spots they did have stacking in the drive-thru and Mr. Weber replied that whatever it was it was the City standard, 15 cars in two lanes. Mayor Pro Tem then asked in regard to people who want to turn on West Oaks, the driveway can stack three to four cars trying to turn left and wanted to know if there a possibility that it could be five or six cars. Mr. Weber replied that it could be more.

PART 1

CM 24-09-128

Moved by Staudt, seconded by Casey: MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

Approval at the request of Union Pacific Holdings, LLC for JSP23-37 Culvers, for Special Land Use based on and subject to the following:

- 1. The proposed use will not cause any detrimental impact on existing thoroughfares based on Traffic review;**
- 2. The proposed use will not cause any detrimental impact on the capabilities of public services and facilities based on Engineering review;**
- 3. The proposed use is compatible with the natural features and characteristics of the land because there are no regulated natural features on site;**
- 4. The proposed use is compatible with adjacent uses of land because the proposed use is similar to other nearby restaurants with drive-thrus;**
- 5. The proposed use is consistent with the goals, objectives, and recommendations of the City's Master Plan for Land Use as it fulfills one of the Master Plan objectives to attract new businesses within City of Novi;**
- 6. The proposed use will promote the use of land in a socially and economically desirable manner as it fulfills one of the Master Plan objectives to attract new businesses within City of Novi;**
- 7. The proposed use is (1) listed among the provision of uses requiring special land use review as set forth in the various zoning districts of this Ordinance, and (2) is in harmony with the purposes and conforms to the applicable site design regulations of the zoning district in which it is located;**
- 8. The proposed use is (1) listed among the provision of uses requiring special land use review as set forth in the various zoning districts of this Ordinance, and (2) is in harmony with the purposes and conforms to the applicable site design regulations of the zoning district in which it is located.**
- 9. City Council's determination to vacate North Karevich Drive and that the appropriate agreements are put in place prior to final administrative approval of the site plan to maintain access to the property to the north.**

This motion is made because the plan is otherwise in compliance with Article 3, Article 4, Article 5, and Article 6 of the Zoning Ordinance and all other applicable provisions of the Ordinance.

Roll call vote on CM 24-09-128

Yeas: Fischer, Casey, Gurumurthy, Heintz,
Smith, Staudt, Thomas

Nays: None

PART 2

CM 24-09-129

Moved by Casey, seconded by Staudt: MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

Approval at the request of Union Pacific Holdings, for JSP23-37 Culver's for Preliminary Site Plan with a PD-2 Option, and Stormwater Management Plan approval, based on and subject to the following:

- 1. City Council finding that the standards of Section 3.31.4 of the Zoning Ordinance are adequately addressed, as identified in the Planning Review Letter;**
- 2. The following ordinance deviations, which are hereby granted:**
 - i. Deviation from Section 3.31.7.B.v.a, the use conditions for fast food drive-thru under PD-2 Option as listed that requires a minimum distance of 1,000 feet between a proposed independently freestanding restaurant from any other such use on the same side of the street. The proposed restaurant is less than 1,000 feet from the Carabba's to the south.**
 - ii. Deviation from Section 4.19.2.F for allowing a dumpster in the exterior side yard due to site shape and size and multiple road frontages.**
 - iii. Landscape deviation from Section 5.5.3.B.ii and iii for lack of berm or wall along both Novi Road and West Oaks Drive due to site shape and size and multiple road frontages.**
 - iv. Landscape deviation from Section 5.5.3.B.ii and iii for deficient perimeter depth between the west drive and the west property line, as this is an existing condition;**
 - v. Landscape deviation from Section 5.5.3.B.ii for deficiency in sub-canopy trees along West Oaks Drive.**
 - vi. Deviation from Section 11-216 of the Code of Ordinances, Design Considerations, for the deficient driveway turning radius where the mountable concrete median is proposed to accommodate emergency and other large vehicles.**
 - vii. Section 9 Façade waiver for underage of brick and overage of wood-grained composite siding.**
- 3. City Council's determination to vacate North Karevich Drive and that the appropriate agreements are put in place prior to final administrative approval of the site plan to maintain access to the property to the north.**

Member Staudt comments that he was excited about having a Culver's coming to Novi as it's a world class restaurant and highly desirable in Michigan.

Roll call vote on CM 24-09-129

**Yeas: Casey, Gurumurthy, Heintz, Smith, Staudt,
Thomas, Fischer,**

Nays: None

CONSENT AGENDA REMOVALS: None

AUDIENCE COMMENT: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Consultant Review Committee – already discussed
2. Public Utilities and Technology Committee

Member Thomas stated that the committee met with fiber internet professionals to learn how to attract providers to the community. They learned about population density and take rates which influence a company's business case for investment. They also discussed open opportunities that may exist for collaboration between the City and service providers. Next meeting is October 22nd at 5:30 but that might change so check the calendar.

3. Environmental Sustainability Committee

Member Smith stated that at the last meeting they discussed their pillars of sustainability. They are still the ideation phase of this large topic. The pillars will be efficiency, clean energy, sustainable infrastructure, environmental preservation and community engagement. The next upcoming event will Pumpkin Fest. Finally, they discussed steps to bring a pilot program for Novi's version of Solarized Project. Next meetings are the 15th at 5:30 and the 29th at 5:30.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL ISSUES:

1. Napier & 9 Mile Road Intersection

Member Staudt said he was alerted to some issues related to this intersection. Over time he has made multiple trips over there and experienced firsthand intersections, which is highly dangerous. It's a complicated area because it's owned by the Oakland County Road Commission and it's their responsibility. The Council would have to work with Lion Township and the Road Commission to find a solution. He doesn't see anything that should prevent this from being a high priority. He has seen multiple accidents there. It's time to make this intersection a priority. There is no data or accident reports, but he can see the danger just standing there with cars coming from both Nine Mile locations going 55 to 70 miles per hour with limited visibility. The intersection is a nightmare. He doesn't know where the funding is going to come from. He sent an email to the City Manager, the Mayor, and two of the County commissioners. Commissioner Markum forwarded the email to the Road Commission, and they did get a response from them. They said they're collecting information and looking at alternatives for something and sounds like a

roundabout. It's on their radar but the definitive words are there's no funding and no plan for execution in the future. Member Staudt thinks it their responsibility to continue to push for a resolution. He thinks when the Road Commission paved that road, they created a high-speed risk in an area that is getting more saturated with development on the Lion Township side. There are new developments going up all along between 8 Mile and 10 Mile. It's just a matter of time where there is a tragedy. He's asking his colleagues from the Council, City staff, and the County Commission to get together and figure out a solution to because it's something that needs to be dealt with.

Mayor Fischer stated that Member Staudt did a great job articulating and bringing this up to make sure Council is aware of it. He thinks it would be helpful if City Manager Cardenas shared the completed County report with the City Council and if staff could summarize the issues at the intersection and if there's any brainstorming on short-term solutions in lieu of funding at this point. He thinks Member Staudt is correct and everyone needs to work together, staff, elected officials here locally and at the county level to get a better, longer-term solution. Whether because of paving, increased density and development, the situation is not getting better, just worse. He wants to be proactive when they can. They know there's an issue, so he wants to get ahead of it. The Mayor feels that in the past, they used to get a traffic study about the top intersections. He didn't know if that's not being passed to Council or if money needs to be appropriated to get something like that done. He thinks it would be helpful for data-driven decisions to have something like that. The City Manager stated that he thinks they just received a report from the TIA. The Mayor asked to have what they've gotten in the past and try to resurrect that process to help everyone understand the intersections and help the Council prioritize. He wants the Mobility Committee to see the report as well.

2. Older Adult Need Committee Recommendation

Mayor Pro Tem talked about a previous presentation from the Older Adult Need Committee and their recommendations. She would like Council to consider taking the first step on one of them and that was that City Council establish a commission on older adults with the staff liaison being the serving Older Adult Services manager. If she understands the process, what has been done in the past is the Rules Committee would be tasked defining what the organizational structure and the rules would be for a new Council appointed committee. She believes that she'd be seeking support from the Council to have a Council direct the Rules Committee to take a look at establishing a commission to take a look at establishing a commission on older adults. The Mayor commented that they should go ahead and see that as a referral to the Rules Committee and get that meeting set up.

COMMUNICATIONS: None

ADJOURNMENT – There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:07 P.M.

Cortney Hanson, City Clerk

Justin Fischer, Mayor

Transcribed by Becky Dockery,
Account Clerk

Date approved: October 14, 2024