



OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF
THE CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF LANSING
PROCEEDINGS OF MAY 5, 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 Jeffries, Kaltenbach, Quinney, Robinson, Wood

ABSENT: Councilmembers Allen (Arrived at 7:08), Dunbar (Arrived at 7:13) and Hewitt (Arrived at 7:11)

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

Councilmember Allen arrived at the meeting at 7:08 p.m.

APPROVAL OF PRINTED COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

By Councilmember Quinney

To approve the printed Council Proceedings of April 28, 2008 and Corrected Proceedings of April 21, 2008

Motion carried

SPECIAL CEREMONIES

- Special Ceremonies

1. Presentation; Honoring National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day

Councilmember Wood spoke about Honoring National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day. She stated that there is an art display in the lobby of City Hall and there will be a presentation from May 4-8, 2008.

City Clerk Swope read the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION#194

BY COUNCILMEMBER CAROL WOOD
RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANSING

WHEREAS, May 8, 2008, will be the third annual National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day launched by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA); and

WHEREAS, National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day is an opportunity for SAMHSA funded communities and partner organizations to promote positive youth development, resilience, recovery, and the transformation of mental health services delivery for children and youth with serious mental health needs and their families; and

WHEREAS, the three goals of National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day are to:

Raise awareness of effective programs for children's mental health issues

Demonstrate how children's mental health initiatives promote positive youth development, recovery, and resilience

Show how children with mental health needs thrive in their community; and

WHEREAS, Impact, Ingham County's System of Care initiative, seeks to transform how children and youth with serious mental health needs, and their families are supported as valuable members of Ingham County, by ensuring access to integrated and high quality mental health services, and full participation in the design and implementation of their care; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lansing City Council, hereby, endorses National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day on the occasions of the 2008 National Children's Mental Health Awareness Week and "May as Mental Health Month."

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Lansing City Council wishes to recognize the outstanding efforts of all involved with the success of National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day, including the Youth and Families from Ingham County, Association for Children's Mental Health, Boys & Girls Club of Lansing, Capital Area United Way, Child and Family Services - Capital Area, Community Mental Health Authority C-E-I, Cristo Rey Community Center, Highfields, Ingham County Circuit Court/Family Division, Ingham County Department of Human Services, Ingham Intermediate School District, Lansing Police Department, Lansing School District, Lutheran Social Services/Michigan, Michigan Indian Child Welfare Agency, and St. Vincent Catholic Charities.

By Councilmember Wood

Motion Carried

Councilmember Hewitt arrived at the meeting at 7:11 p.m.

Councilmember Wood stated that National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day was about promoting positive youth development.

Councilmember Dunbar arrived at the meeting at 7:13 p.m.

Harvey Smith encouraged citizens to come and check out the art displayed in the lobby of City Hall.

Jerry Ambrose, Executive Assistant to Mayor Bernero, stated that on behalf of Mayor Bernero, the administration was happy to recognize National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day and invited citizens to view the display in City Hall lobby.

COUNCILMEMBERS' COMMENTS AND CITY CLERK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Councilmember Robinson announced that Living Hope Vineyard Church is leading an outreach community project, along with the Churchill Downs Community Association and Wainwright School, to paint the exterior of Wainwright School and plant flowers.

Councilmember Hewitt thanked Comcast Cable for their Comcast Cares Day at Cristo Rey Community Center.

Councilmember Allen announced the South Lansing Manufactured Home Association meeting for residents of Mill Pond Village. She encouraged citizens to see the play "Escanaba in Love" at BoarsHead Theater and spoke about the wonderful time she had at the Diversity Day celebration.

Councilmember Wood stated that the Riverview Estates

Neighborhood meeting has been canceled; she stated that tonight in downtown the 15th Annual Police Officers' Memorial is taking place and that this may affect parking and access in downtown.

Councilmember Allen asked Jerry Ambrose, Executive Assistant to Mayor Bernero, about signage and how to direct people into Ingham Regional Medical Center on South Pennsylvania Ave. due to construction.

Councilmember Dunbar announced the Clifford Park Neighborhood Association meeting.

City Clerk Swope stated that Lansing residents in the Holt and Waverly school districts have a school election tomorrow, May 6, 2008. He announced the Tri-County Office on Aging's Public Hearing on its Implementation Plan.

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 this past Saturday's Third Annual Diversity Day Celebration at Lansing Eastern High School's Don Johnson Field House and stated that the event was a terrific success. He announced that this coming weekend the Fifth Annual Home Run for H.O.P.E. baseball tournament returns to Oldsmobile Park. He spoke extensively about the City's Fiscal Year 2009 Budget. He stated that Standard and Poor's bond rating agency reviewed our finances as a City and gave us some very good news -- our AA+ credit rating has been reaffirmed. He spoke about the passing of Monica Dungey. He stated that Monica was a great neighbor. She was active in many neighborhood activities and initiatives from neighborhood clean-ups and beautification efforts to looking out for neighborhood children. On behalf of the people of the City of Lansing, he extended the deepest sympathies to Monica's family. Finally, he mentioned Saturday's grand opening of the Hunter Park Garden House at 12:30 pm.

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 hearing:

1. In consideration of the City of Lansing Fiscal Year 2009 Budget, Tax Rate, and Truth In Taxation

By Councilmember Allen

To recommit the resolution Setting a Show Cause Hearing for May 19, 2008 in consideration of the issuance of orders for Make Safe or Demolish to the owners of property located at 504 S. Hayford Ave.

Motion Carried

Councilmember Quinney gave an extensive overview of the budget process to date.

William Hubbell of 3916 Wedgewood Dr. spoke about the city budget.

Sam Quon of 3340 Ginger Snap Ln. spoke about the city budget.

Mike Parker of 5800 Executive Dr. spoke about the city budget.

Thomas Ryan of 4336 Chadburne Dr. spoke about the city budget.

John Pollard of 1718 Blair St. spoke about the city budget.

Darnell E. Oldham, Sr. of 3815 Berwick Dr. spoke about the city budget.

Christine Timmon of 2519 S. Washington Ave. spoke about truth in taxation.

Charlene Decker of 2711 Pleasant Grove Rd. spoke about the city budget and tax abatements.

Carl Calille of 306 Harriet Ave. spoke about golf courses and the city budget.

Stan Shuck of 818 Cooper Ave. spoke about the city budget, early retirement buyouts and golf courses.

Ronald Kruger of 3333 Moore River Dr. spoke about healthcare and tax abatements.

REFERRAL OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. In consideration of the City of Lansing Fiscal Year 2009 Budget, Tax Rate, and Truth In Taxation

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

PUBLIC COMMENT ON CITY GOVERNMENT RELATED MATTERS:

Jon Miles of 1128 Woodbine Ave. spoke about golf courses.

Loretta Stanaway of 546 Armstrong Rd. spoke about the Lansing Boat Club.

Harold King 1563 N. High St. spoke about various city matters.

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

Thomas Ryan of 4336 Chadburne Dr. spoke about accommodations for handicapped speakers at the podium.

Ronald Kruger of 3333 Moore River Dr. spoke about allegedly handicapped speakers at the podium.

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

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

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

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

Carl Calille of 306 Harriet Ave. spoke about various city matters.

LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

RESOLUTIONS

THIS ITEM WAS RETURNED TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

Setting a Show Cause Hearing for May 19, 2008 in consideration of the issuance of orders for Make Safe or Demolish to the owners of property located at 504 S. Hayford Ave.

RESOLUTION#195

BY COUNCILMEMBERS **SANDY ALLEN, KATHIE DUNBAR, ERIC HEWITT, BRIAN JEFFRIES, TIM KALTENBACH, DERRICK QUINNEY, A'LYNNE ROBINSON AND CAROL WOOD**
RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANSING

WHEREAS, Monica Dungey after a valiant struggle with cancer went home to be with her heavenly Father on Tuesday, April 29, 2008; and

WHEREAS, Monica was born in Lansing on August 24, 1956, the daughter of Daniel and Annie (Modder) Paulino, who preceded her in death, Daniel Paulino, Jr. in 1998 and Annie Sibylla Modder in 2003; and WHEREAS, she is survived by her loving husband of 30 years, Martin: sons, Jacob and Justin; grandson, Justice; and a host of relatives and friends; and

WHEREAS, Monica was very close to her family and friends and will be remembered for her big heart and generous nature; even during her health challenges she thought of others before herself; and

WHEREAS, Monica was active in her community through the Coachlight Neighborhood Association, serving as its President; encouraging others to become involved, she also served as a member of the Committee for the establishment of the Southside Community Center; and

WHEREAS, Monica saw the beauty in nature and in spring she enjoyed tending her beloved tulips. She will be remembered for her ability to "Power Shop", always finding a bargain and with a little bit of paint, metal or fabric, could transform nearly anything into a beautiful painting, handcrafted jewelry, or quilts; and

WHEREAS, her family will celebrate her life on Saturday, May 3, 2008, at 11:00 a.m. at the Palmer, Bush & Jensen Family Funeral Homes, Holt Chapel, 5035 Holt Rd. with the Reverend Robert L. Jenkins officiating; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lansing City Council, hereby, recognizes Monica Dungey for her many contributions to the City of Lansing through her community efforts and extends its deepest condolences to her family during this difficult time. Lansing, Coachlight Neighborhood, and the "Southside" have been enriched because of Monica's commitment to serving others.

By Councilmember Robinson

To place an affirmative roll on the resolution

By Councilmember Allen

To amend the Resolution by adding Councilmembers Sandy Allen, Kathie Dunbar, Eric Hewitt, Brian Jeffries, Tim Kaltenbach, and Derrick Quinney as cosponsors of the Resolution

Motion Carried

The question being placing an affirmative roll on the resolution

Motion Carried

RESOLUTION#196

BY THE COMMITTEE ON GENERAL SERVICES
RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANSING

WHEREAS, Louis Crenshaw sought to eliminate special assessments on board-ups in the amount of \$650.94 and \$651.00 and all associated penalties and interest placed on the property tax bill of 1828 Davis Avenue, Lansing, Michigan; and

WHEREAS, the General Services Committee met on April 21, 2008, to review the claims filed by Mr. Louis Crenshaw;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council, hereby, grants the claim filed by Louis Crenshaw to eliminate the special assessment in the amount of \$650.94 on a board-up, and denies the claim in the amount of \$651.00 on a separate board-up and all associated penalties and interest placed on the property tax bill of 1828 Davis Avenue, Lansing, Michigan;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Attorney shall take the appropriate steps to process this claim.

By Councilmember Kaltenbach

Motion Carried

RESOLUTION#197

BY THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANSING

WHEREAS, the Michigan Main Street Program is entering its sixth year of educational and national caliber training for select downtown/commercial node transitional areas that possess historic buildings, predominantly zero lot line development, substantial commercial development, a local main street organization, and private and public funds; and

WHEREAS, Lansing's Principal Shopping District has expressed its strong Board and community support for the Michigan Main Street designation; and

WHEREAS, Lansing's Principal Shopping District was the city's original and predominant commercial district for decades since the city's inception, yet has reached a maturity stage of its revitalization effort and is in need of organizational renewal and invigoration through national training and educational guidance from Michigan Main Street; and

WHEREAS, Michigan Main Street is not a grant program, but provides educational guidance and national caliber training, such as: Reconnaissance Team, Market Study, Resource Team, Community Initiative Development Training, Volunteer Training, Work Plan Development, Quarterly Management Training, Design Guidelines, and Façade Improvement Assistance; and

WHEREAS, only through designation as a Michigan Main Street community can the Principal Shopping District's Washington Square Commercial Corridor achieve national accreditation of the National Trust's National Main Street Center; and

WHEREAS, Lansing's Principal Shopping District will receive statewide and national exposure joining an elite set of communities who have been accepted into the Michigan Main Street Program, drawing renewed attention to the City of Lansing and our downtown; and

WHEREAS, other traditional commercial node/commercial areas of Lansing may also sit in and receive and learn from the Michigan Main Street training and programming conducted in the Principal Shopping District; and

WHEREAS, an application to the Michigan Main Street program should be submitted by May 2, 2008;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lansing City Council, hereby, authorizes the Principal Shopping District's submission of an application to the Michigan Main Street program, understanding that there is no matching funds required by the City of Lansing.

By Councilmember Quinney

Motion Carried

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES

There were no Committee Reports

ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION

There were no Ordinances for Introduction

ORDINANCES FOR PASSAGE

There were no Ordinances for Passage

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. Letters from the City Clerk submitting:
- i. Appeal of Secondhand Dealer's License denial filed by Ryan Swensen of Top Hat Pawn & Sales

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON GENERAL SERVICES AND REFERRED TO THE CITY ATTORNEY

- ii. An application for a permit/license filed by Applebee's Enterprises, LLC to Transfer Ownership of 2007 Class C licensed business, located at 6270 S. Cedar St., Cedar Edge Shopping Mall, from Applebee's of Michigan, Inc. to Applebee's Restaurants Mid-Atlantic LLC (A Delaware Limited Liability Company)

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON GENERAL SERVICES AND REFERRED TO THE CITY ATTORNEY

- b. Letters from the Mayor re:
- i. General Fund Status Report – FY 2008 3rd Quarter

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS AND INTERNAL AUDIT AND REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

- ii. Transfers of Funds:
- 911 Communications Center, Computer Assisted Design (CAD) Upgrade
 - Police Capital Area Response Effort (CARE) Program, Donation/Contributions
 - State/Federal Programs, Asset Seizure Federal Grant Program
 - Cops-PSN 2008 Guns/Drugs/Gangs Grant

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS AND INTERNAL AUDIT

- iii. Brownfield Redevelopment Plan #42, NuUnion Credit Union for property located at 6501 S. Cedar St. (Former Regent Inn Hotel)

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

- iv. Brownfield Redevelopment Plan #43; 3215 S. Penn LLC for property located at 3215 S. Pennsylvania Ave.

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

• Communications and Petitions, and Other City Related Matters:

- a. Michigan Tax Tribunal Appeal filed on behalf of C.V.L.M./Tutera for property located at 707 Armstrong Rd.

REFERRED TO THE CITY ASSESSOR AND REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

- b. Letter regarding claim dispute submitted on behalf of Stephen Wilensky for property located at 1149 S. Washington Ave.

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON GENERAL SERVICES

- c. Letter from Al Bay, 512 Albert St., East Lansing, regarding the proposed Impression 5 Museum/District Library building

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

REMARKS BY COUNCILMEMBERS

Councilmember Dunbar asked Jerry Ambrose, Executive Assistant to Mayor Bernero, about the possibility of early retirement options for city employees.

Councilmember Allen asked Jerry Ambrose, Executive Assistant to Mayor Bernero, about the city income tax and if in the future residents could request that the city keep their refunds.

Councilmember Robinson wished her Aunt Betty a happy birthday and announced the next 3rd Ward 2nd Saturday meeting.

Councilmember Kaltenbach thanked Mayor Bernero's administration for reopening Fire Station #3.

REMARKS BY THE MAYOR OR EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Jerry Ambrose, Executive Assistant to Mayor Bernero, addressed Councilmember Allen's questions regarding traffic into Ingham Regional Medical Center and the city income tax.

Councilmember Allen asked was their traffic signage into Ingham Regional Medical Center.

Jerry Ambrose, Executive Assistant to Mayor Bernero, stated that there is signage into Ingham Regional Medical Center. He spoke about the budget and stated that there is a workable solution to the budget situation.

ADJOURNED TIME 9:01 P.M.

CHRIS SWOPE, CITY CLERK