

APPROVED MINUTES  
MANCHESTER VILLAGE COUNCIL  
September 14, 2020  
7:00 PM

President Vaillencourt called the teleconferenced, regular meeting of the Manchester Village Council to order at 7:00pm with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Council members present: Vaillencourt, DuRussel, Dresch, Woods, Andrews, Way and Chartrand. Council members absent: None. Also present via telephone were: Manager Wallace, Clerk Schaible, Brent Jones (DPW), Jan Steinhauer, Sue LaRocque and Ray Berg.

The minutes of the August 17th, 2020 regular meeting were approved on a motion by Dresch, seconded by Woods. The minutes of the September 9, 2020 meeting were approved on a motion by Dresch, seconded by Chartrand. Andrews and Woods abstained.

**AGENDA** – The agenda was approved as amended: deleting 7A) Reindeer Run; and Reports B) Parks, C) Planning Commission; D) DDA; E); Healthy Communities/Wellness Coalition; G) Building; H) Personnel Committee; I) Finance Committee on a motion by Dresch, seconded by Way.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**- None

**SPECIAL SESSION -CITY STATUS**- Vaillencourt opened the discussion up to anyone wishing to comment. DuRussel noted that he was impressed with the petition circulating training that Vaillencourt had conducted. Vaillencourt reported that 30 people are ready to circulate petitions. A motion was made by Chartrand, seconded by Woods, that the Village move forward with circulating petitions asking the State Boundary Commission to consider the incorporation of the proposed City of Manchester as a home rule city. Roll call vote; ayes-all. Motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS**- None

**NEW BUSINESS**-

**SCHOOL APPRECIATION CAR PARADE**- Jan Steinhauer presented the details for the proposed car parade in support of the Manchester School District students, teachers and staff. It is planned for September 26<sup>th</sup> at 2pm, beginning at Emanuel United Church of Christ and ending at Manchester United Methodist Church. Steinhauer reported that she had talked to a deputy who told her that as long as it did not tie up traffic on M-52 it should work. Wallace indicated he would follow up with the Sheriff's Department to make sure there was coverage that day. Steinhauer did note that the fire department agreed to have a vehicle at the start and end of the parade. A motion was made by Woods, seconded by Andrews, to approve the car parade as outlined. Roll call vote; ayes-all. Motion passed.

**SHARED USE TRAIL AMENITIES**- Ray Berg reviewed the proposed shared-use trail equipment additions to be funded through redirected CTAP funds from Destination Ann Arbor. He and two walking groups, along with the DDA and Parks Commission, have suggested sitting benches, trail mileage markers, stone compaction, an end of trail sign and dog waste bag stations be added to the shared-use trail. Berg reported that the added

equipment is budgeted at \$6400, which can be reduced by sponsorships of the benches. Council discussed the dog waste bag stations, agreeing that receptacles for the bags should not be provided at the stations and that users should be directed to the receptacles already located at the parks. Chartrand also noted that compaction seems to be taking place naturally along the older and more traveled parts of the trail. A motion was made by Dresch, seconded by Woods, that the added equipment be approved with no new waste receptacles and further investigation of stone compaction. Roll call vote: ayes-all. Motion passed.

RIVER PARK SOUTH PROPOSAL- Sue LaRocque presented the McLennan Landscape bid to improve the village owned area near the river behind Dutch Treats. The DDA is proposing the improvements using \$8000 of redirected funds from CTAP to provide a relaxed sitting area with a view of the river and the downtown. McLennan's will need 2 to 3 days to create 4 sitting areas, stone paths and landscaping. DuRussel confirmed that the Parks Commission has supported the plan with one tree replacement. A motion was made by Dresch, seconded by DuRussel, that the proposed River Park South be approved at a cost not to exceed \$8,038. Roll call vote: ayes-all. Motion carried.

HALLOWEEN TRICK OR TREAT- Sue LaRocque reported that there have been inquiries as to trick or treating in the Village this year. A motion was made by Woods, seconded by Andrews, that trick or treating be allowed in the Village on Halloween from 5 to 7pm, as a family by family choice, using recommended safety guidelines. Roll call vote; ayes-all. Motion passed.

BENCHES FOR RIVER RAISIN PARK- Vaillencourt presented the request to replace the park style benches currently at River Raisin Park with the more formal wrought iron benches used in the other downtown sitting areas. The current, park style benches would be repurposed at the new River Park South. DuRussel asked about funding. Wallace estimated that two benches would likely cost around \$3500 and could be split between the Parks and General Funds. A motion was made by DuRussel, seconded by Chartrand, that the purchase and installation be approved, funded 50/50 by Parks and General, with DuRussel and Jones determining the bench length and placement. Roll call vote: ayes-all. Motion passed.

REDEVELOPMENT READY COMMUNITIES MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING- Wallace detailed the program, noting that the most controversial point will be who has the final approval of development projects. He will check with the Planning Commission to see if they would be willing to work on the program. Ultimately, adopting best practices and certification may be required for eligibility of economic development programs in the future. A motion was made by Dresch, seconded by Woods, that Vaillencourt be authorized to sign the Redevelopment Ready Communities Joint Memorandum of Understanding. Roll call vote: ayes-all. Motion passed.

MDHHS-WATER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM- Schaible summarized the State's water and sewer bill assistance program explaining that there is relief for eligible residents with arrearages during the pandemic state of emergency. Jessica Clark, the account clerk, has been working with this and has the tools and expertise to facilitate opting in to the program. A motion was made by Andrews, seconded by Dresch, that the Data Use Agreement with Washtenaw County Office of Community and Economic Development be approved. Roll Call vote: ayes-all. Motion passed.

TREE TRIMMING AND REMOVAL REQUEST FOR BIDS-Jones presented the bid documents to trim and remove trees this fall. He noted that the DPW would trim the streetscape trees and that an additional tree on Morgan will be considered for removal. Council agreed that the request for bids be sent out.

**CORRESPONDENCE**- Council acknowledged the following correspondence:

- Thank-you note from the family of Beverly Merz.
- Notice of Public Hearing from Sharon Township regarding their draft Master Plan.
- Manchester Township Board Meeting minutes for August 11, 2020 and August 22, 2020.
- Village Parks Commission meeting notes from August 24, 2020.
- DDA meeting minutes from August 19,2020.
- Manchester Wellness coalition updates.
- A copy of Pat Vaillencourt's letter to the editor regarding city status for the Village.
- Notice of public hearing from Consumers Energy.
- The July and August Washtenaw County Sheriff report.

**ACCOUNTS PAYABLE** – Council reviewed the payables list. A motion was made by Dresch, seconded by Andrews, to approve for payment the list dated 09/14/2020 totaling \$132,994.62. Roll call vote: ayes-all. Motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**- The August 2020 Treasurer's report was acknowledged.

## **REPORTS**

**SHERIFF**- Wallace noted that Sgt. Gieske's last day is September 18<sup>th</sup>. Dresch and Vaillencourt referred to the out of area portion of the report that it was not detailed enough and cumulative hours did not make sense. Dresch and Woods reported that two separate incidents in the Village during last month had 45 minutes response times. Wallace reported that he and Vaillencourt will be discussing these, and other issues with the Lieutenant on Thursday.

**JOINT PLANNING COMMISSION**-Vaillencourt reported that she attended the meeting and the Doans have received their state permits. She also attended the Townships joint Planning Commission and Board meeting. The Township Planning Commission chair, Mike Walter, expressed his hope to meet jointly with the Village Council and Planning Commission.

**DPW**- Jones reviewed his report. He noted that the DPW had replaced a resident's lead line.

**MANAGER**- Wallace reviewed his report. He highlighted progress at the Manchester Market building, sale of the lots in the Manchester Meadows subdivision, the "old" burial ground lot description correction and the proposed county canoe livery design for 2021.

Vaillencourt reported a new business, Sweet Leilani's, coming downtown. DuRussel thanked all those who helped paint the pavilions in Carr Park.

There being no further business, President Vaillencourt adjourned the meeting at 8:58pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Julie Schaible, Village Clerk