



**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF
THE CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF LANSING
PROCEEDINGS OF JANUARY 28, 2008
RECONVENED JANUARY 30, 2008**

City Council Chambers
Lansing, Michigan

The City Council of the City of Lansing met in regular session and was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Jeffries.

PRESENT: Councilmembers Allen, Hewitt, Jeffries, Kaltenbach, Quinney, Robinson, Wood

ABSENT: Councilmember Dunbar (Arrived at 7:02 p.m.)

Councilmember Wood asked for a moment of silence to remember Vivian Stauffer who passed away recently

The Council observed a moment of Meditation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by President Jeffries

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

By Councilmember Quinney

To approve the printed Council Proceedings of January 24, 2008

Motion carried

Councilmember Dunbar arrived at 7:02 p.m.

COUNCILMEMBERS' COMMENTS AND CITY CLERK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

By Councilmember Wood

To recommit the following items: XIII B 1 b, XIII B 1 c, XIII B 1 d, XIII C 1 b, and XIII E 1 b

Motion Carried by Unanimous Consent

Councilmember Wood announced the Ruth Hallman Chili and Soup Birthday Fundraiser, the Lansing Police Department Plunge for Special Olympics at Hawk Island and the Bea Christy Award Dinner.

Councilmember Allen spoke about the upcoming State of the Union, State of the State, and State of the City addresses and announced the Friends of Fenner Park meeting regarding the loss of a permanent naturalist.

Councilmember Hewitt announced the Northtown Neighborhood Association meeting.

Councilmember Robinson wished Charlene Decker well on her trip as sponsor in the Special Olympics.

Councilmember Dunbar announced the BoarsHead Theatre fundraiser for the Greater Lansing Housing Coalition, a Youth Mentoring Forum and the Black Child and Family Institute and Super Saturday at North Network Center. She also spoke about the City Assessor's poverty exemption for city taxes.

SPEAKER REGISTRATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Clerk Swope announced that the public comment registration form(s) for

those intending to address Council on legislative or City government matters will be collected and that only those persons who have fully completed the form(s) will be permitted to speak.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Bernero spoke about several items on tonight's agenda, including the sale of the Ottawa Street Power Station to The Christman Company, who will transform this extraordinary icon into the new national headquarters of the Accident Fund Insurance Company of America. He also spoke about a series of measures related to the Kalamazoo Gateway project proposed by Lansing developer Gene Townsend and the upcoming public hearings for XG Sciences and Spartan Internet Consulting Corp. He announced that the City's Employee of the Month for January is firefighter Steve Babcock. Steve has worked for the City of Lansing since 1991, first as a Police Technician/9-1-1 Dispatcher and then as a firefighter assigned to the Fire Suppression Division.

SHOW CAUSE HEARINGS

- Comment on Scheduled Show Cause Hearings:

There were no Show Cause Hearings

PUBLIC COMMENT ON LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

- Public Comment on Legislative Matters:

Legislative Matters included the following public hearings:

There were no Public Hearings

John Pollard of 1718 Blair St. spoke in opposition to the Ottawa St. Power Station and Kalamazoo Gateway projects.

Darnell E. Oldham, Sr. of 3815 Berwick Dr. spoke in opposition to tax abatements for projects in the City.

Bob Gray of 422 Dadson Dr. spoke in opposition to the Ottawa St. Power Station project.

Christine Timmon of 2519 S. Washington Ave. spoke in opposition to tax abatements.

Charlene Decker of 2711 Pleasant Grove Rd. spoke in opposition to the Ottawa St. Power Station project.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON CITY GOVERNMENT RELATED MATTERS:

Robert Ovalle of 1959 S. Cedar St. spoke about the right to vote and the environment.

William Hubbell of 3916 Wedgewood Dr. spoke about the State of the City.

Frank S. Curtis X. of 1137 W. Allegan St. spoke about various city matters.

Ted Boettcher of 320 W. Northrup St. spoke about the proposed

public improvements to Northrup St.

Bob Gray of 422 Dadson Dr. spoke about various city matters.

John Pollard of 1718 Blair St. spoke about various city matters.

Darnell E. Oldham, Sr. of 3815 Berwick Dr. spoke about various city matters.

Willie Hobbs of 5017 Connors Ave. spoke about various city matters.

Christine Timmon of 2519 S. Washington Ave. spoke about various city matters.

Charlene Decker of 2711 Pleasant Grove Rd. spoke about various city matters.

Joel Wiese of 311 Strathmore Rd. spoke about the City Market.

Jared Trost of 2018 Arbor Meadows spoke about various city matters.

Nick Limber of 1321 W. Saginaw St. spoke about various city matters.

LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION#011

BY THE COMMITTEE ON DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING
RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANSING

WHEREAS, the Ottawa Street Power Station has sat as a vacant building in a strategically located area along the waterfront of the City of Lansing for over two decades while City officials attempted to seek alternative uses for the Power Station building and adjacent property (the "City Property"); and

WHEREAS, on August 2, 2005, the voters of the City of Lansing approved a ballot question that authorized the sale of that portion of the Power Station building that is within twenty five feet of the Grand River in compliance with Section 8-403.6 of the Lansing City Charter and Section 208.10(a) of the Lansing Code of Ordinances so that the Power Station building and adjacent property could be feasibly redeveloped; and

WHEREAS, the Christman Capital Development Company, on behalf of a Michigan limited liability company to be formed for the purpose of redeveloping the Power Station building and adjacent property (collectively, "Christman"), has negotiated a proposed Property Purchase and Development Agreement (the "Development Agreement") with the City of Lansing, its Board of Water and Light, and the Lansing Economic Development Corporation, and such Development Agreement has been filed with the City Clerk thirty days in advance of a public hearing held on January 14, 2008 for the consideration of the sale of the City Property and the execution of the Development Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Development Agreement contemplates the redevelopment of the historic Ottawa Power Station, a decommissioned electric power generation facility and the surrounding properties, into Class A office space to be leased on a long-term basis by Accident Fund Insurance Company of America for use as a new national corporate headquarters campus and, broadly, entails the following components:

- (1) Environmental remediation of site and building contamination, and demolition of two existing buildings to the north of the power plant;
- (2) Development of the approximately seven acre site, including a 25-foot wide public "linear" park along the Grand River's edge, from Wentworth Park to Shiawassee Street, to be owned by the city of Lansing;
- (3) Removal of an existing 10,000 ton chilled water plant and high-pressure steam distribution facility currently

- situated within the power plant, and development of replacement facilities, at new offsite locations, to maintain utility services;
- (4) Removal of an existing parking deck expansion currently spanning Grand Avenue and partially occupying the southwest corner of the proposed site;
- (5) Renovation of the historic Ottawa plant, including comprehensive structural reconfiguration and abatement, to provide approximately 185,000 GSF of office space and 34,000 GSF of basement parking;
- (6) Development of an approximately 105,000 GSF building addition, designed to complement the historic power plant, with additional office space to house 400 employees and a central energy plant;
- (7) Purchase and installation of partitions, furniture, and other office equipment required for the corporate operations to be housed in the facility;
- (8) Development of technology and communications infrastructure, including data center facilities;
- (9) Development, for either city of Lansing or private ownership, of an approximately 1,000 to 1,200 car parking deck, for use by Accident Fund employees and for potential public parking; and

WHEREAS, on January 8, 2008, the Planning Board conducted a public hearing and Act 285 review of the proposed Development Agreement as Act 20-2007, voted unanimously (6-0) in favor of the proposal, and made the following findings as to the projected benefits of the project:

- The retention of the Accident Fund national headquarters within the Lansing area, and more specifically, within downtown Lansing;
- Job creation and downtown reinvestment;
- Restoration of a prominent historic landmark;
- Hundreds of thousands of dollars in avoided demolition costs to remove the facility;
- Investment that anchors a \$3.2 million Clean Michigan Initiative grant for cleanup and redevelopment along the Grand River;
- Synergy with the Stadium District, Capitol Club Condominiums, City Market, and Kalamazoo Gateway projects proposed by other developers;
- An office anchor for the north end of downtown, with sufficient employment to increase retail demand for businesses along the new North Washington Avenue (just a block away);
- Environmental remediation;
- Riverfront enhancement;
- Rivertrail continuity; and
- Aesthetic improvements, including the removal of the N. Grand Expansion Ramp and the BWL chiller facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Water and Light has reviewed the proposed Development Agreement at its most recent Committee of the Whole meeting and has set the matter on its agenda for Board action at its next regularly scheduled meeting;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lansing City Council hereby approves the sale of the City Property, subject to the provisions contained within the Development Agreement. The City Property which is authorized for sale is more specifically described as follows:

Real property in the City of Lansing, County of Ingham, State of Michigan, described as follows:

COMMENCING AT THE CENTER POST OF SECTION 16, T. 4 N. R. 2 W., CITY OF

LANSING, INGHAM COUNTY, MICHIGAN; THENCE ALONG THE EAST-WEST 1/4 SECTION LINE OF SECTION 16, N 89° 59' 00" E 527.87 FEET; THENCE N 00° 01' 45" W 330.00 FEET TO THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF BLOCK 99, ORIGINAL PLAT OF THE TOWN OF MICHIGAN, NOW CITY OF LANSING, AS RECORDED IN LIBER 2, PAGES 36-38, INGHAM COUNTY PLATS, AND THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE ALONG THE EAST LINE OF NORTH GRAND AVENUE N 00° 01' 45" W 519.77 FEET TO A FOUND R.R. SPIKE ON THE CENTERLINE OF VACATED IONIA STREET; THENCE ALONG SAID CENTERLINE DUE EAST 89.09 FEET; THENCE N 50° 05' 10" E 157.52 FEET; THENCE N 00° 29' 40" E 39.86 FEET TO A POINT ON THE CENTERLINE OF THE PARTY WALL TO THE WEST EXTENDED EASTERLY; THENCE ALONG SAID EXTENSION AND ALONG THE CENTERLINE OF THE PARTY WALL N 89° 58' 00" W 210.25 FEET TO THE EAST LINE OF NORTH GRAND AVENUE; THENCE ALONG SAID EAST STREET LINE DUE NORTH 296.14 FEET TO A FOUND CUT CROSS IN THE CONCRETE SIDEWALK, SAID POINT BEING ON THE SOUTH LINE OF SHIAWASSEE STREET; THENCE ALONG SAID SOUTH STREET LINE S 89° 58' 00" E TO THE WESTERLY EDGE OF THE GRAND RIVER; THENCE SOUTHERLY ALONG THE WESTERLY EDGE OF THE GRAND RIVER TO THE SOUTH LINE OF OTTAWA STREET; THENCE ALONG SAID SOUTH STREET LINE DUE WEST TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

There shall be excluded from the sale that portion of the parcel legally described above which constitutes "waterfront", as defined in City Ordinance 208.10 (except for that portion of "waterfront" that is occupied by the current Power Station Building, which shall be conveyed). Also, there shall be excluded from the sale any property that is south of the vacated Ottawa Street curb line; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council finds that if the provisions contained within the Development Agreement are met, that the City Property is no longer needed for the City's use; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council's approval is subject to enactment of resolution(s) by the Board of Water and Light that finds that the City Property is no longer useful or needed for the operation of the BWL, declares the Property surplus and transfers jurisdictional control of the Property to the City for sale as contemplated in the Development Agreement, and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Mayor, on behalf of the City of Lansing and its Board of Water and Light, is authorized to sign and execute all necessary documents to complete this transaction, subject to prior approval as to form by the City Attorney.

By Councilmember Wood

Motion Carried

THIS ITEM WAS RETURNED TO COMMITTEE

ACT-17-2007; 509 E. Kalamazoo St. and 229 S. Cedar St., the Kalamazoo Gateway Project

THIS ITEM WAS RETURNED TO COMMITTEE

Approval of Brownfield Redevelopment Plan #36, Kalamazoo Gateway Brownfield Project

THIS ITEM WAS RETURNED TO COMMITTEE

Establishment of Neighborhood Enterprise Zone #22 for Kalamazoo Corridor; Cedar Street to the West; Hosmer street to the East; the north line of parcels from 33-01-01-16-427 on the east and 33-01-01-15-309-102 on the west to the North; the south line of parcel 33-01-01-16-477-903; East Hillsdale Street, south line of parcel 33-01-01-15-351-011, and the south line of 33-01-01-15-351-051 to the South

RESOLUTION#012

BY THE COMMITTEE ON PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANSING

Z-10-2007

1342 N. Walnut Street

"B" Residential District to "C" Residential District

WHEREAS, Ahmed Assaf has requested a Zoning Map Amendment from "B" Residential District to "C" Residential District for the property located at 1342 N. Walnut Street; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the rezoning is to permit the building at 1342 N. Walnut Street to be used for two residential units; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Board held a public hearing on November 7, 2007, at which the applicant spoke in favor of his request and no other comments were received; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Board, at its meeting held on November 20, 2007, voted unanimously (4-0) to recommend denial of the petition; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Board found, based on testimony, evidence, and the staff report that the proposed rezoning to "C" Residential District would be contrary to the low density residential land use pattern being advanced in the River Island Area Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Board also found that the rezoning would result in a spot zone of "C" Residential in an area that is primarily zoned "B" Residential; and

WHEREAS, the City Council held a public hearing on January 14, 2008; and

WHEREAS, the Committee on Planning and Development of Council has reviewed the request and the report of the Planning Board and concurs therewith;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lansing City Council hereby denies the request (Z-10-2007) by Ahmed Assaf for a Zoning Map Amendment from "B" Residential District to "C" Residential District for the property located at 1342 N. Walnut Street for the reason that it would be contrary to the future land use plan for the area and would result in a spot zone of "C" Residential zoning in an area that is predominately zoned "B" Residential.

By Councilmember Wood

Motion Carried

RESOLUTION#013

BY THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANSING

WHEREAS, pursuant to Public Act 328 of 1998, XG Sciences, Inc. has made Application for Exemption of New Personal Property (PPE-02-08) for an area commonly known as 2100 S. Washington Ave. which is contained within the Lansing Brownfield Redevelopment Zone, established, by the Lansing City Council on August 18, 1997 pursuant to Act 381 of 1996, as amended, and

WHEREAS, prior to acting upon this request, the City desires to hold a public hearing on XG Sciences, Inc.'s Application for Exemption of New Personal Property (PPE-02-08), to allow for all residents, taxpayers and other interested persons to appear and be heard;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that a public hearing be held in the City Council Chambers of the City of Lansing, 10th Floor, Lansing City Hall, Lansing, Michigan, on the 4th day of February, 2008 at 7:00 p.m., on the XG Sciences, Inc. application for New Personal Property Exemption on the following described property:

COM INT'N LINE SEC 28 & CENTER LINE S WASHINGTON AVE, TH SW'LY ALONG SAID CENTER LINE 516.53 FT, W 38.55 FT TO POB; TH W 227.82 FT, N 06DEG 29MIN 18SCD W 78.47 FT, W 346.65 FT TO E LINE NYC RR R/W, S'LY ON R/W/ 884.33 FT, E 1019.17 FT TO W LINE S WASHINGTON AVE, NE'LY ON R/W 528.39 FT TO BEG; SEC 28 T4N R2W; Commonly known as 2100 S. Washington Ave., Lansing, Michigan,

and, that the City Clerk cause to be published in a publication of general circulation, giving notice of such hearing, and that the City Clerk also shall notify the Lansing City Assessor and the legislative body of each taxing unit that levies ad valorem property taxes in the eligible local assessing district in which the eligible district is located. Before acting on the resolution, the Lansing City Council shall afford an opportunity for all residents, taxpayers of the City of Lansing, other interested persons, including but not limited to the City Assessor and representatives of the affected taxing units, to appear and be heard on the approval of a New Personal Property Exemption (PPE-02-08).

By Councilmember Wood

Motion Carried

RESOLUTION#014

BY THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANSING

WHEREAS, pursuant to Public Act 328 of 1998, Spartan Internet Consulting Corporation. has made Application for Exemption of New Personal Property (PPE-01-08) for an area commonly known as 1030 S. Holmes Street which is contained within the Lansing Brownfield Redevelopment Zone, established, by the Lansing City Council on August 18, 1997 pursuant to Act 381 of 1996, as amended, and

WHEREAS, prior to acting upon this request, the City desires to hold a public hearing on Spartan Internet Consulting Corp's Application for Exemption of New Personal Property (PPE-01-08), to allow for all residents, taxpayers and other interested persons to appear and be heard;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that a public hearing be held in the City Council Chambers of the City of Lansing, 10th Floor, Lansing City Hall, Lansing, Michigan, on the 4th day of February, 2008 at 7:00 p.m., on the Spartan Internet Consulting Corp' s. application for New Personal Property Exemption on the following described property:

LOTS 1 THRU 13 INCL & LOTS 21 THRU 34 INCL BLOCK 11 MANUFACTURERS ADD NO 2; Commonly known as 1030 S. Holmes St., Lansing, Michigan,

and, that the City Clerk cause to be published in a publication of general circulation, giving notice of such hearing, and that the City Clerk also shall notify the Lansing City Assessor and the legislative body of each taxing unit that levies ad valorem property taxes in the eligible local assessing district in which the eligible district is located. Before acting on the resolution, the Lansing City Council shall afford an opportunity for all residents, taxpayers of the City of Lansing, other interested persons, including but not limited to the City Assessor and representatives of the affected taxing units, to appear and be heard on the approval of a New Personal Property Exemption (PPE-01-08).

By Councilmember Wood

Motion Carried

RESOLUTION#015

BY THE DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING COMMITTEE
RESOLUTION TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF AN OBSOLETE PROPERTY
REHABILITATION EXEMPTION CERTIFICATE
309 Clinton St. – Zander Management

WHEREAS, Zander Management, owner of the property located at 309 Clinton in the City of Lansing, Michigan (the Property) has applied to the City of Lansing for the City to approve the issuance of an Obsolete Property Rehabilitation Exemption Certificate (the "OPT Certificate), pursuant to the Michigan Obsolete Property Rehabilitation Act, being Public Act 146 of 2000 (the Act); and

WHEREAS, the property in question of the Certificate is legally described as: LOTS 13 & 16 BLOCK 7 ORIG PLAT and

WHEREAS, an Obsolete Property Rehabilitation District was established by the Lansing City Council on December 10, 2007 in accordance with the act; and

WHEREAS, the Act requires that before granting a Certificate the Lansing City Council hold a public hearing in order to provide an opportunity for the applicant, the City Assessor, a representative of the affected taxing units, the residents, and other taxpayers of the City of Lansing general public appear and be heard regarding the approval of the OPT Certificate.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that a public hearing be held in the City Council Chambers of the City of Lansing, 10th Floor, Lansing City Hall, Lansing, Michigan, on the 11th day of February, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of receiving public comment on the establishment of an Obsolete Property Rehabilitation Certificate under the provisions of Public Act 146 of 2000 and that the Clerk shall publish once in a publication of general circulation within the community a notice of the scheduled public hearing and that the notice appear not less than 10 or more than 30 days prior to the date of the hearing and that the Clerk also cause the owner of property within the proposed district to receive written notice of the public hearing to be delivered by certified mail.

By Councilmember Wood

Motion Carried

RESOLUTION#016

BY THE COMMITTEE ON DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING
RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANSING

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Lansing that a public hearing be set for Monday, February 18, 2008, at 7 p.m. in City Council Chambers, Tenth Floor, Lansing City Hall, 124 West Michigan Avenue, Lansing, Michigan, for the purpose of approving and/or opposing the Ordinance for rezoning:

Z-9-2007, 1242 Allen Street & Vacant Lot to its South, from "B" Residential District to "C" Residential District

By Councilmember Wood

Motion Carried

RESOLUTION#017

BY THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS & MEANS
RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANSING

That the following FY 2008 transfer be approved:

State/Federal Programs

Fire — Emergency Management

AMOUNT TO TRANSFER	TRANSFER FROM ACCOUNT #	TRANSFER TO ACCOUNT #
\$11,240.00	Estimated Federal Revenue 273.0.528000.1706 3	
\$11,240.00		Emergency Management CCP Miscellaneous Operating 273.343580.741000.17063

(To provide for a federal grant to the Michigan Citizen Corps Program administered by the Lansing Fire Department. The funds will be used to purchase and distribute

By Councilmember Dunbar

Motion Carried

RESOLUTION#018

BY THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS & MEANS
RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANSING

That the following FY 2008 transfer be approved:

Fire Administration

AMOUNT TO TRANSFER	TRANSFER FROM ACCOUNT #	TRANSFER TO ACCOUNT #
\$2,150.00	Estimated Donations Revenue 273.0.675000.0	
\$2,150.00		Donations/Contributions 101.343501.741880.0

(To appropriate donations revenue to cover expenses of the Fire Department's 150th Anniversary celebration. The donations will be transferred to the Fire Administration Miscellaneous Operating account where the expenses were incurred.)

By Councilmember Dunbar

Motion Carried

RESOLUTION#019

BY THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS & MEANS
RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANSING

That the following FY 2008 transfer be approved:

Police Administration

AMOUNT TO TRANSFER	TRANSFER FROM ACCOUNT #	TRANSFER TO ACCOUNT #
\$100.00	Donations/Contributions Revenue 101.0.675000.0	
\$100.00		Police Donations/Contributions 101.343201.741880.0

(To appropriate donations received from Cheryl Schmittiel (\$100.00) for the Capital Area Response Effort (CARE) program to assist victims of domestic violence.)

By Councilmember Dunbar

Motion Carried

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES

RESOLUTION#020
REPORT OF COMMITTEE

THE COMMITTEE ON DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING was held on January 16, 2008 and reviewed the Ordinance amendment to Chapter 1246, Section 1246.02 of the Code of Ordinances to allow for rezoning a parcel of real property located at 5920 S. ML King Blvd. from "A" Residential District to "E-2" Local Shopping District.

The Committee recommends approval of the Ordinance amendment to Chapter 1246, Section 1246.02 of the Code of Ordinances to allow for rezoning a parcel of real property located at 5920 S. ML King Blvd. from "A" Residential District to "E-2" Local Shopping District.

Signed: Carol Wood, Chairperson

Sandy Allen, Vice Chairperson

Brian Jeffries, Member

By Councilmember Wood

To receive this Committee Report

Motion Carried

THIS ITEM WAS RETURNED TO COMMITTEE

Recommending adoption of Z-12-2007; 500 block of E. Kalamazoo St. and the 200 block of S. Cedar St., a request filed by the City of Lansing Planning and Neighborhood Development Department and The Lenawee Company to rezone property located in the 500 block of E. Kalamazoo St. and the 200 block of S. Cedar St. from "H" Light Industrial District to "G-1" Business District for the Kalamazoo Gateway Project

ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

The following ordinance of the City of Lansing, Michigan, providing that the Code of Ordinances be amended by providing for the rezoning of property located in the City of Lansing, Michigan, and for the revision of the district maps adopted by Section 1246.02 of the Code for property located at:

Z-13-2007, 509 Jason Ct., from "F" Commercial District to "A" Residential District

was introduced by Councilmember Wood, read by its title and referred to the Committee on Development and Planning.

RESOLUTION#021

BY THE COMMITTEE ON DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING
RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANSING

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Lansing that a public hearing be set for Monday, February 18, 2008, at 7 p.m. in City Council Chambers, Tenth Floor, Lansing City Hall, 124 West Michigan Avenue, Lansing, Michigan, for the purpose of approving and/or opposing the Ordinance for rezoning:

Z-13-2007, 509 Jason Ct., from "F" Commercial District to "A" Residential District

By Councilmember Wood

Motion Carried

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

The following ordinance of the City of Lansing, Michigan, providing that the Code of Ordinances be amended by providing for the rezoning of property located in the City of Lansing, Michigan, and for the revision of the district maps adopted by Section 1246.02 of the Code for property located at:

Z-14-2007, Vacant Lot West of 517 Baker Street, from "F" Commercial District to "C" Residential District

was introduced by Councilmember Wood, read by its title and referred to the Committee on Development and Planning.

RESOLUTION#022

BY THE COMMITTEE ON DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING
RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANSING

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Lansing that a public hearing be set for Monday, February 18, 2008, at 7 p.m. in City Council Chambers, Tenth Floor, Lansing City Hall, 124 West Michigan Avenue, Lansing, Michigan, for the purpose of approving and/or opposing the Ordinance for rezoning:

Z-14-2007, Vacant Lot West of 517 Baker Street, from "F" Commercial District to "C" Residential District

By Councilmember Wood

Motion Carried

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE

AMEND CHAPTER 880, ADD SECTION 880.04

By Councilmember Dunbar, Chair of the Committee on Ways and Means

That:

An Ordinance of the City of Lansing to amend Chapter 880 of the Lansing Codified Ordinances to add Section 880.04 to allow city residents to file a written tax appeal with the Board of Review as allowed by MCL 211.30(7),

was introduced by Councilmember Dunbar, read by its title and referred to the Committee of the Whole

RESOLUTION#023

RESOLUTION SETTING PUBLIC HEARING

By Councilmember Dunbar

RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF LANSING, that a public hearing be set for Monday, February 4, 2008 at 7:00 P.M. in the City Council Chambers, 10th Floor Lansing City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI for the purpose of considering an Ordinance of the City of Lansing to amend Chapter 880 of the Lansing Codified Ordinances to add Section 880.04 to allow city residents to file a written tax appeal with the Board of Review as allowed by MCL 211.30(7)

Interested Persons are invited to attend this Public Hearing

By Councilmember Dunbar

Motion Carried

ORDINANCES FOR PASSAGE

BY COUNCILMEMBER WOOD

That the Ordinance when read be considered as read in its entirety.

BY THE COMMITTEE ON DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

BY COUNCILMEMBER WOOD

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Lansing that an Ordinance of the City of Lansing, Michigan, Providing for the Rezoning of a parcel of real property located in the City of Lansing, Michigan and for the revision of the district maps adopted by section 1246.02 of the Code of Ordinances for property located at Z-8-2007; 5920 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., be placed on order of immediate passage.

BY THE COMMITTEE ON DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

BY COUNCILMEMBER WOOD

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Lansing that an Ordinance of the City of Lansing, Michigan, Providing for the Rezoning of a parcel of real property located in the City of Lansing, Michigan and for the revision of the district maps adopted by section 1246.02 of the Code of Ordinances for property located at Z-8-2007; 5920 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., be now passed.

YEAS: Councilmembers Allen, Dunbar, Hewitt, Jeffries, Kaltenbach, Quinney, Robinson and Wood

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

By Councilmember Wood

THAT THIS ORDINANCE, BEING NECESSARY FOR THE IMMEDIATE PRESERVATION OF THE PUBLIC, PEACE, HEALTH OR SAFETY SHALL TAKE EFFECT UPON ITS PASSAGE

Motion Carried

ORDINANCE #2535

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LANSING, MICHIGAN, PROVIDING FOR THE REZONING OF A PARCEL OF REAL PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE CITY OF LANSING, MICHIGAN AND FOR THE REVISION OF THE DISTRICT MAPS ADOPTED BY SECTION 1246.02 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES.

The City of Lansing ordains:

Section 1. That the district maps adopted by and incorporated as Section 1246.02 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Lansing, Michigan be amended to provide as follows:

To change the zoning classification of the property described as follows:

Case Number: Z-8-2007
Address: 5920 S. ML King Blvd.
Parcel Number: PPN: 33-01-05-05-306-141

Legal Descriptions: Lots 4 & 5, Webster Farm Subdivision No. 1, City of Lansing, Ingham County, Michigan, from "A" Residential District to "E-2" Local Shopping District

Section 2. All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent with the provisions hereof are hereby repealed.

Section 3. This ordinance shall take effect thirty (30) days from its passage unless given immediate effect by the City Council.

THIS ITEM WAS RETURNED TO COMMITTEE

Adoption of Z-12-2007; 500 block of E. Kalamazoo St. and the 200 block of S. Cedar St., a request filed by the City of Lansing Planning and Neighborhood Development Department and The Lenawee Company to rezone property located in the 500 block of E. Kalamazoo St. and the 200 block of S. Cedar St. from "H" Light Industrial District to "G-1" Business District for the Kalamazoo Gateway Project

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICERS, BOARDS, AND COMMISSIONS;

**COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS;
AND OTHER CITY RELATED MATTERS**

By Councilmember Quinney that all items be considered as being read in full and that President Jeffries make the appropriate referrals

Motion Carried

• Reports from City Officers, Boards and Commissions:

- a. City of Lansing Employees' Retirement System Actuarial Valuation Report for December 31, 2006

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS AND INTERNAL AUDIT

- b. Letter from the Telecommunications and Cable Advisory Board providing recommendations for public access

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS AND REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON GENERAL SERVICES

- c. Letters from the Mayor re:

- i. Application for Obsolete Property Rehabilitation Exemption Certificate filed by Michigan Avenue Investors, LLC for property located at 1605, 1609 and 1615 E. Michigan Ave.

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

- ii. Brownfield Redevelopment Plan #38; Ottawa Block Redevelopment

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

- iii. Z-15-2007; 111 & 113 Lathrop St., Planning Board recommendation to rezone the lots from "F-1" Commercial District to "D-1" Professional Office District in lieu of the original request filed by Eric & Heather Baumstark and Mary Hill to rezone the properties located at 111 & 113 Lathrop St. from "F-1" Commercial District to "C" Residential District to bring the single family residential use of the lots into compliance with the Zoning Ordinance

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

- iv. Z-16-2007; 2619 E. Mt. Hope Ave., Planning Board recommendations regarding a request filed by Jade Management, LLC to rezone the property located at 2619 E. Mt. Hope Ave. from "A" Residential District to "D-1" Professional Office District to permit the building at this location to be used for offices

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

- v. TCO-08-002; Installation of stop signs on Grant St. at the intersection of Pacific Parkway

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SERVICES AND REFERRED TO THE PUBLIC SERVICE DEPARTMENT

- vi. TCO-08-011; Traffic regulation on Pleasant Grove Rd. from Reo Rd. to Risdale Ave.

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SERVICES AND REFERRED TO THE PUBLIC SERVICE DEPARTMENT

- vii. Transfer of Funds; 911 Communications Fund,

UPS Upgrade

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS AND INTERNAL AUDIT

• Communications and Petitions, and Other City Related Matters:

- a. Notice from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality of the issuance of Permit No. 07-33-0053-P to River Street Triangle LLC, Wyoming, MI to reconstruct a new parking area within the 100-year floodplain, which requires excavating approximately 130 cubic yards of material and filling 130 cubic yards; and place a security fence around the new parking lot, of which a portion is within the limits of the Grand River floodway and as hydraulically modeled does not cause a harmful interference to flood flows

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING AND REFERRED TO THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

- b. Notice from the State of Michigan Public Service Commission of a public hearing for the gas customers of Consumers Energy Company Case U-15454 to be held on February 7, 2008

RECEIVED AND PLACED ON FILE

- c. Letter from Comcast Cable providing notice of rate adjustments effective March 1, 2008

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS AND REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON GENERAL SERVICES AND REFERRED TO THE CABLE ADVISORY BOARD

- d. Letter from Walter Brown, President of Knollwood Willow Neighborhood Association stating concerns with video surveillance camera warning signs in the neighborhood

REFERRED TO THE MAYOR AND REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

- e. Letter from Stan Shuck of 818 Cooper Ave. stating concerns with Waste Management collection times

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SERVICES AND REFERRED TO THE PUBLIC SERVICE DEPARTMENT

- f. Letter from Justin Fuqua of 4124 Windward Dr. regarding snow plowing in the City

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SERVICES AND REFERRED TO THE PUBLIC SERVICE DEPARTMENT

- g. Letter from Fred Williams of 350 E. Gier St. stating concerns with City TV

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS AND REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON GENERAL SERVICES AND REFERRED TO THE CABLE ADVISORY BOARD

REMARKS BY COUNCILMEMBERS

Councilmember Kaltenbach stated that he had several communications from Stan Shuck to pass along to Councilmember Hewitt.

Councilmember Dunbar spoke about the Planning and Neighborhood Development Department CDBG home repair funds.

Councilmember Allen spoke about the proposed Board of Water and Light's rate hike and how it could negatively affect citizens of Lansing.

She also spoke about several upcoming items on the Public Safety Committee agenda.

Councilmember Quinney addressed comments made by a speaker about his union affiliation.

**REMARKS BY THE MAYOR
OR EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT**

Jerry Ambrose, Executive Assistant to Mayor Bernero, reminded everyone about Mayor Bernero's 2008 State of the City address tomorrow at 7:00 pm. at the Hill Center for Academics and Technology located at 5815 wise road.

Council President Jeffries appointed councilmember Dunbar to the Tri-County Commission on Aging.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT JEFFRIES RECESSED THE MEETING AT 8:59 P.M. TO BE RECONVENED AT 6:55 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30, 2008 TO RECEIVE MAYOR BERNERO'S 2008 STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS

President Jeffries reconvened the City Council Meeting at 6:55 P.M. on Wednesday, January 30, 2008 and introduced Mayor Bernero who presented the following State of the City Address:



**Mayor Virg Bernero
2008 State of the City Address**

"Building Lansing 's Future"

Hill Career Academy
January 30, 2008

Good evening ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to the Hill Career Academy.

Thanks so much to Superintendent Dr. T.C. Wallace, Jr., Board President Hugh Clarke and the members of our Board of Education for hosting us tonight.

I want to acknowledge and thank the most important person in my life -- my love, my compass and my strength, Lansing's First Lady, Teri Bernero. Teri and I are blessed to have with us tonight our beautiful daughters, Kelly and Virginia, the lights of our lives. Happy birthday, Kelly.

I want to thank my colleagues on the Lansing City Council for their partnership in moving Lansing forward. In particular I want to congratulate new Council President Brian Jeffries and Vice President Derrick Quinney and welcome our two newest Council members, Eric Hewitt and A'Lymle Robinson.

I look forward to working with all of you in the years ahead. This year -- 2008 -- can be a GREAT year for Lansing if we work together to build Lansing's future.

In public service, no one accomplishes anything alone, and I am blessed with an all-star team that is second-to-none. Will the members of my Cabinet and staff and all city employees please stand and be recognized for your outstanding service.

I am pleased to report that the state of our City is good -- and growing stronger.

2007 was another banner year of economic growth and investment in Lansing. Even as our state continues to battle the economic storms, Lansing is making strides toward economic recovery and renaissance.

Change is no longer just in the air, but on the streets, in our neighborhoods, along our riverfront, and in our downtown. Everywhere I go people are talking about the positive changes in Lansing.

And folks, it's just the beginning. The best is yet to come.

Lansing has all the ingredients for greatness. The Capital City. Michigan State University, our world-class university. Cooley Law School, the largest in the nation. Lansing Community College, where people of all ages pursue their dreams. One of the world's leading corporations -General Motors. And a creative workforce and talented citizens second-to-none.

I know that if we simply leverage these incredible assets and get us all rowing in the same direction, we can grow Lansing into one of the great Midwestern capital cities.

In these tough economic times, the smart citizens of Lansing haven't waited for things to get better. We are actively engaged in making it happen. The year ahead promises to be one of incredible transformation for our City.

Michigan's Capital City is on the move. Because we dared to believe in Lansing, our City stands on the cusp of an economic renaissance, a resurgence that you can see and feel.

Our unemployment rate is far below the state average. We are leading the state in new job creation. We have leveraged more than half a BILLION dollars in new investment that will literally transform the skyline of our City and create thousands of new jobs.

We have sent the message loud and clear -- Lansing is open for business. We are rolling out the red carpet -- instead of the red tape -- and we are getting results.

Already work has begun on the Accident Fund's monumental effort to bring the historic Ottawa Power Station back to life. Vacant for nearly two decades, it will soon be transformed into a powerful new engine of economic growth. The redevelopment of the Power Station represents a public and private investment of more than \$180 million and the retention and creation of more than 1,000 jobs.

The team that is making it happen is with us tonight.

Accident Fund CEO Liz Haar. Christman Company President Steve Roznowski. Mark Morante of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation. Lisa Webb Sharpe, Director of the Michigan Department of Management and Budget. BWL General Manager Peter Lark. And Bob Trezise, President and CEO of the Lansing Economic Development Corporation.

Will you please stand and be recognized for helping us to build Lansing's future.

And there is more -- much more. The Capital Club Towers condominium project. The Kalamazoo Gateway project. The new Michigan State Police headquarters. And the proposed Market Place and Ballpark North projects that will build a new urban village along our riverfront, creating a vibrant new future for the historic Lansing City Market.

Another of our Lansing-based insurance companies -- Jackson National Life -- is planning to invest \$60 million and create 400 new jobs. We are pulling out all the stops to make sure they grow their business right here in Lansing. Our partnership with Alaeidon Township to help JNL expand is a model of intergovernmental cooperation that benefits our entire region.

I see Supervisor John Daher from Lansing Township is with us tonight. John, I look forward to working with you for mutually beneficial growth as well.

Stay tuned for even more good news. Soon we will announce yet another major new development in the heart of our downtown.

With the help of an amazing group of public and private sector partners, We are reinventing Lansing's urban landscape. Giving our City more curb appeal will help us keep more of the young people who graduate by the thousands from our colleges and universities.

Our success in making Lansing a cool city that retains young, creative people is most evident in Old Town -- our own "Capital of Cool." The proof is in Old Town's thriving arts and music scene and the unique galleries and boutiques that fill their storefronts.

And, of course, their incredible victory in the national IKEA design contest. The spirit of Robert Busby is indeed alive and well in Old Town!

Last year I spoke about my plan to combine two of our existing assets -- the Capital Area District Library and the Impression 5 Science Center -- to create a world-class library and children's museum. This incredible new attraction in our downtown, just a stone's throw from the State Capitol, will draw visitors from across the region and around the state.

Tonight I am pleased to report that this exciting plan is moving forward. This summer, voters will be asked to approve a new millage that will enhance libraries across the Lansing region and build the new combined facility in our downtown. Thanks to CADL Executive Director Sue Hill and 1-5 Executive Director Eric Larsen and their boards for joining forces on this terrific project. Sue and Eric, let's make it happen!

My friends, there is no doubt that our downtown is driving the economic progress of the entire City. With each new development, with hundreds of new workers and downtown residents, we are building a stronger tax base, generating new dollars that we can use to enhance neighborhood safety, improve youth recreation, fix our roads and maintain our parks.

And let's not forget that these major construction projects will employ thousands of workers in the skilled trades. When we are building, brick masons are working. Ironworkers, electricians and plumbers are working -- and carpenters, too. New investment means new jobs for Lansing.

I want to thank the men and women of the Building and Construction Trades who are helping us build Lansing's future. I appreciate your partnership and look forward to working hand in hand with you to move our City forward. Will those of you here tonight please stand and be recognized.

Beyond the borders of our downtown, Lansing's economy is showing undeniable signs of strength. Lansing-based manufacturers are rising to the challenge of low-cost foreign competition. Demmer Corporation is adding 1,000 new jobs. Peckham Industries, Barnes Aerospace, S and S Die Company and many others are hiring new workers.

And how about our hometown car company, General Motors? Talk about hitting on all cylinders. The national automotive press has unanimously declared that our cars -- Lansing-built cars -- are some of the best cars in the world. I couldn't be prouder of our hometown team that has put Lansing on the map in a very powerful way.

Please welcome the teams that are building these outstanding vehicles. From Lansing Grand River: Plant Manager Bob Glass, UAW Local 652 President Tiny Sherwood, Recording Secretary Fred Charles and the

UAW team that builds the all-new Cadillac CTS, the 2008 Motor Trend Car of the Year!

And from Lansing Delta: Plant Manager Randy Thayer, UAW Local 602 President Doug Rademaker and the UAW team that builds the Buick Enclave, a finalist for 2008 North American Car of the Year.

Citizens of Lansing and the region should take pride in this incredible achievement. We should toot our horns about the great vehicles and the great partnership between the UAW and General Motors management that helped make it possible. Let there be no doubt -- you have restored the roar to the GM product line. Not only are you building great cars, you are building Lansing's future.

And how about this amazing award? The 2008 Motor Trend Car of the Year. These Golden Calipers are recognized around the world as the pinnacle of automotive excellence. This is the Stanley Cup of car building. And these are the world champions who brought it home to Lansing.

Folks, we CAN compete in this global economy. Thank you GM and UAW for reminding us that American ingenuity is still the best in the world.

Just as our hometown car company is retooling to be more competitive globally, we are retooling our local economy to diversify our jobs base -- and create a high-tech hotspot right here in Lansing.

Lansing-based technology companies are racing ahead to bring the latest innovations to market. MSU spinoffs like Niowave, AquaBioChip and XG Sciences are taking cutting-edge technologies from the research lab to the marketplace, right here in Lansing.

We are blessed to have two strong and growing hospital systems -- Sparrow and Ingham Regional that are strengthening our physical and our financial health.

Both have recently completed multimillion dollar expansions.

But these fast-growing job providers need a workforce that keeps them well stocked with talented employees. To meet this imperative, we must better train our young people for the jobs of the future -- computer programmers and systems analysts, laboratory technicians and engineers.

Earlier this week we announced that the shuttered Holmes Street School on Lansing's East Side will become a high-tech learning center for young people. One of Lansing's fastest growing technology companies, Spartan Internet, will expand into the school and partner with us to create the new Information Technology Empowerment Center -- ITEC. ITEC will help our kids develop the knowledge and skills they need to succeed in the emerging global economy.

I want to thank the team that is making ITEC a reality. Ryan Vartogian from Spartan Internet. Dr. Hi Fitzgerald from Michigan State University. David Hollister, president and CEO of the Prima Civitas Foundation. Adam Pitcher of the Holmes Street Neighborhood Association. Andy Kotarba, CEO of Dewpoint. And Kenny Szymusiak of our Economic Development Corporation. Please stand and be recognized.

Last night, Governor Granholm issued a challenge to communities throughout the state to help create 21st Century Schools that better prepare our young people to succeed in today's high tech world. Her proposal to create smaller, more effective high schools comes with critical state funding to help make the plan a reality.

Tonight, Dr. Wallace and I are embracing this plan for our children's future. We will bring together key partners in health care, technology, business and higher education to make it happen, right here in Lansing.

I want to thank Sparrow Hospital CEO Dennis Swan, LCC President

Dr. Judith Cardenas, LSEA President Jerry Swartz, and MSU Associate Provost for Human Health Randy Hillard for agreeing to join us in this groundbreaking endeavor.

When it comes to investing in our youth, Lansing takes a backseat to no one. Kudos to Police Chief Mark Alley for making the HOPE Connections program such a huge success. Chief, thanks for all you do to help our kids make it across the finish line and qualify for two years of tuition at Lansing Community College.

Just as we are rebuilding Lansing's economy, we are rebuilding Lansing's neighborhoods. Our Neighborhood Enhancement Action Team -- NEAT -- has stepped up enforcement against absentee landlords who allow their neglect to erode the quality of life in our neighborhoods. With the help of City Attorney Brigham Smith, we are cracking down and getting results.

We have strengthened neighborhood safety by adding four new Community Police Officers. A fifth new officer is working to expand neighborhood watch, giving people the tools they need to work together to make our community safer.

But we aren't stopping there. New residential developments are breathing new life into older neighborhoods, attracting hundreds of new residents to live in our City. In the year ahead, more new homes will rise on the campus of the School for the Blind and on the Ottawa Parcel just west of the Capitol.

We have launched an exciting new partnership with the Ingham County Land Bank to buy deteriorating properties and transform them into affordable, quality homes. Ingham County Treasurer Eric Schertzing has spearheaded this exciting initiative, which is seeing results all over Lansing. Eric, please rise and be recognized for your leadership.

At the same time we are working with a broad coalition to address the foreclosure crisis confronting Lansing and cities across America. This crisis is an enormous threat to the growth and long-term health of our community. It affects us all.

If you are in danger of losing your home to foreclosure, please don't wait -- communicate. Seek help now by calling 2-1-1 or visit our website at holdontoyourhome.org. The help is free and confidential.

In the year ahead we will form another exciting new partnership to strengthen our neighborhoods. The Greater Lansing Housing Coalition and its new Executive Director, Lynne Martinez, is teaming up with our Planning and Neighborhood Development Department, led by Bob Johnson.

Together, they will create a new Neighborhood Empowerment Center that will serve as a onestop neighborhood shop for first-time home buyers, help with home repairs, community services and much more. Lynne and Bob, will you please stand and be recognized.

And that's not all. Few things are more important than revitalizing our housing stock, growing our tax base, strengthening home ownership and creating hundreds of construction jobs in our City. Tonight I propose an innovative new program that promises to do just that.

Under my plan, if you make qualified improvements to your home, or if you transform an old, abandoned house into an owner-occupied home, we will offer you a 50% break on the increased taxes resulting from those improvements.

We offer similar incentives to downtown developers -- and they are working. They will work for our neighborhoods as well.

And now I invite you to look around at this beautiful Auditorium. For decades the people of south Lansing have wanted a community center to call their own. Tonight I am pleased to report that we are making that dream a reality. The City will invest more than two million dollars to create the long-awaited South Side Community Center right here at the

Hill Academy.

Dr. Wallace, thank you so much for your partnership as we transform this building into a neighborhood community center for families, children and seniors. Special thanks to the South Side Citizen Action Team, chaired by Frank Lain, who worked diligently to develop this plan. Thanks also to the Lansing City Council and our School Board for their support and approval. Will all of you please stand and be recognized.

Last year I signed the Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement and unveiled the Go Green! Go Lansing! Initiative to make our City a national leader in environmental stewardship and energy efficiency. Our major partners in this effort are the Lansing Board of Water and Light and Lansing Community College. East Lansing Mayor Vic Loomis also has committed to join us. Together, we are inviting leaders across the region to "Go Green". It is truly the only way to facilitate sustainable growth in the region.

Tonight I challenge Lansing to take the Go Green Pledge. I invite every citizen and every business, large and small, to visit our new website at gogreengolansing.com to take the pledge.

Thanks to the Granger Company and the Greater Lansing Convention and Visitors Bureau for supporting this important effort. Together, we will make Lansing cleaner and greener for generations to come. Will all of our Go Green partners please rise and be recognized.

Conserving energy is just one way that we are changing how City Hall does business. In the last two years we have made great progress in putting a stop to irresponsible spending habits of the past. Over the last two years we erased \$17 million in budget deficits without raising taxes, without laying off employees and without draining our reserves.

But I must be frank with you. In the year ahead we will face our greatest fiscal challenge yet. To overcome this challenge, we must take bold action to contain exploding health care costs. Last year my team and I led the way by becoming the first city employees ever to pay a share of our health care premiums.

Tonight, once again, I call on this Council and on our employees to join us. In these tough times, Lansing citizens have made sacrifices and so must we.

I have worked hard to bring necessary changes to City Hall. And we are not done changing, just as we are not done living.

Yet change is still scary to some. When we explore uncharted territory the willingness to risk is part of the journey.

Change is tough. Change is unsettling, especially to those who are wedded to the status quo. But we will not get where we need to go by doing the same things in the same ways. That's not how GM won the Car of the Year Award and it's not how Lansing is going to succeed.

My friends, the world is changing fast. We have to run, not walls, just to stay in the game.

As long as I am your Mayor, Lansing will not be left behind. "Good enough" is not good enough for Lansing any more.

We will never take the leap from good to GREAT unless we have the courage to leave our comfort zone and reach higher.

When I accepted the job as your mayor, I asked: why not Lansing? Why not Lansing in the same sentence as great capital cities like Madison, Columbus and Indianapolis? I asked you to believe in Lansing and to join with me in seeing the possibilities for what our city could be.

Tonight I invite you to take a good look around our city and tell me if you don't agree -- we are building Lansing's future, right before our

very eyes. But first we had to believe it was possible and we had to be willing to embrace change.

It may be human nature to resist change. But it is also human nature to push ahead. We are innovators. We are builders. We are the architects of our own future.

Won't you join me in dreaming big dreams for our city, for ourselves, for our children? Let's work to make those dreams come true.

We stand at the doorway to our future.

Together, we can walk through that door and build a better future for Lansing and for each of our residents.

Thanks so much for the opportunity to make a positive difference for all of us. Good night, God bless you and God bless Lansing.

ADJOURNED TIME 7:30 P.M.

CHRIS SWOPE, CITY CLERK