

**MINUTES
ST. CLAIR SHORES CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 4, 2019**

Regular Meeting of the City Council, held in the Council Chambers, located at 27600 Jefferson Avenue., St. Clair Shores, Michigan.

Present: Mayor Kip C. Walby, Council Members Peter Accica, Ronald Frederick, Peter Rubino, Candice Rusie and Chris Vitale

Absent and Excused: Council Member John Caron

Also Present: City Manager Michael Smith, Assistant City Manager William Gambill, City Clerk Mary Kotowski, Directors Doug Haag, Chris Rayes and City Attorney Robert Ihrle

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Mayor Walby called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Ms. Kotowski, City Clerk, called the roll, and a quorum was present. Ms. Kotowski noted that Mr. Caron asked to be excused from this meeting.

Moved by Council Member Frederick, supported by Council Member Rubino to excuse Council Member Caron.

Ayes: All – 6
Absent: Caron

2. PROCLAMATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

a. Reflections on Ice March 22-24, 2019

Mayor Walby presented the following proclamation to members of the St. Clair Shores Figure Skating Club:

**PROCLAMATION
for the
48th ANNUAL “REFLECTIONS ON ICE” WEEKEND
March 22 – March 24, 2019**

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the City of St. Clair Shores deem it fitting and proper to publicly recognize and commend organizations dedicated to serving the youth of St. Clair Shores; and

WHEREAS, the ST. CLAIR SHORES FIGURE SKATING CLUB’S “REFLECTIONS ON ICE” show is being presented for the 48th consecutive year, featuring more than 100 local skaters ranging in age from three years old to adult from the St. Clair Shores Figure Skating Club and the St. Clair Shores Learn to Skate Program, under the direction of Claire LaDue; and

WHEREAS, guests will enjoy this year’s themed event entitled “Cirque Ice”, which will include circus events, music and costumes from around the world, performed by our own accomplished skaters;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the City of St. Clair Shores do hereby proclaim March 22 – March 24, 2019 as **“REFLECTIONS ON ICE” WEEKEND** and wish the **ST. CLAIR SHORES FIGURE SKATING CLUB** every success in this event and their year of skating.

Presented this 4th day of March 2019.

Item 2 (Cont'd):

b. Little Mack Citgo & Krispy Krunchy Chicken

Seth Kazz was presented with the following proclamation by Mayor Walby:

**Proclamation
SETH KAZZ, BUSINESS OWNER
Little Mack Citgo & Krispy Krunchy Chicken
28500 Little Mack Avenue, St. Clair Shores Michigan**

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the City of St. Clair Shores deem it fitting and proper to publicly recognize those business owners who unselfishly come to the aid of our residents; and

WHEREAS, Seth Kazz, owner of Little Mack Citgo & Krispy Krunchy Chicken, located at 28500 Little Mack Ave, St. Clair Shores, demonstrated extraordinary generosity by starting a "GoFundMe account" for an elderly resident in her time of need raising \$27,633; and

WHEREAS, Seth Kazz continues to show his support of our City by participating in the K-9 Officer Axe fundraising program which has raised \$1,500 for the St. Clair Shores K-9 Axe Memorial; and

WHEREAS, Little Mack Citgo & Krispy Krunchy Chicken has been serving St. Clair Shores and the surrounding communities since 2001 as a thriving part of the business community;

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the City of St. Clair Shores hereby recognize and honor **SETH KAZZ**, his employees and customers, for their generosity to help those in need in our community and say thank you for continuing the tradition that St. Clair Shores is the best place to live and work.*

Presented this 4th day of March 2019.

c. Women's Civic League

Sarah DeDonatis, Women's Civic League, spoke about the 2019 Scholarship program. They have revised the program so that students who attend school in St. Clair Shores as well as the students who live in St. Clair Shores are eligible to participate. The deadline for essay submissions is March 22, 2019.

3. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION ON AGENDA ITEMS (2 MINUTE TIME LIMIT) - None

4. ADOPTION OF UTILITY ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

5. BIDS/CONTRACTS/PURCHASE ORDERS –

a. Request approval to award contract to renovate tax foreclosed home at 22105 Englehardt (bids opened 2/12/19)

Background: This property is a 2018 Tax foreclosed property. Six bids were received. Staff recommends awarding the base bid and Alternate No. 1.

Alternate No. 1 includes doing the first floor bathroom. This cost consists of demolishing the tile walls, flooring, tub and shower valve and replace it with a new tub, shower valve, tile flooring and tile in the tub surround. (\$3.00 sf for tile allowance.) The wainscot portion to be replaced with gypsum board and painted with new wood base. Include same towel bars (2), towel ring, and shower faucet for the 2nd floor bathroom.

Metro Trades has been contracted previously to renovate the home at 27424 Grant. If Council does not want to award Alternate No. 1, then we recommend Ashor Associates in the amount of \$71,116.00. Ashor Associates also successfully completed two projects for us at 20011 Avalon and 21908 Alger.

Mr. Rayes showed before and after photos of the property. We spent \$2,178 to empty the house when it was first acquired.

Item 5 (Cont'd):

Moved by Council Member Rubino, and supported by Council Member Accica to approve awarding the bid to Metro Trades for the renovation of 22105 Englehardt in the amount of \$74,925.00, which includes Alternate No. 1, as recommended by the City Manager.

Ayes: Rubino, Accica, Frederick, Vitale, Walby
Nay: Rusie
Absent: Caron

b. Request approval to award 2019-21 Sidewalk Program (bids opened 2/19/19)

Background: The low bidder for the 2019 - 2021 Sidewalk Program is Italia Construction, Inc. Italia has been the low bidder on several occasions and other than having a slow response to completing the punch list, their work has met specification. Therefore, staff is recommending awarding the contract to Italia Construction, Inc. at unit pricing for the 2019 Sidewalk Program (District 6) and Scattered Work, 2020 Sidewalk Program (District 7) and 2021 Sidewalk Program (District 8).

There was a great deal of discussion regarding the increase in price of \$170 per square slab for the 2019 Sidewalk Program. We should not expect residents to pay such a high price to replace sidewalk slabs. A moratorium was placed on the Sidewalk Replacement Program the last time cement prices were so high.

Mr. Rayes said concrete prices went up as much as 30% for this program as well as for the road patching. The price remains the same for all three years of the contract.

Mr. Smith reminded everyone that the City has a Community Development Block Grant Program which could help residents with the cost if they qualify.

Mr. Accica and Mr. Frederick raised concerns with Italia Construction. There were many complaints against them from residents. They would like to consider going with the second low bidder.

Mr. Ihrie said if Council chooses to put a moratorium on the sidewalk replacement program the additional liability to the City should not be very large unless there is a serious injury.

Mr. Vitale would like Council to be provided with a report on how many addresses require multiple slabs replaced.

Moved by Council Member Rubino, and supported by Council Member Vitale to award the 2019 Concrete Scatter Work contract for one year to Italia Construction, Inc. for \$84,821.50, as recommended by the City Manager.

Ayes: Rubino, Vitale, Rusie, Walby
Nays: Accica, Frederick
Absent: Caron

Moved by Council Member Accica, and supported by Council Member Vitale for a moratorium on the Sidewalk Replacement Program in 2019, and to reject the bids for the 2019 Sidewalk Replacement Program and direct staff to rebid this program in 2020.

Ayes: All – 6

c. Request approval to award 2019 Concrete Paving Contract (bids opened 2/19/19) Rescheduled to 3/18/19

6. CONSENT AGENDA – All items listed on the consent agenda are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion and approved by a vote of City Council. There will be no separate discussion of the items unless the Mayor and or a Council Member so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the general order of business and considered under the last item of the Consent Agenda.

Moved by Council Member Rubino supported by Council Member Rusie to approve the Consent Agenda items a – g as follows:

Item 6 (Cont'd):

a. Bills

February 21, 2019

\$1,893,616.25

Resolved to approve the release of checks in the amount of \$1,893,616.25 for services rendered, of the report that is 19 pages in length, and of the grand total amount of \$1,893,616.25, \$293,747.71 went to other taxing authorities.

b. Fees - None

c. Progress Payments

Resolved that the following Progress Payments be approved as presented:

Diversified Infrastructure Services, Inc.	\$ 514.76
Fontana Construction, Inc.	\$36,224.33

d. Approval of Minutes

Resolved that the following Minutes be approved as presented:

<u>Minutes</u>	<u>Meeting Date</u>
City Council	February 19, 2019

e. Receive & File Boards, Commissions & Committee Minutes

Resolved that the following minutes be received and filed:

<u>Minutes</u>	<u>Meeting Date</u>
Activities Committee	January 17, 2019
Beautification Commission	November 14, 2018
Beautification Commission	December 14, 2018
Beautification Commission	January 9, 2019
Cultural Committee	January 9, 2019
General Employees' Pension Board	January 15, 2019
Library Board	January 17, 2019
Mechanical Equipment Arbitration Committee	October 29, 2018
Waterfront Environmental Committee	January 15, 2019

f. Recommendations from the Council Sub Committee on Boards, Commissions and Committees

Resolved that the following recommendations be approved as presented:

1. Accept with Regret the following Resignations:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Commission</u>
Mona E. Gualtieri	Development Area Citizens Council

2. Recommendation to Mayor and Council to appoint the following:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Committee/Commission</u>	<u>Term-End Date</u>
Kathleen Campbell (Vacant seat of Ann Powell)	Historical Commission	12/31/2022
Michael G. Leydet (Vacant seat of Margaret Maison)	Historical Commission	12/31/2021
Melissa Sharp (Vacant seat of D. Scott Paladino)	Parks & Recreation Commission	12/31/2022
Melissa Sharp (New seat)	Community Garden Committee	09/30/2021

Item 6 (Cont'd):**3. Recommendation to Mayor and Council to reappoint the following:**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Commission</u>	<u>Term-End Date</u>
Lee Bertolo	Board of Review	01/01/2021
Mario Como	Board of Review	01/01/2021
Albert Melfi	Board of Review	01/01/2021
Roger Reichenbach	Board of Review	01/01/2021
Steven Scavone	Board of Review	01/01/2021

4. Recommendation to Mayor to reappoint the following:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Commission</u>	<u>Term-End Date</u>
Michael Monaghan	Water Resources Advisory Board (Alt.)	03/04/2021

- g. Request to Schedule to Schedule a Public Hearing on March 18, 2019 for the MDNR Brys Park Grants Resolved to schedule a public hearing on March 18, 2019 to hear public comments for the City of St. Clair Shores' Recreation Passport Program grant application and the Land and Water Conservation Fund grant application.**

Ayes: All – 6

Absent: Caron

7. UPDATES AND FOLLOW-UPS FROM COUNCIL MEETING

- **Fireworks Ordinance** – Mr. Ihrle is working on revising the Fireworks Ordinance in compliance with a new Public Act.
- **Senior Center Repairs** – The grease trap issue was in the specs, but the lid was not able to handle the heat that was required for the dishwasher. The exhaust fan motor was fine 1½ years ago when it was looked at.
- **Winter Storm Street Treatment** – We have not had contact with Farmington Hills regarding how they prepare their streets for winter storms. We currently use all the same equipment that we would use for a beet treatment.
- **Playground equipment** – The Sub-Committee is made up of Henry Bowman, Ron Frederick and Candice Rusie. They have a proposal starting with Welch Park. It will come before Council the second week in April.
- **Martin Road Paving** – This project is one month behind the original schedule because of some funding issues.
- **Harper/TIP Program** - We will receive almost \$675,000 from the Road Commission as part of TIP which may take us from 8 Mile to 10 Mile on Harper this year.
- **Linda's Place** – They are negotiating a lease.
- **Property West of Kroger at 9 Mile** – Hopefully, we will see some activity this year.
- **Regency Place/Water Leak** – This put them behind schedule. They should be opening in March.

8. COMMENTS BY INDIVIDUAL COUNCILPERSONS

Council Member Rusie spoke about the Public Hearing on March 18th for the grant applications. This gives the public an opportunity to provide input on these applications. If anyone would like to participate, please come to the Council meeting. Input can also be sent by email to Mr. Bill Gambill, Assistant City Manager.

She asked why HRC bid the scatter program for only one year. She would like to be provided with background on what happened.

She announced fundraisers going on around the City.

Council Member Rubino asked if our property is up for sale yet. Mr. Smith said the sign goes up next week.

Mr. Rubino said the resident at 27016 Larchmont contacted him because the strip on her approach that was damaged has not been fixed. Mr. Rayes will check into this and get back with Council.

Mr. Rubino would like us to encourage the building owner of the old pet supply store on Harper to do some cleanup of the building. Mr. Rayes said he will contact them.

Mr. Rubino said a resident alerted him to a safety issue on Greater Mack near Englehardt where watermain work had been done. Mr. Rayes will contact the inspector regarding this issue.

Item 8 (Cont'd):

Council Member Frederick spoke about the curb that was broken on Amherst when the cement was redone. He would like it to be repaired this year. Mr. Rayes will look into this.

He spoke about fundraisers, fish fries and other events going on in the City. There is a small supply of 2019 Nautical Mile Visitor Guides available at City Hall.

He announced that the South Lake High School principal, Robert Beato, was chosen as Principal of the Year.

He made several Library announcements.

Council Member Vitale asked for an update from HRC regarding the connection of sump pumps to storm sewer lines. Mr. Rayes said HRC is working on this, and he will check with them for an update.

Mr. Vitale asked what is going on with the Grecian Table. Mr. Rayes said they have a permit for the new windows they are cutting into the side. However, they do not have a permit for the renovation. The City sent them a letter letting them know they need a permit.

Council Member Accica spoke about the playground equipment fundraiser he attended. He also spoke about the work being done at Wyatt's House. This house is being built very sturdy.

He brought up a concern that people are parking on the approach on Martin east of Harper which makes it difficult to see when you are leaving Village Market. This needs to be looked at.

9. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT - None

10. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (5 MINUTE TIME LIMIT) - None

11. MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Walby spoke in great length about the Farmer's Market. It has been very successful through November 2018, and there has been a very good working relationship between the City, TIFA and the Farmer's Market organizers. The volunteers have done an outstanding job, and this was the best donation TIFA ever made.

Unfortunately, policies and procedures were not being followed which is a problem when you are involved with spending government money. He also spoke about the 501c3 tax-exempt status request by the Farmer's Market member.

He made it quite clear that the Farmer's Market was good for St. Clair Shores and that there will be a Farmer's Market in 2019. We will do our best to make this happen in less than 90 days.

There is a new mural at the Senior Center which depicts the old St. Clair Shores and the new St. Clair Shores.

He gave an update on the Wyatt's House project which included a slide presentation showing the progress. He thanked the businesses and the residents who have worked on and donated to this project.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Council Member Frederick, supported by Council Member Rubino to adjourn at 8:42 p.m.

Ayes: All – 6
Absent: Caron

KIP C. WALBY, MAYOR

MARY A. KOTOWSKI, CITY CLERK

(THE PRECEDING MINUTES ARE A SYNOPSIS OF A CITY COUNCIL MEETING AND DO NOT REPRESENT A VERBATIM RECORD).