

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NOVI
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 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
Thomas Schultz, City Attorney

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Member Staudt said he would like to add "Meadowbrook Road Speed Limit" to Mayor and Council Issues.

CM 24-02-19 Moved by Smith, seconded by Casey; MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

To approve the Agenda as amended.

Roll call vote on CM 24-02-19

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

Nays: None

PUBLIC HEARINGS: None

PRESENTATIONS:

Assessing Presentation - Jan Ziozios, Deputy Assessor

Deputy Assessor Ziozios introduced herself and explained she has been serving as the Interim Assessor for the past 19 months. She said she has 25 years of real estate experience and came from the fee appraisal world. She said she would provide a bird's eye view of the Assessing Department and what they do. The Assessor's primary responsibility is to annually inventory all taxable property within the city and to develop the true cash value, market value, of the property for the purpose of equitable distribution of the property tax burden. She said in Assessing, equitable and uniformity are extremely important. She said her team takes great pride in trying to strive to be equitable, uniform and fair in the tax assessments. The assessment role is something that takes place all year long and is the foundation of the City's budget. Nearly 70% of revenue for the general fund is from property tax revenue. She spoke about assessed value, which is 50% of market value. State equalized value is sort of synonymous with assessed value but is actually the final values after they've been approved at all levels. She explained that assessed value is always based on market value and developed on sales studios. Taxable value is simply a calculation. She spoke about property transfers and how uncapping works. She noted that taxable value can never be higher than assessed value. She said they often get to explain the uncapping process when a person buys a home from someone who has lived there for a long time. The taxable value of the seller will be low on the assessed value but

higher for the new owner. That surprises people so they try to explain it. She spoke about Headlee Rollback and how if the average increase in taxable value in a taxing jurisdiction exceeds the rate of inflation, the millage must be reduced. It is a permanent reduction, unless voters approve a Headlee Override to return the rate to the original millage rate.

Deputy Assessor Ziozios said they build the assessment roll all year long and explained some of the tasks her staff does. She recognized her staff and said they were very passionate about keeping things uniform and educating taxpayers. The most important tasks the office handles are administering tax law, uniform assessments, and educating taxpayers. She spoke about the various tasks staff handles throughout the year as well as statistics on those tasks. She said one thing she thinks is very important is transparency and education. At their office they provide a pamphlet to taxpayers that explains the different capping situations and how the tax process works. There is a lot of information on the City website, including sales data, so they are transparent.

Mayor Fischer thanked Deputy Assessor Ziozios for the work she's done and stepping up for the Interim Assessor roll.

Member Staudt said he follows the number of cases in the tax tribunal. He asked how many there were. Deputy Assessor Ziozios said there may have been about 15 for the year.

MANAGER/STAFF REPORT:

City Manager Cardenas addressed a Council policy due to the number of messages they've received from companies or religious groups. Last year the City Council chose to amend its rules to cease the issuance of any kind of proclamation or statements in support of any individual or entity. Novi remains a community that embraces love, humanity, and diversity but in light of some of those instances and adverse reactions to past Council resolutions or proclamations, the City Council determined that it was better not to involve itself in things that don't have involvement in day-to-day operation of the city. By refraining from those sort of proclamations and resolutions, the Council is able to remain focused on the matters that it actually has purview over as described in the City's Charter. He reiterated that they've received a lot of messages asking for different types of support for various things, but he wanted to explain why City Council chose to make that determination last year.

City Manager Cardenas said the Water and Sewer Department had closed Wixom Road from 10 Mile to 11 Mile for about four to six weeks. Staff has notified Catholic Central, Novi Schools, and residents of Island Lake.

ATTORNEY REPORT: None

AUDIENCE COMMENTS:

Allen Reynolds, 24905 Reeds Pointe, said he's been a resident for over 30 years. He said a water backup occurred in their community on December 2nd and January 2nd. He said he estimated the losses would exceed \$500,000. He said people may not realize that water damage is not typically covered by homeowner's insurance. He said he and some other residents were going to meet with the City Manager to make a few requests. He said the phone system recording says that Novi is the number one rated city in the state of Michigan and now is a great opportunity to demonstrate that by showing your support and communication.

Dave Clark, a Novi resident, said he's asking for the City to put in an eight foot wide dock at Pavilion Park. He is trying to start a program to give veterans a day on the lake where boaters can take a veteran and their family out for a ride or have a picnic at Pavilion Park. He said he is changing his pontoon to be able to take a handicap veteran, perhaps with a wheelchair. A wide dock would allow for easier loading. He hoped they would give this consideration because some veterans just sit in their home and never get a chance to do something like this.

Noor Abdelhag, 45788 Irvine Dr., said she has been a Novi resident for 16 years. She said she stood before them to advocate for a crucial cause, a plea for peace and ceasefire in Gaza. The ongoing conflict has brought immense suffering to innocent civilians, destroying lives and shattering dreams. In this critical moment, we have to rise. We must rise above political differences and recognize the human toll of violence. Children, families, and civilians are bearing the brunt of this conflict. It is our moral duty to call for an immediate end to bloodshed. Over 27,000 people have been killed in the last 121 days. To put that in context, Little Caesar's Arena holds 20,000 people. She said the daily death rate in Gaza is higher than any other major 21st century conflict with 20 Palestinians killed per day. She said there's an even greater threat to life beyond direct casualties from hunger, dehydration, and disease. Of the 27,000 dead, 11,500 are children. She had a list of the dead and that didn't include the thousands of people who have been injured, burned, maimed, or lost under the rubble. She said ceasefire is not a sign of weakness, it's an act of strength demonstrating our commitment to the wellbeing of all people involved. It provides a chance for dialogue and diplomacy, allowing diplomatic solutions to emerge and fostering an environment conducive to lasting peace. She said we cannot afford to let this cycle of violence persist, jeopardizing the lives and future of future generations to come. She implored leaders and civilians alike to empathize with the pain and suffering of those caught in the crossfire. A cycle of retaliation only perpetuates a never-ending cycle of misery. A ceasefire is the first step toward breaking this cycle and opening avenues for dialogue and understanding. Our shared humanity transcends borders and political affiliations. She said by calling for a ceasefire, we affirm our commitment to a world where conflicts are resolved through dialogue, compassion, and understanding, rather than through violence and destruction. Let us stand together as a community and make our voices heard. It's time to prioritize the sanctity of human life over political agendas. She said a ceasefire in Gaza is not just a call for peace, it's a call for humanity to prevail. She said she prays that their collective plea for a ceasefire echoes across borders, reaching the hearts and minds of those with the power to make

a difference. She said together they can build a path toward a more peaceful and harmonious world.

Farah Baig, 23169 Inverness Ct., said she is an educator and a mother of four. She said she was there to voice her strong support for a ceasefire resolution. She said the website states the Mayor and City Council serve the community as part-time volunteers without benefits. It states they serve as the part of a civic responsibility and works towards the betterment of the entire Novi community. She applauded them for their dedication and service. She said they may be asking what this resolution has to do with the betterment of the Novi community. She said it has everything to do with the citizens of Novi. We as a community represent individuals from a wide variety of backgrounds, but more importantly, citizens of Novi are part of a larger humanity and if a portion of that humanity is experiencing a crisis, then we feel it in our hearts and minds in the local community. She said they are seeing an immeasurable humanitarian crisis. She said her statistics show over 13,000 children have been killed and over 2 million people have been displaced and are living as refugees with no viable plan to return to their homes. She said she saw an image of a school bus with the caption that it would take 177 buses to carry the Palestinian children killed. That number is over three times the number of children served by the Novi Community School District's transportation system. She said let us remember that each human life is a value and it's our responsibility as humans to stand up and stop the loss of life. This ceasefire resolution would be a first step in demonstrating that the City of Novi stands with the women and children who have suffered beyond imagination.

Sara Mashkoor, 26433 Mandalay Circle, stated that it has been more than 100 days and seventy-five years of the slaughtering of innocent children, men, and women; with UNICEF calling Gaza a 'graveyard of children.' She continued that it has been more than 100 days of dropping 2,000-pound bombs hundreds of times on the very same spaces where families were crammed to seek shelter. More than 100 days of burning children's flesh down to the bone by using illegal white phosphorus. More than one hundred days of destroying 400,000 homes to rubble and forcibly displacing 2 million people to camps with no living conditions, which are later bombed. More than 100 days of destroying 320 schools. So, the children of Gaza are completely deprived of any form of education, ensuring lost generations. She continued, that there have been more than 100 days of decimations of every hospital with doctors, nurses, and patients inside of them that were systematically targeted so that the injured and sick would succumb to their wounds and die slow and painful deaths. There have been more than 100 days of denying aid trucks to enter so that the civilian population was denied food and water to ensure the mass starvation of 2.3 million people; which accounts for nine out of ten people sleeping in Gaza without a single meal on a given day. She continued, that there have been more than 100 days of killing hundreds of journalists, so the atrocities being committed are never reported. As well as destroying 169 press offices while banning uncensored foreign journalists from entering Gaza. There have been more than 100 days of destroying the oldest churches, mosques, and universities to rubble to erase a people's culture. There have been more than 100 days of desecrating graveyards by opening up the graves and raising caskets. There have been more than 100 days of sniping women sheltering in churches and children holding white flags, murdering them in front of their parents. More

than 100 days of mothers being forced to undergo C-sections and amputating patients' limbs without anesthesia. There have been more than 100 days of creating 25,000 orphans. Creating a generation of traumatized children without parents. She added that she stood before the Council with a heavy heart that was burdened by the ongoing atrocities occurring in Gaza. The violence and suffering inflicted upon innocent civilians demand our attention and action. She urged the Council to pass a resolution condemning the genocide in Gaza and called for an immediate ceasefire. She said that we must use our collective voice to demand an end to the violence to advocate for the protection of civilian lives and to stop using taxpayer money to fund a genocide.

Rida Salim, 26433 Mandalay Circle, stated that the audience came to the Council meeting because our city is a microcosm of the world. She expressed that our commitment to addressing global issues such as the genocide in Gaza, would set an example for others to follow. She believes that by tackling challenges that seem distant, we contribute to a collective effort for a better, more interconnected world. She stated that there is no lack of knowledge regarding the atrocities the civilians of Gaza are facing. She continued that she would like to personally ask and convince each of the Councilmembers to support a ceasefire. She addressed Mayor Fischer and said that in his campaign for Mayor, public safety for Novi was one of his top priorities. She added that he recognizes the importance of first responders for public safety and that in Gaza there is a critical shortage of first responders. She said a significant number of those people on the front lines, in Gaza, are not first responders but are children. She added that this absence of emergency response imposes a direct threat to the safety of the people in Gaza. She expressed that as public safety in Novi is prioritized, we must keep in our minds and hearts the people of Gaza and the people of Palestine. She addressed Councilmembers Staudt and Heintz and recalled that in their campaign they emphasized the program to support strong women. She stated that in Gaza, women face exacerbated challenges. She added that instances of gender-based violence and restricted access to essential healthcare resources are alarmingly prevalent. She expressed that as we advocate for empowering programs in Novi, we should also stand in solidarity with the women and children of Gaza, working towards a world where all women can thrive, free from violence and inequality. She addressed Councilman Smith and stated that in his campaign he discussed the importance of infrastructure in the future of Novi that will withstand the increasingly frequent storms without leaving residents in the dark and with flooded streets and basements. She testified that Gaza's infrastructure has been devastated due to relentless bombings, leaving its residents grappling with dire consequences. She continued that the destruction not only hampers the daily lives of the people but also cripples the chances of building a resilient future. She asked that as we prioritize infrastructure and healthcare and programs for women in Novi, we also acknowledge the urgent need for rebuilding and fortifying essential structures in Gaza, fostering a global perspective on sustainable development. She declared that she stood before the Council with the rest of the audience to urge the Council to hold true to their values, even in global affairs. She asked of the Councilmembers to use their platform to be a voice for those who don't have a voice and for the millions of orphans, women, and civilians of Palestine. She asked the Council to vote in favor of a ceasefire.

Kazi Afzal, 48160 Andover Drive, stated that his talk with the Council focuses on an important cause that has been touched on by the past few speakers of the community. He exclaimed that it is crucial that we appreciate what we have here, and the ceasefire resolution that some of the speakers proposed. He added that the attendees of the Council meeting are residents and voters. He added that the attendees are all united in seeking and standing against the discrimination of people of all backgrounds who are affected by the conflict, whether those people be Muslim, Jewish, Christian, Arab, or Semitic. He continued that the ceasefire resolution the attendees seek is advocating a stand against hate and discrimination and represents more than a political statement. He told the Council that it is a reassurance that they are constituents who judge the safety of the people and value inclusion. He directed the attention to the PowerPoint slides he provided. He noted that the slide shows a shrinking map of Palestine from 1946 to 2012. He explained how the green area of the map represented Palestine land and the white represents Israel. He added that you can barely find any green area in 2012, and asked the audience to think of what the map looks like now. He stated that the size of Gaza is only 141 square miles with a population of 2.3 million people. He compared that number to Oakland County with 907 square miles and half of that population. He stated that people in Palestine have fled and lived under appetite and in full occupation of open-air prisons. He asked why we need to spend tax dollars supporting unjust causes when the money could be used here locally. He added that Michigan and Novi need financial help for schools, the healthcare system, roads, and transportation. He noted that Palestinians have lived under occupation for 75 years where food, water, electricity, and daily necessities are restricted, for everybody amounting to almost 5.6 million refugees. He continued that the ICGN US Federal Court declared that the Israel war on Gaza plausibly amounts to genocide. He added that the number of people killed in Gaza when he prepared his presentation, two days before, was 28,000 and the number of deceased is now 35,000 and 60,000 injured. He added that all the hospitals except for two are bombed and that those two may not be still standing. He explained that the percentage of journalists being killed is the highest in any war history. He stated that a kindergarten was bombed the same morning and that it would likely be called 'Hamas'. He urged the Council that most Americans are calling for a ceasefire and that he would like for this to be not a political choice, but a moral choice. He mentioned that a ceasefire is not just the right thing to do, but a step to ensure everyone in the community feels safe.

Yusuf Qamruzzaman, 20830 Normandy, said he has lived in Novi since 1979 and is now raising his family here. He explains that one of the reasons he loves Novi is for the diverse community. He explained that some of the people in the audience had most likely never even been to a Council Meeting, but the atrocity in Gaza has unified the community to come and show their support through the political process like they have never done before. He added that there are people in the audience of the Jewish, Christian, and Muslim communities all united in support of this issue. He said that Council Rules, section 8c, says that "Things that are important to the community and things of special interest are things that City Council will vote for. If the Council has made a decision not to vote for certain things, they can change that and they can vote for things that are important for the City." He expressed to the Council that this is an important topic and there has

never been a group, like the one in the audience, to come to the City Council for this type of topic. He implored the Council to please consider changing that rule, and to vote for a ceasefire resolution for Gaza.

Renay Nafal, spoke in support of a ceasefire resolution. She stated that she was going to explain, as a community member, why it is important that the people in the audience were at the meeting to speak. She explained that she is a first-generation Palestinian in America, and it was not always easy to grow up here with that background. She explained that you can see all the reports from Gaza through social media and on your phones and that it is depressing and upsetting to mental health. She added that aside from all of the other important things the room has heard, the number of people who have been killed is almost half of the population of Novi. She explained that Novi is about 66,000 people and that in the past four months, 30,000 have been killed in just four months. She invited everyone to imagine no more kids, schools, churches, mosques, temples, and a destroyed community. She added that as a Christian she has fears and discomfort in her community talking about who she is and where she comes from. She said she couldn't imagine what it is like for her Jewish and Muslim friends at this time because of the hate crimes. She asked that the Council think of the community and wellness, security, and mental health. She asked the Council to call for a ceasefire for the occurring tragedy.

Avi Tachna-Fram, 22279 Brockshire Street, spoke in favor of the ceasefire resolution before the Council. He opened his statements by explaining he is a Jewish resident and a year ago received photos from his grandmother of his family as they got off the train taking them to Auschwitz. He said that for people who are undergoing genocide, there is a specific look in their eyes that is of fear, depression, hatred, and unforgettable. He explained that more than anything it is described as a look of vacancy in their eyes knowing that their entire community, family, school, place of worship, friends, and everything they knew is gone. He said this is what he sees in the eyes of the Palestinians during this horrific genocide. He expressed that the people surviving the bombings in Palestine are coming home to no home; Their friends and children have been killed, and their schools, religious institutions, churches, mosques, and universities no longer exist. He expressed that the ceasefire resolution is to say that the City of Novi stands against genocide. He further expressed that it says Novi stands for humanity rather than genocide, and peace rather than war. He acknowledged that anytime violence is enacted anywhere in the world, it emboldens those who wish to do violence everywhere else and anytime people take a stand against the violence committed against anyone, anywhere, it tells people everywhere that this is not okay. He declared that it is not okay to commit hate crimes, bombs, and murder. He said that the ceasefire resolution would tell the world and the people of Novi that we stand for humanity and peace.

Arita Zaman, 24411 Surfside Road, said she would speak about the ceasefire resolution specifically from the local level. She explained that she knew that if Novi passed the ceasefire resolution, nothing would immediately happen in Gaza. However, she still felt as though there were many reasons it should be introduced. She went on to explain the first reason being that it would help create pressure on our federal government. She

explained that everyday people like herself and others are contacting their representatives and senators asking them to take action with the ceasefire agreement. She explained that there has been little to no action or response from those representatives. She mentioned that if the City of Novi agreed to pass a ceasefire resolution, the representatives and senators would see it, and see that it is what their constituents want. She explained her second reason being that passing the ceasefire is an opportunity for the Council to show that they listen to their constituents and people of the community. She noted that the Council's decision will be taken into consideration for the ballot. She expressed her last reason for passing the ceasefire being that it would cement Novi as well as other neighboring communities standing on the right side of history. She expressed that we are watching a manmade catastrophe happening on an unprecedented level. She noted that all of these cities should not be silent when witnessing children without limbs, families in freezing tents, and mothers giving birth on the streets. She reiterated that for those reasons, she requested the City Council to pass a resolution calling for a ceasefire in Palestine.

Sarah Ansari said she is 15 years old and has lived in Novi for three-and-a-half years. She discussed the Muslim community at large, and her experience and sense of safety at Novi High School where the Muslim population is limited. She explains that she is one of the few girls who wear a scarf or Hijab causing a heightened sense of vulnerability. She added that there has recently been a surge in hate crimes and briefly described a story of an assault on a young girl solely due to her religious affiliation. She added that it is imperative to recognize that children do not develop harmful ideas in isolation. She referenced the media portrayal of events such as referring to the City of Dearborn as 'America's Jihad Capital' and labeling pro-Palestine as 'anti-Israel' and 'pro-Hamas' protests. She continued by explaining these narratives contribute to distorted perceptions of Muslims among the uninformed, fostering an environment conducive to ignorance and prejudice. She closed her statements by urging the Council to address these misconceptions, mitigate the root causes of discrimination within the community, and advocate for the ceasefire resolution.

Yousif Ansari, 40620 Camborne Lane said he was a Novi High School Student. He stated that 70 years ago, 6 million innocent people were wiped off the face of the earth and the world watched. He continued that after that horrific event, everyone repeated 'never again.' He believes everyone who said that phrase was on the right side of history, however, today it's evident that we have not lived up to the phrase. He states that words nowadays are just shields to cover up for our inability to act, even though actions always speak louder than words. He goes on to say that since October 7th, 2023, history has been repeating itself and that we have learned nothing from history. He states that we're allowing the death of over 30,000 innocent civilians in Gaza, and over two-thirds of those deaths alone are children who had nothing to do with this and are paying the ultimate price of Israel's genocide. He explains that we come home to a beautiful house, warm meals, and our families intact whereas Gaza must wake up every day wondering whether they will have a home to come back to, have a meal at all, or if they can even see their parents again or not. He asked how we can be passive and watch one of the most powerful militaries on earth funded by the most powerful nation on earth fund a

genocide. He began to discuss the moral compass of taxpayer money being distributed to the events in Gaza, and not towards the benefit of the community. He asked the Council whether they would be among those who found and stood with the truth before the rest of the world. He followed by asking if we were going to sit around idly while a genocide took place. He closed his statements by saying 'When we said 70 years ago, 'never again' let us make it our first priority to call for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza so that we can stand with the oppressed and stand on the right side of history.' Yusif thanked the Council.

Mona Kahn, a resident of Novi, said she would like to bring the events occurring in Palestine to attention. She stated there are houses, hospitals, and many more buildings being bombed day and night, and as a community, we should raise our voices and demand to ceasefire. She gave a statement regarding the percentage of people who have been killed, forced to leave their homes, not getting food, fuel, or medical supplies, and the people in open-air prisons where basic necessities like clean water and electricity are scarce. She identified the youth who make up most of the population and are now being denied a future. She states that if we don't stop this war right now, it threatens the peace and the security of the region for many years to come and that this is not a matter we can turn a blind eye to as this is not the American way. She urged the City to call a ceasefire immediately.

Cam, 23979 Broadmoor Park Lane, stated to the Council that passing a ceasefire resolution is the barest of bare minimum. He added that lawyers and legal experts around the world have stated that what Israel is doing is genocidal. He mentioned that by passing a ceasefire resolution the residents of Novi can be shown that their voice is cared about by representatives and that the representatives understand that what is going on in Gaza is affecting people here. He went on to discuss the use of taxpayer money to kill innocent citizens. He asked the City of Novi to divest and put the money towards the better of lives and not the destruction of them.

Mohammed Fahad, a second-grade student and Novi resident took to the podium to discuss his thoughts on the kids suffering from severe pain in Gaza. He stated there is bombing and destruction and displacement and loss of lives. He added that people have lost their schools and families, and lack access to water, food, and medicines. He called the situation in Gaza intense and painful and called for an immediate ceasefire. He adds that at least, they should be getting food and medical supplies, and the hospitals should be protected. He reminded everyone that children want to play, learn, and be safe. He said they wanted a ceasefire so that these children have a chance to live a better life. He adds that he supports Gaza, because he supports humanity, and the people of Gaza need a chance to rebuild and heal. He briefly discusses the doctors and journalists being killed. He stated that he expected courage, strength, and wisdom from the leaders of the United States to call for an immediate ceasefire, to save the world, and to save humanity.

Rania Fad, a fifth-grade student and Novi resident stood before the audience and introduced herself. She explained that the speakers are not there for religion or faith but

for humanity and peace. She discussed the children who are innocent yet being bombed and killed. She added that they are losing their limbs, parents, schools, homes, colleges, markets, and even hospitals which are all being destroyed. She discussed the conditions in which people are in severe hunger and have no medicine and asked for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza. She adds that the Palestinians should be provided with basic needs such as food, medical supplies, electricity, internet, and shelter. She said that an immediate ceasefire is wanted to stop oppression and maintain peace in the whole world. She offered that Palestine deserves our support because they have been struggling for a long time and deserve to be treated equally and with respect, that this is about basic rights. She stated that we need to work together to create a more just and peaceful world for all.

Dema, a third-grade student, took to the podium and introduced herself. She wanted to speak about how Gaza's innocent children are suffering and more than 27,000 have died. She added that the surviving have no food, medical supplies, or beds and they do not deserve this. She stated that Gaza is starving and burning. She requested that the leaders of the United States call a ceasefire as it makes her very uncomfortable to see them suffering. We should make our world a better place to live and support humanity regardless of race, religion, or region, she said. She added that no bombing and killing should be accepted. She reiterated that she is asking for a ceasefire.

A member of the audience said that he was prepared to discuss the statistics and sufferings in Gaza, but that had been eloquently shared already. He redirected to the earlier comments of the City Manager, Victor Cardenas, regarding the City Council not passing resolutions on geopolitical issues or commentary. He added that he is appealing to the Council's humanity and wishes for them to reconsider. The man stated that this is a very important moment in history. He said that the small children, who have spoken at the meeting, hearts have been hurt by the distress that they are seeing day in and day out. He stated that the leaders of our country are complicit with what is happening in Gaza, and that is very frustrating for the citizens of this country, especially being taxpayers and not being heard. The man continued that the situation in Gaza will have a great effect on the whole community and if the Council did not take the time to address it, it is an impassioned plea from the citizens in Novi. He added that some of those citizens were before the Council at the meeting, and some are not there, but appealing to them in absence to pass the resolution. He addressed the Mayor and Council and added that he knows their wisdom and thought process in considering this appeal will be judged by the citizens of Novi, and that this moment will be forever recorded in history. He continued that once again; they want to appeal to the Council. He stated that what's happening in Gaza is beyond anybody's imagination, and that we are in the 21st century. He said that our country is sponsoring this war, we should feel a huge amount of regret, and it is very stressful to sit side and watch this happen. He stated to Council that he would like to appeal to their humanity to take this as an exception, to the previously mentioned Council rule, and pass the resolution.

CONSENT AGENDA REMOVALS AND APPROVALS:

CM 24-02-20 Moved by Casey, seconded by Thomas; MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

To approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

- A. Approve Minutes of:
January 22, 2024 - Regular Meeting
- B. Approval to award engineering design services to AECOM for the 2024 Capital Preventative Maintenance program, in the amount of \$52,254.56.
- C. Approval of the final payment to DiPonio Contracting, LLC for the Howell's Walled Lake Subdivision Water Main Replacement, Street Repaving & Sanitary Sewer Repair project, in the amount of \$73,287.76, plus interest earned on retainage.
- D. Approval to purchase night vision goggles for the Novi Police Department's Special Response Team (SRT) in the amount \$74,706 from Night Vision Devices (NVD) through the West Bloomfield Township awarded bid.
- E. Consideration of Ordinance No. 24-124.20, an Ordinance to Amend the City of Novi Code of Ordinances, at Chapter 11, "Design and Construction Standards", and consideration of Ordinance Nos. 24-106.05 and 24-168.02, Ordinances to Amend the City of Novi Code of Ordinances at Chapter 12, "Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance", to meet the requirements of the City's Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System Permit issued by the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy. **SECOND READING**
- F. Approval of Amendment to Agreement with Medstar for EMS Services
- G. Approval of Introduction of Ordinance 24-156.06, an ordinance to amend Chapter 2, Administration, Article V, Boards and Commissions, Division 3, Board of Review, Section 2-193.1, Application for Exemption and Section 2-193.6, Guidelines to be Uniformly Applied, relating to poverty exemptions, in order to revise the standards for uniform application of exemption provisions to comply with state law requirements. **SECOND READING.**
- H. Approval of claims and warrants – Warrant 1149

Roll call vote on CM 24-02-20

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

MATTERS FOR COUNCIL ACTION:

- 1. Consideration of approval to award the Janitorial Services contract to Master Maintenance in the amount of \$199,674.18 for a one (1) year contract with the option of two (2) one-year renewals.**

Mayor Pro Tem Casey said she noticed not every public building was included in the contract, namely the Library. She asked if there was a way to extend the contract to include all civic buildings, included. City Manager Cardenas said the Library has their own contract and he wasn't sure why they weren't consolidated. He wondered if it was because of the sheer number of buildings. Mayor Pro Tem Casey said she would appreciate exploring that going forward.

CM 24-02-21 Moved by Casey, seconded by Thomas: MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

Approval to award the Janitorial Services contract to Master Maintenance for \$199,674.18 for a one (1) year contract with the option for two (2) one-year renewals.

Roll call vote on CM 24-02-21

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

- 2. Consideration of approval to purchase (3) 2024 Ford F-350s from Lunghamer Ford, through the MiDeal Cooperative Purchasing Contract; and upfits to be completed by Truck and Trailer Specialties through the City of Rochester Hills RFP contract, in the amount of \$231,242.00.**

City Manager Cardenas said this is a mundane item but staff is excited about it because we haven't been able to find a contract to jump on and finally purchase these vehicles.

CM 24-02-22 Moved by Thomas, seconded by Gurumurthy: MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

Approval to purchase (3) 2024 Ford F-350s from Lunghamer Ford, through the MiDeal Cooperative Purchasing Contract; and upfits to be completed by Truck and Trailer Specialties through the City of Rochester Hills RFP contract, in the amount of \$231,242.00.

Roll call vote on CM 24-02-22

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

- 3. Initial consideration of Planned Rezoning Overlay (PRO) eligibility of the request of Sakura Novi Residential, LLC, for Sakura East JZ23-41, to rezone from Light Industrial (I-1) to Town Center One (TC-1) on land located on the south side of Eleven Mile Road, west of Meadowbrook Road in Section 23. The applicant is proposing to utilize the Planned Rezoning Overlay option to rezone and develop a 45-unit multiple-family townhome development on approximately 3.5 acres of land. Under the PRO**

Ordinance, this initial review by City Council is an opportunity to review and comment on the eligibility of the proposal and give feedback to the applicant before they formalize their plans.

City Manager Cardenas said this matter does not seek an actual decision by City Council tonight. It is a preliminary look at the proposed PRO development. City Council recently amended to PRO to add a meeting where City Council could see a proposed development early in the process as opposed to the end after the other entities have opined. He said the applicant was present to give an overview of the development and address any questions Council may have and hear any input Council may have before the formal process kicks off at the Planning Commission.

Tim Loughrin, with Robertson Brothers Homes, said this is the second phase of the Sakura development which is just getting underway. He said they appreciate the opportunity to present as much information so they can get feedback from Council. They are calling it Sakura East and it's just west of Sakura on 11 Mile. He said it's currently zoned industrial, but they believe industrial manufacturing uses are not conducive to a downtown setting, which this is. The Master Plan designated this area as Town Center and they believe the site is better suited for transitional use, such as residential and already present in the immediate area. He said they believe office use is not optimal and gave statistics on vacant office space in the state. They believe it will feed the retail and other developments. He said they received good feedback from the Planning Commission and have made adjustments. They were from 52 townhomes to 45 and addressed issues with setbacks and open space to meet the density that is allowable under the Town Center provisions. He added that they are the same elevations as Sakura Novi because the whole point is for it to be an extension of it. It's only separated by a city-owned wetland, which they think is a fantastic amenity. He said there was plenty of connectivity and walking areas along 11 Mile. He said one thing they changed since the Planning Commission meeting was that there was no public benefit and that was important to the Planning Commission. He said they are willing to have conversations about what a public benefit looks like. They thought about a pedestrian connection from 11 Mile to Grand River and provide overall connectivity. He said they are still in the concept phase, but intend to have amenities such as benches, seating areas, community gardens, a covered veranda and open space. He said it was important to note that they have over 50% of the required open space requirement.

Mr. Loughrin said the master plan calls for this area to be zoned Town Center and they are proposing residential. He said there was potential for bringing a ring road into the area and they think that's a good thing because it will bring more activity to the area. He said it's the missing middle town home with attached garages ranging from 1,300 to 1,600 square feet. He said almost half the site is open space. He said they reduced the density after the Planning Commission comments and spoke about the room count. They are also now meeting all the setbacks. He added that they don't have any neighbors because it's surrounded by a wetland, a gravel road, and a cell tower. He said they are aware of some deviations that have been pointed out in the landscape and they will work on meeting those requirements. He spoke about the public benefit. He addressed

one comment about using the site to build a senior living facility. He said it takes a lot more land and it would not work. He showed the renderings and said it would be a beautiful community. He explained the units are not stacked. Each enters through a private garage with dining and living on the second floor, and bedrooms on the third. He said he looked forward to getting feedback and their thoughts on if it's appropriate land use.

Member Gurumurthy said she was glad to see the changes made since the Planning Commission. She said there was a 62% deficiency in multi-family unit trees and only 59 were provided but 156 are required and she would like to see that addressed. One of the public benefits she saw was the sidewalk and she wanted to see that be the required 12.5 feet, but it was only 6 feet. She stated the cost wasn't clear but wanted that clarified.

Member Heintz said he was curious if there were other elements of the adjacent wetlands they could work with. It seems to be an attractive piece for homeowners. Mr. Loughrin said they don't own it, the City owns it. He said they took some liberties in putting the walkway in it as a recommendation of what could be a public benefit. Perhaps there are things they could do like better access to it for the public, but he hadn't thought about that. He said they want to make this a focal point and a bit more natural. She said there are things they can look at to enhance the area if the City is willing to and wants them to do something like that. Member Heintz said there was value in wetlands, and he wondered how that worked into everything.

Member Staudt said he was at the Planning Commission meeting and wasn't impressed. He said they've taken a big step forward. He asked what the urgency was. He's been watching Sakura for a long time, and he wasn't excited by them pulling permits and having nothing built other than roads and utilities. Mr. Loughrin said there was a lot of urgency to start going vertical at Sakura Novi. They've had challenges in getting the building permits but there is 100% urgency. He said as far as this site, it's sat on the market for a long time, and they are looking forward to moving forward with the project. Member Staudt asked why they went the PTO route instead of a straight rezoning. Mr. Loughrin said the zoning ordinance is fairly antiquated and doesn't fit for the town home style development. Member Staudt said it's a small piece of property and there aren't a lot of units on it. He didn't see much opportunity to provide much public benefit. He said it was vanilla. The amenities aren't a public benefit, they are for the people who are renting. He asked why they chose apartments instead of condos. Mr. Loughrin said it was a continuation of Sakura Novi and those are rentals as well. Member Staudt asked if they would be using the same materials and façade. Mr. Loughrin said yes. Member Staudt said the property next to it is nice wetlands and it could be dramatically cleaned up. He said if there was any opportunity to work with them on that, it would be a real community benefit. He said when he thinks of community benefit, it's that residents can come from other places to use it. He didn't see anything on the 3-acre plot that would be a benefit to our residents. He said they weren't the first people to say that Novi has a shortage of apartments, but that's not the case. They are facing a lot of new building in Novi, and they don't want a bunch of vacancies. He would like to see Sakura Novi built out and this afterward. He said he'd be disappointed if this was built before the rest of it gets done.

Mr. Loughrin said that wouldn't happen. Member Staudt said they've made a big improvement by reducing the number of units and clearing up some space. He said this was an area that could handle additional apartments.

Mayor Pro Tem Casey made a general comment that they are seeing an increase in the number of rental units that are being proposed to the City. She thought it was about a third of the housing stock and she said she feels ok with that now but was nervous about it growing. She said she believed multi-family is an opportunity for the city but was concerned at the percentage of rentals. She asked Planning staff about a line in the documentation that speaks to some concerns about rezoning this land as residential and having an impact on the surrounding properties. Planner McBeth said the properties that are adjacent are zoned Light Industrial and have certain benefits if they're not abutting a residential zoning district but have a slight disadvantage if they are. The uses that exist can stay there, but if another use wanted to come in, they might be subject to height restrictions, additional berming requirements, etc. Mayor Pro Tem Casey said she wanted them to understand what the impact would be to others if we enable and allowed residential to come in. Mr. Loughrin said there weren't any other industrial uses that could go on this site. He said they couldn't rezone it to anything other than that if they want to build industrial. He said they are providing a buffer and didn't understand what they were trying to buffer from. Mayor Pro Tem Casey said there is still an opportunity for additional development to the east. Even though it's a parking lot now, it might not always be. She said she thought putting multifamily there was appropriate. She said there were some big deviations, and she would not support any of the landscaping deviations. She expected the deviations to be small. She said there may be a road to the east, so if they have the opportunity to continue to develop the screening that they would need to put on from a berm and screening perspective. She said to the west they can decide how much screening to block the road and that can limit the benefit of having the wetlands there. She reiterated there is the possibility of a road going in, so take that into consideration. She said that gives them the opportunity to address any tree deficiencies. She said if they weren't considering a road, the pathway was interesting. She added that would be more for the residents than the general population. She said she was intrigued by the idea of doing something with the wetland because that feels more like a public benefit. She said as of now, she didn't feel that they've offered up a true public benefit.

Member Smith said one of the goals that Council has talked about is small parks. The east side of Novi is short on parks. He said anything that could be done with the wetland, he was interested in. He said he noticed a comment about lead standards and the building materials, but it didn't provide the answer. He said he was interested in seeing them meet very high environmental standards to make sure they're using energy and water efficiently.

Member Thomas said his colleagues have pointed out everything. She wanted to reiterate the public benefit aspect. She said what stood out was the deficiency in trees and screening. If it remained the same, she would not support the project. She said it is important we do our best to enhance the environment. Mr. Loughrin said there isn't a lot

of opportunity to put a lot more trees in. He wasn't sure if they would be deficient, but they plan to provide more berms and landscaping to meet those requirements.

Mayor Fischer said there were some comments in the packet about room count that confused him. He asked Planning staff to walk him through that piece of the ordinance and how it changed since the Planning Commission. Planner Bell explained they were previously proposing 52 units and now have 45. The definition of a "room" in the ordinance is anything that can be counted as a potential bedroom. The ordinance provides a calculation that determines the maximum number of rooms allowed. She added that Council is not permitted to approve deviations and density under the PRO ordinance. Mayor Fischer asked the applicant how many parking spots are required and how many are proposed. Mr. Loughrin said he didn't have the exact number but because they also have garages, they meet the requirement. Mayor Fischer said he was concerned about people having parties and there being enough parking. Mr. Loughrin said the unit has a two car garage and there seemed to be about 25-30 guest parking spots. Mayor Fischer said he lived in a similar community to this in the past and the number of off-street parking was not acceptable and did not live up to the capacity of what was going on. He said he would keep an eye on the off-street parking because he didn't know where people would be able to park. That could cause some real issues. He echoed the comments of a previous speaker about the concern of the number of rental units in Novi. He asked if he would comment on why they don't want some sort of owner-occupied portion of Sakura. Mr. Loughrin said they build more for sale than rental and it's something they could look at. He said the desire would be to use the assets they have and expand on it. He added that there is a lot for sale coming which would be competition. He said Novi has a diverse population that does need this type of missing middle housing. Mayor Fischer said he was concerned that we're reaching a saturation point with rental units. He said he understood these are purely livable quarters and these people would rent from Sakura Novi. He asked if they would have access to the amenities. Mr. Loughrin said yes, they would have access to everything. Mayor Fischer said if this wasn't a component of Sakura Novi, he would be able to support it. He said something neat could potentially be done if we're able to construct something with the city property in the middle, but we're never in the business of telling you what to do for public benefit.

Mr. Loughrin said this was great feedback and he liked hearing about the willingness to let them look at the wetlands because it could be a win-win.

City Council adjourned for a break at 8:58 p.m. and returned at 9:05 p.m.

4. Approval of Letters of Understanding with City of Novi Collective Bargaining groups for a one-time Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA).

City Manager Cardenas explained that City Administration has been looking for a way to ease the financial impact of high inflation that the employees have been dealing with for well over a year. In addition to assisting and recruiting new employees in a tough labor market over the past couple years, we've seen a striking number of departures from all

of our departments. He said they were happy to announce the City has been able to offer a one-time cost of living increase, of COLA, to all full-time and part-time employees. The items presented to Council include union approved addendums to the existing contracts to allow a COLA increase. He said he was happy to report that the COLA adjustments will not require a formal budget amendment to cover the estimated \$440,000 increase in salary and related fringe benefit costs as the City Finance Department was able to work with each department head to reallocate resources within their existing budgets. He said going forward, the impact of this COLA will not require any contribution from the City's Fund Balance, nor will it delay any currently planned projects. He pointed out that this was only five of the six collective bargaining agreements that have signed off. Staff is still waiting for one union to opine on this.

Member Smith said this was a really good example of the City working with the employees and the employees working with the City. He said he thought it was a good thing for both sides.

CM 24-02-23 Moved by Smith, seconded by Thomas: MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

Approval of Letters of Understanding with City of Novi Collective Bargaining groups for a one-time Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA).

Mayor Fischer asked if non-union employees received a raise. City Manager Cardenas said yes, they received 4% and it was effective the first pay period in January. Mayor Fischer said he understood that if they approved this as is, it would be effective after ratification. He said if they do approve it, they should make them effective in the same manner as the administrative employees. He asked that the motion be amended if the majority of Council felt that way. He asked Finance Director Johnson to help him get more comfortable with the impact on fiscal year 24/25. He said he was comfortable with staff coming up with these savings to cover the almost \$500,000 in the current fiscal year. He said a lot of those savings come from the headcount not being filled or projects being pushed out. He said he knew there were positions in the Police Department that were unfilled and that they had allocated about \$500,000 for senior services in fiscal year 23/24, and there was a sidewalk program that wasn't fully utilized. He said they would basically reallocate that money to raises. Finance Director Johnson said yes, but it's not that specific. Those large projects were not really incorporated. He said on average, the City is 1% to 2% under budget in every department, sometimes more. He said that 1% to 2% is the primary savings that will be used. He said making this change now gives him time to make the adjustments in the budget that Council will see on April 1st. The extra availability within each department's budgets as well as future property tax increases. Mayor Fischer said in future years, they will use some of the underestimated property tax revenue to fund some of this, so it's not just the savings in future years. Finance Director Johnson said that was correct. Mayor Fischer said he would be interested to see, as we get into fiscal year 24/25 how much of the full annualized impact of this being covered by cutting costs out of the expense side and how much you're anticipating using the difference in estimated revenue. He said if they get into budget discussions and he hears about something like the sidewalk program, police officers, or older adult services having

allocated money cut, he wouldn't think they had lived up to the agreement they're making tonight. He said they talk about employees being their biggest asset and the City Manager prompted Council to consider this. They've seen unprecedented inflation. He said other cities have made some effort such as bonuses, stipends, etc. The City Manager has provided information on turnover and resignations being higher in the last 2 years than in the last 10 years alone. He said they received information from the employees in a survey, too. He said he hoped this will help ease some of that pain and help create a good culture where we can retain employees. He reiterated that he would like to change the effective date to the same as the administrative employees.

AMENDED MOTION

CM 24-02-23 Moved by Smith, seconded by Thomas: MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

Approval of Letters of Understanding with City of Novi Collective Bargaining groups for a one-time Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA), effective January 1, 2024.

Member Staudt said he agreed with everything Mayor Fischer said. He added that they were only voting on the labor agreements because Council Members don't make decisions on individual compensation for non-union employees. Those decisions are made by the City Manager. He said the labor unions worked with them on things that were important to the Council. One was related to lateral transfers and that is a really big issue and will help fill the Public Safety positions. He said this was a partnership with our labor unions and everyone got a very good return.

Roll call vote on CM 24-02-23

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

5. Approval and confirmation of goal language from January 6, 2024, Early Input Budget Session

City Manager Cardenas said this is an opportunity to bring back the proposed language that was voted upon by Council at the Early Budget Input session. He said there might be some wordsmithing to be considered and he was looking for clarification on at least one of them. He was looking for more direction and specificity about what area they referred to in the goal "Assess and create a Novi Downtown Vibrancy Strategy that is organized under four pillars" Home, Economic Center, Destination, and Safe and Welcoming Place." Were they referring to the Novi and Grand River area, or the whole of Grand River which is the CIA? Member Gurumurthy said she was thinking that was the entire Main Street area. Mayor Pro Tem Casey said there had been a lot of information under that particular goal and her understanding was the same as Member Gurumurthy. City Manager Cardenas said he believed it would include everything at the four corners of the intersection, not just the Main Street development, but north where the Town Center is and maybe the Adele Center. Mayor Fischer suggested they get away from the word "downtown" and explain the geographical area a little better. Member Staudt said that

would overlap the Corridor Improvement Authority area. It encompasses that whole area, and now we're talking about a committee creating a vibrancy strategy that is something the Corridor Improvement Authority would do. He said they were adding something that may be better served by an authority who already has its own source of funding to come up with a strategy in that area. He said if they're talking about this specific area and calling it a downtown, they need to think about how this overlaps with the Corridor Improvement Authority. City Manager Cardenas said he believed he had the direction, and they could work within the CIA to create a strategy. He said they would put the CIA somewhere in the goal and that's not limited to who should have ownership of the project but it's a starting point.

Member Staudt said he would go through his list that he had questions on. He questioned the goal "Create additional boards and commissions to sustain resident engagement and provide additional input to City Staff" and if it was their intent to create more boards and commissions where residents are the primary participants. He said he served on the Master Plan Committee for Broadband and the goal to "Create a Broadband Master Plan" was something they discovered was part of the commercial world outside of government. He said they did a study that helped them understand what's out there. He wasn't sure what a Broadband Master Plan was. He addressed the goal "Prioritize and Implement the top 3 Action Plans from the "Environmental Sustainability Action Plan." He said they have a goal referring to something that isn't part of the goal, that nobody knows what it is. He would rather just name the 3 action plans and not reference a publication. He added that they have way too many goals. They will talk about them, but they will never get done because they have so many things to do that aren't considered part of these goals. He said the goal about collaborating with the City of Northville, Northville Township, and Wayne County on 8 Mile, they've been working on that for years. He said the goal about the percentage of roads and funding was a nice statement, but he didn't understand the goal. He would like staff to condense some of these into achievable, measurable goals as opposed to just making a statement that doesn't address a specific need.

Mayor Fischer said he didn't look at these goals as 100% literal. They have to get together as a body and remember they're an oversight body. They don't do the day-to-day actions of the City. It's incumbent upon them to provide the high level and then City staff's job is to dive into them and tell Council what's possible and what needs to be tweaked.

Member Gurumurthy said there was a goal to establish an environmental sustainability committee for a short term, but the long term had a whole "implement the top priorities from the action plan." She proposed instead of establishing the committee, also study the aspects of environmental sustainability in the city. At a minimum, develop the environmental sustainability action plan so the long term can be implementing the top three from the action plan. She said in terms of boards and commissions, it wasn't about creating additional boards, but evaluating or reviewing what we currently have and making sure the structure helps resident engagement and input the staff. She proposed they add "review and update current boards and commission structure and add new

boards and commissions as appropriate to maximize the opportunities for resident engagement.” She addressed the goal “Review the Woodlands and Wetlands Ordinance and propose revisions to modernize the language.” She proposed they change it to “Review the Woodlands and Wetlands ordinances and make any necessary revisions to ensure they are balancing the protection of natural resources with development.” She said it was important to make them smart goals. She wanted to see them measurable. She said she wants the goals published on the website with measurable targets and updated frequently.

Mayor Fischer said it would be a good idea to have staff take their comments and do one more iteration instead of doing it on the fly. They can bring it back at the next meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Casey said she loves the idea of anything strategic and they have a goal to create and adopt a community strategic plan for 2050. She said she wasn't sure that encompassed what the goal actually was. She proposed “create and adopt a comprehensive community strategic plan to envision the future state of our community in the 2050.” She said her expectation is that the Council will see these goal updates quarterly with metrics. She wanted to remind everyone that there was data and information behind these top-level goals and wanted to see that included in the goal document.

Member Smith said the goal of an environmental action plan was his and there was more information he could send to staff that might help. The idea was to not just say “improve the environment” but have some measurable things to hit.

Mayor Fischer agreed that they should see updates quarterly and have presentations to the Council from the City Manager to update them. He said these are the high-level goals, the guiding principles.

Member Thomas commented on the Paser related goal. She said she spoke to City Manager Cardenas about what was feasible. She said the community had concerns about the condition of the roads and that we weren't keeping up with them. The attempt was to have something measurable to determine if they were making progress or not. If they brought this back and explained a certain percent was actually measurable, she would be open to that. The idea was to make sure they know that roads are a priority, and they are making sure they don't slide downhill further. She said the goal about the Woodlands and Wetlands was well covered by Member Gurumurthy, but she wanted to see something about making sure we're looking for opportunities to strengthen where applicable. She referred to the broadband goal and explained some places in the community have great broadband, but some areas have terrible broadband. She also said there was a lack of competition.

Member Staudt said we have all of these really nice goals, but wouldn't it be nice to have staff recommend where these things should start. He said it would be nice to have

staff go through these and give Council an idea of what is a staff issue, committee issue, or Council issue.

Mayor Fischer agreed and said this gets turned over to staff and in the first quarterly review, it should have all those starting points and whether it's already started and if they need additional resources.

Member Smith said he agreed and said they were trying to set a policy where staff can come back to them and explain the steps on how to get there. He said they have some good goals, and he was looking forward to getting them accomplished.

City Manager Cardenas said these goals start July 1st when the next fiscal year begins, but they will start laying the groundwork. Mayor Fischer said staff should start laying the framework for these but didn't see why they can't start now.

CONSENT AGENDA REMOVALS: None

AUDIENCE COMMENT:

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Older Adult Needs Committee

Mayor Fischer said moving forward, any Council committee that meets will be listed on an agenda for a brief update.

Mayor Pro Tem Casey said the Older Adult Needs Committee meets twice a month. Last meeting they had a presentation from City Planner, Barb McBeth, teaching them about what housing needs could be addressed for older adults in the community.

2. Rules Committee

Mayor Fischer said the Rules Committee met and talked about some of the Council goals, including some of the committee changes. They will meet again on February 13th and hopefully bring it to Council shortly.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL ISSUES:

1. Meadowbrook Road Speed Limit

Member Staudt said there have been traffic studies on Meadowbrook Road between 8 Mile and 10 Mile for a long time and those traffic studies suggest that the speed limit be 35 miles per hour. He thought it was reviewed recently and he asked that it be added to a future Council agenda for discussion. Mayor Fischer asked when the last study was completed. City Manager Cardenas said it was about 10 years ago. Mayor Fischer asked for that to be located and put in an admin packet.

ADJOURNMENT – There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 9:48 P.M.

/s/

Cortney Hanson, City Clerk

/s/

Justin Fischer, Mayor

/s/

Transcribed by Alyssa Craigie,
Administrative Assistant

Date approved: February 12, 2024