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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL: Mayor Gatt, Mayor Pro Tem Staudt, Council Members Burke, Casey, Markham (absent, excused), Mutch, Wrobel

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

CM 16-04-039 Moved by Wrobel, seconded by Casey; UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED:

To approve the Agenda as presented.

Roll call vote on CM 16-04-039

Yeas: Staudt, Burke, Casey, Mutch, Wrobel, Gatt

Nays: None

Absent: Markham

PUBLIC HEARING - None

PRESENTATIONS:

1. Proclamation in Recognition of National Library Week, April 10 – 16, 2016 – Communications Coordinator Christina Salvatore and Board Member Tara Michener.

Mayor Gatt presented the proclamation to Communications Coordinator Christina Salvatore and Board Member Tara Michener. Ms. Salvatore thanked everyone for supporting National Library Week. They have a lot of great programs planned. They are teaming with Walled Lake City Library on April 16th from 10:30 – 1 pm to give the communities a chance to learn more about the libraries. Ms. Michener thanked everyone also. It was encouraging to see how the Novi Library touches every part of the Community. She feels every demographic is reached in the area.

2. National Emergency Telecommunicator’s Week – April 10-16, 2016 – Rick Mitchell, Communications Manager

Mayor Gatt presented the proclamation to Rick Mitchell, Communications Manager. The Mayor commended the dispatchers who work at the Novi Police Department. Mr. Mitchell expressed the exceptional work the dispatchers perform daily.
REPORTS:

1. MANAGER/STAFF – None

2. ATTORNEY - None

AUDIENCE COMMENT:

Colleen Crossey, 22279 Brockshire, spoke as Chair of the Beautification Commission and thanked Council for the Entryway Beautification program. The Commission has enjoyed sharing their input on planting native plants. They’ve received funds for the butterfly garden which supports pollination by bees and butterflies. She explained this will help the eco-system. She felt many residents move here for green spaces and for the schools. She also noted they have some openings on the Beautification Commission. She said she was concerned about the Hunter Pasteur development that will clean up the 8 Mile and Beck area. She mentioned the City has allowed them to build more homes and take out additional trees. She felt that it was a disservice to the residents because that’s why the residents move here. She disagreed that the developer shouldn’t have to pay into the tree fund since they are getting funds for the cleanup.

Vishnu Jampala, resident of Valencia Estates, spoke about Canadian geese that are leaving a lot of droppings around the detention pond near their home. They have the first lawn in the subdivision and none of the other homes have put lawns in yet. They need a solution. They have tried putting out scare crows and chemicals on the lawn. They have difficulty walking on the lawn. He said the builder could not help him. Mayor Gatt noted that a department head would meet them to discuss the issue.

CONSENT AGENDA REMOVALS AND APPROVALS:

CM 16-04-040 Moved by Burke, seconded by Casey; UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED:

To approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

A. Approve Minutes of:
   1. March 28, 2016 – Regular meeting

B. Approval of Resolution Authorizing “Shrine Circus” to occur during the week of April 5 – 10, 2016 on the Suburban Collection Showplace property at 46100 Grand River Avenue.

C. Approval of Resolution for the City of Novi to enter into an agreement with the Oakland County Sheriff’s Office for the purpose of providing marine patrol services on the portion of Walled Lake in the City of Novi for an estimated annual cost of $7,200.
D. Approval of Claims and Accounts – Warrant No. 961

Roll call vote on CM 16-04-040

Yeas: Burke, Casey, Mutch, Wrobel, Gatt, Staudt
Nays: None
Absent: Markham

MATTERS FOR COUNCIL ACTION:

1. Consideration of requests from Primanti Corporation:

   A) Approval of a request for Special Land Use approval for service of alcoholic beverages for the reasons stated in the Committee's motion recommending approval.

   Assistant City Manager Cardenas said the request is from a popular restaurant. They will be opening the first of two locations in Michigan. A resort license first requires local approval from the City before they can go to the Liquor Control Commission. They don’t have information from the State on granting their approval yet.

   Member Wrobel mentioned he had visited a location in the Pittsburgh area. It was a popular area. He thought it will bring additional people to Novi to go to the restaurant and will add to the dining options offered in the City.

   CM 16-04-041 Moved by Wrobel, seconded by Staudt; UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED:

   To approve a request for Special Land Use approval for service of alcoholic beverages for the reasons stated in the Committee's motion recommending approval.

   Roll call vote on CM 16-04-041

   Yeas: Casey, Mutch, Wrobel, Gatt, Staudt, Burke
   Nays: None
   Absent: Markham

B) Consideration of request for a new On-Premise Resort Economic Development Liquor License, SDM License, Sunday Sales Permit (AM & PM), Outdoor Service Permit and Entertainment Permit to be located at 43335 Crescent Blvd., Novi, MI 48375.
CM 16-04-042  Moved by Wrobel, seconded by Casey; UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED:

To approve a request for a new On-Premise Resort Economic Development Liquor License, SDM License, Sunday Sales Permit (AM & PM), Outdoor Service Permit and Entertainment Permit to be located at 43335 Crescent Blvd., Novi, MI 48375, because the proposed facility is of a character that will benefit the area in which it is to be located; represents a significant financial investment in the Town Center area, which has been the focus of recent redevelopment; is different from other licensed facilities in the area; and is compatible with surrounding uses and facilities.

Roll call vote on CM 16-04-042  Yeas: Mutch, Wrobel, Gatt, Staudt, Burke, Casey
Nays: None
Absent: Markham

2. Approval of the Beautification Commission’s recommendation on the Neighborhood Entryway Enhancement Matching Grant Program to award $5000 each to four neighborhoods and $1,870.50 to one neighborhood upon successful completion of the entryway work depicted in the applications: Charrington Green, Riverbridge, Taft Knolls, Turtle Creek and Vista Hills.

Assistant City Manager Cardenas said this is the second year for this program. Council has budgeted $25,000 for the initiative. He explained only $21,000 will be expended if approved, so money will be held for next year’s program. None of the applicants who were denied last year applied for this year’s program. They hope to reach out to those from years past to make sure they apply for next year’s program if Council continues the program.

Mayor Pro Tem Staudt said this was a program that developed out of a visit with Mayor and Council to another community. It has benefited a number of neighborhoods.

Member Wrobel echoed Mayor Pro Tem Staudt. It is a program where Council makes the final decisions for the grants. He had some concerns regarding the awarding of some of the grants. The minutes from the Commission meetings indicated members awarded grants to their own subdivisions. He would have done something different if he was a member voting to award a grant to his own subdivision. He was very disappointed in the situation. He confirmed it has not occurred this year.

CM 16-04-043  Moved by Wrobel, seconded by Burke; UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED:

To approve Approval of the Beautification Commission’s recommendation on the Neighborhood Entryway
Enhancement Matching Grant Program to award $5000 each to the neighborhood/homeowners’ associations of Charrington Green, Riverbridge, Turtle Creek and Vista Hills, and $1,870.50 to Taft Knolls’ association upon successful completion of the entryway work depicted in the applications.

Member Mutch commented he was pleased to see the amount of financial resources and commitments of labor and work that the homeowner’s associations are making towards the projects. The City is putting in $21,000 into the projects and the associations are putting another $43,000 of their own funds into the entryway projects. The City is supporting many long time residential taxpayers to enhance their subdivisions. The information presented on the subdivision entrances shows they could use a refresh project. It applied to all over the City of Novi, not just to one area. He could support this proposal.

Roll call vote on CM 16-04-043

Yeas: Wrobel, Gatt, Staudt, Burke, Casey, Mutch
Nays: None
Absent: Markham

AUDIENCE COMMENT:

Colleen Crossey, 22279 Brockshire, said because it was the first time, members of the Beautification Commission didn’t know they had to recuse themselves when voting on the grants, but they had been unanimous decisions. She commented on the auto supplier bringing jobs to Novi. The State of Michigan offered the abatement for 12 years and the City was going to pay part of this. She felt the City of Novi and other municipalities could use the money that goes to abatements for other things. The other thing is that it is supposed to be a reduced tax rate for a time period and since there is more than 1 party involved, she understood Novi doesn’t know what the amount is. She mentioned the roads could use some funding to get them fixed.

Mary Beth Ceresco, Charrington Green, appreciated the grant funds to redo their subdivision entrance. The grant has been a motivator and they could not have done it without the funding.

COMMITTEE REPORTS - None

MAYOR AND COUNCIL ISSUES - None

CONSENT AGENDA REMOVALS FOR COUNCIL ACTION - None
ADJOURNMENT – There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:32 P.M.

Maryanne Cornelius, City Clerk

Robert J. Gatt, Mayor

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Date approved April 18, 2016

Transcribed by Jane Keller