

MINUTES JANUARY 9, 2024
REGULAR MEETING OF THE DEARBORN HEIGHTS CITY COUNCIL

Approved for the Agenda of:

01-23-24

APPROVED

Motion No. 24 - 029

24-001 The meeting was called to order at 6:08 p.m. by Clerk Lynne M. Senia.

Roll Call showed the following:

Present: Councilman Hassan Ahmad, Councilman Mo Baydoun, Councilwoman Nancy Bryer, Councilman Robert Constan, Councilwoman Denise Malinowski Maxwell, Councilman Hassan Saab, Councilman Tom Wencel.

Absent: None.

Also Present: City Clerk Senia, Mayor Bazzi, City Engineer Dib, CEDD Director Jamal, Comptroller King, Corporation Counsel Farinha, DPW Director Conrad, IT Director Cooper, Library Director McCaffery, Ordinance Enforcement & Animal Control Director Dishroon, Parks & Recreation Director Laurencelle.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Sam Jaafar, Sam Baydoun, and Dave Abdallah.

Councilman Mo Baydoun took the oath of office, as administered by Judge Yvonna Abraham.

Councilman Hassan Ahmad presented a City Council Proclamation to Zouher Abdel-Hak, thanking him for the various ways he has served the City.

City Clerk Senia stated that every two years there is a reorganization of the Dearborn Heights City Council in which the members nominate and elect a Council Chair and a Council Chair Pro Tem. City Clerk Senia explained the reorganization procedure. The floor will be open for nominations, nominations will be accepted, and nominations will be closed. Council members will then be asked to hold out their hands to vote for each nominee, and the first nominee to receive a majority vote will become the Council Chair.

24-002 Motion by Councilman Saab, seconded by Councilman Baydoun to open the nominations for the position of Council Chair for the first time.

Motion unanimously adopted

- Councilman Saab nominated Councilman Baydoun. Councilman Baydoun accepted the nomination.
- Councilman Wencel nominated himself. Councilman Wencel accepted the nomination.
- Councilwoman Bryer nominated Councilwoman Malinowski-Maxwell. Councilwoman Malinowski-Maxwell accepted the nomination.

City Clerk Senia asked three times if there were any other nominations. Hearing none, she asked for a motion to close the nominations.

24-003 Motion by Councilman Constan, seconded by Councilman Ahmad to close the nominations for the position of Council Chair for the first time.

Motion unanimously adopted

City Clerk Senia proceeded with the vote for Council Chair.

Votes for Councilman Baydoun:

Councilman Ahmad, Councilman Baydoun, Councilman Constan, and Councilman Saab.

With this vote making a majority, the votes were closed, and Councilman Baydoun was elected to the position of Council Chair.

24-004 Motion by Councilman Saab, seconded by Councilman Ahmad to open the nominations for the position of Council Chair Pro Tem for the first time.

Motion unanimously adopted

- Councilman Saab nominated Councilman Ahmad. Councilman Ahmad accepted the nomination.
- Councilman Constan nominated Councilwoman Bryer. Councilwoman Bryer accepted the nomination.
- Councilman Wencel nominated Councilwoman Malinowski-Maxwell. Councilwoman Malinowski-Maxwell accepted the nomination.

City Clerk Senia asked three times if there were any other nominations. Hearing none, she asked for a motion to close the nominations.

- 24-005** Motion by Councilman Ahmad, seconded by Councilwoman Bryer to close the nominations for the position of Council Chair Pro Tem for the first time.

Motion unanimously adopted

City Clerk Senia proceeded with the vote for Council Chair.

Votes for Councilman Ahmad:

Councilman Ahmad, Councilman Baydoun, Councilman Constan, and Councilman Saab.

With this vote making a majority, the votes were closed, and Councilman Ahmad was elected to the position of Council Chair Pro Tem.

- 24-006** Motion by Councilman Ahmad, seconded by Councilman Constan to approve the Amended Agenda for the Regular Meeting of January 9, 2024, as submitted.

Motion unanimously adopted

- 24-007** Motion by Councilman Constan, seconded by Councilwoman Bryer to approve the Minutes for the Regular Meeting of December 12, 2023, as outlined in 4-A.

Motion unanimously adopted

- 24-008** Motion by Councilman Ahmad, seconded by Councilman Constan to approve the Minutes for the Special Meeting of December 19, 2023, as outlined in 4-B.

Motion unanimously adopted

- 24-009** Motion by Councilman Ahmad, seconded by Councilman Constan to approve Current Claims and ACH/Wire Transfers 6-1 through 6-62 as submitted.

After further discussion, the motion was amended to reflect the following:

Motion by Councilman Ahmad, seconded by Councilman Constan to approve Current Claims and ACH/Wire Transfers 6-1 through 6-62 as submitted, **with the removal of Claims 6-34 and 6-44.**

1	ALLIED BUILDING SERVICES OF	\$2,110.00	Building Maint.
2	ALLIED, INC.	\$1,934.52	DPW
3	ARTISTIC LANDSCAPING & LAWN	\$1,646.96	Ordinance
4	ASSOCIATED FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES	\$2,886.00	Fire
5	BROADSPIRE SERVICES INC	\$5,330.60	HR
6	CARR'S MOTORCOACH LLC	\$1,950.00	Parks & Rec
7	CENTRAL WAYNE COUNTY SANITATION	\$41,093.21	DPW
8	CENTRAL WAYNE COUNTY SANITATION	\$7,952.00	DPW
9	CMP DISTRIBUTORS, INC.	\$4,902.00	Police
10	DAVE'S ENGINE & MOWER, INC.	\$3,500.00	Building Maint.

11	DOWNRIVER UTILITY WASTEWATER AUTH	\$58,719.20	DPW
12	DUKE'S ROOT CONTROL INC.	\$29,062.84	DPW
13	DUKE'S ROOT CONTROL INC.	\$7,130.53	DPW
14	DUKE'S ROOT CONTROL INC.	\$4,093.40	DPW
15	DUKE'S ROOT CONTROL INC.	\$5,175.75	DPW
16	EJ USA, INC.	\$3,713.28	DPW
17	EJ USA, INC.	\$1,660.14	DPW
18	EJ USA, INC.	\$3,989.07	DPW
19	EJ USA, INC.	\$3,989.47	DPW
20	EJ USA, INC.	\$4,063.67	DPW
21	EJ USA, INC.	\$2,347.55	DPW
22	ENTERPRISE FM TRUST	\$2,312.94	Ordinance
23	ENTERPRISE FM TRUST	\$5,103.81	Fire
24	ENZO'S CLEANING SOLUTIONS, LLC	\$3,690.26	DPW
25	FERGUSON WATERWORKS #3386	\$2,354.04	DPW
26	FIESTA GOURMET AND DELI, INC.	\$1,837.50	Police
27	GREAT LAKES WATER AUTHORITY	\$3,600.00	DPW
28	GREAT LAKES WATER AUTHORITY	\$13,164.29	DPW
29	HEALTHJOY, LLC	\$1,651.00	HR
30	HYDROCORP	\$3,721.50	DPW
31	JOHNSON CONTROLS, INC.	\$10,677.00	Building Maint.
32	JOHNSON CONTROLS, INC.	\$18,498.52	Building Maint.
33	KEVIN SWOPE	\$3,380.00	Police
34	KODA GROUP INC.	\$4,275.00	Police
35	LINDA VERNIER	\$1,680.00	HR
36	METROTECH AUTOMOTIVE	\$3,408.34	Build & Eng
37	MI DEPT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES	\$3,984.00	Fire
38	MICHIGAN HUMANE SOCIETY	\$4,425.25	Ordinance
39	NEW IMAGE BUILDING SERVICES, LLC	\$2,716.20	Library
40	OGLETREE DEAKINS	\$8,387.50	HR / Corp Coun
41	OGLETREE DEAKINS	\$5,797.14	HR / Corp Coun
42	O'REILLY RANCILIO P.C.	\$1,760.00	Corp Counsel
43	PAT MILLIKEN FORD	\$21,018.04	Police
44	PERF c/o SMIP	\$10,600.00	Police
45	POMP'S TIRE SERVICE, INC	\$1,639.57	Fire
46	POSTMASTER	\$10,000.00	Clerk / Elections
47	PRIORITY ONE EMERGENCY	\$13,651.68	Fire
48	PRIORITY WASTE LLC	\$213,465.28	Gen Gov

49	PRIORITY WASTE LLC	\$22,904.00	Gen Gov
50	SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE	\$6,871.92	Police
51	SMITH IMAGING SOLUTIONS	\$2,361.00	Library
52	SUNNY DESIGN	\$2,120.00	Emergency Mgmt
53	THE ACCUMED GROUP	\$11,141.15	Fire
54	THE LIBRARY NETWORK	\$8,117.20	Library
55	THE LIBRARY NETWORK	\$27,290.84	Library
56	THE LIBRARY NETWORK	\$6,333.02	Library
57	URBAN TREE TRIMMING	\$6,150.00	DPW
58	URBAN TREE TRIMMING	\$12,300.00	DPW
59	U.S. POSTMASTER	\$4,809.16	Emergency Mgmt
60	UTICA RENT-ALL, INC.	\$2,150.00	Parks & Rec
61	WAYNE COUNTY	\$4,500.00	DPW
62	WAYNE COUNTY	\$476,294.79	DPW

Motion unanimously adopted

- 24-010** Motion by Councilman Ahmad, seconded by Councilman Constan to authorize the following budget amendment to create a full-time City Engineer Position, as outlined in 8-A. Per Mayor Bazzi communication dated January 2, 2024.

Account	Account Name	Current Budget	Amended Budget	Amendment or Change
101-371-706.000	Salaries	\$476,880	\$541,880	\$65,000
Increase/(Decrease)				\$65,000

MOTION 24-010 WAS TABLED, AND THE VOTE WAS TAKEN AFTER MOTION 24-012 WAS COMPLETED

Motion unanimously adopted

- 24-011** Motion by Councilman Constan, seconded by Councilwoman Bryer to authorize the following budget amendment to create a full-time Director of Asset Management Position and a new Director of Community Relations (Ombudsman) Position, as outlined in 8-B. Per Mayor Bazzi communication dated January 2, 2024.

Account	Account Name	Current Budget	Amended Budget	Amendment or Change
101-171-706.000	Salaries	\$110,578	\$213,078	\$102,500
Increase/(Decrease)				\$102,500

Ayes: Councilwoman Bryer, Councilman Constan.

Nayes: Council Chairman Baydoun, Council Chair Pro Tem Ahmad, Councilwoman Malinowski Maxwell, Councilman Saab, Councilman Wencel.

Absent: None.

Motion defeated

24-012 Motion by Councilman Ahmad, seconded by Councilwoman Malinowski Maxwell to grant permission to the Community & Cultural Relations Commission to hold their annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day March on Saturday, January 13, 2024 at 1:30 p.m., as outlined in 8-C. Per Mayor Bazzi communication dated January 8, 2024.

Motion unanimously adopted

24-013 Motion by Councilman Ahmad, seconded by Councilwoman Bryer to approve the following budget amendment (General Ledger account previously used by City Council for Special Legal Counsel) and for the Administration to determine the appropriate account this request will be funded from, as outlined in 9-A. Per Clerk Senia communication dated January 3, 2024.

GL Number	Description	2023-2024 Amendment
101-210-826-101	Special Legal Counsel – City Council	\$50,000.00

Motion unanimously adopted

24-014 Motion by Councilman Saab, seconded by Councilman Constan to amend the FY 2023/24 budgets by the amounts in the attachment, as outlined in 9-B. Per Comptroller King communication dated January 2, 2024.

After further discussion, the motion was amended to reflect the following:

Motion by Councilman Saab, seconded by Councilman Constan to refer back to administration the budget amendments, as outlined in 9-B.

Motion unanimously adopted

24-015 Motion by Councilman Ahmad, seconded by Councilwoman Bryer to receive, note, and file the Notice of Determination that increases the salaries of the City's elected officials as recommended by the Dearborn Heights Local Officers Compensation Commission, as outlined in 9-C. Per Corporation Counsel Farinha communication dated January 3, 2024.

Ayes: Council Chairman Baydoun, Council Chair Pro Tem Ahmad, Councilwoman Bryer, Councilman Constan, Councilwoman Malinowski Maxwell, Councilman Saab.

Nayes: Councilman Wencel.

Absent: None.

Motion adopted

24-016 Motion by Councilman Constan, seconded by Councilwoman Bryer to approve the disposal of the following library items which are unused, damaged, old and/or unsafe:

- Old wooden desk/table with single drawer
- 2 small window AC units
- 83 used assorted Dell/HP monitors (replaced earlier this year)
- 90 assorted Dell desktop PCs (recently replaced through grant purchase)

as outlined in 9-D. Per Library Director McCaffery communication dated December 28, 2023.

Motion unanimously adopted

24-017 Motion by Councilman Saab, seconded by Councilman Ahmad that the City of Dearborn Heights approve the resolution regarding a budget amendment related to the police department directors, and that the following be resolved:

Now therefore be it resolved, that this Council, unwavering in its commitment to lawful governance, fiscal responsibility, and transparency, proposes a series of comprehensive measures to rectify the situation:

1. Budgetary Amendment: The Council moves to enact an immediate amendment to the current budget, revisiting and adjusting allocations to address the financial implications of the unauthorized creation of two director positions Director of Police Operations, Director of Support Services within the Police Department.
2. Elimination of Compensation: Recognizing the lack of requisite approvals, adherence to legal processes, and formal notification to the Council, compensation for all directors in these unauthorized positions shall be eliminated forthwith.
3. Refusal of Legal Fee Coverage: The Council unequivocally refuses to approve any funding for legal fees associated with the Mayor's unilateral hiring decisions based on a email he had sent to the former council chair. Such requests shall be respectfully declined.
4. Affirmation of Act 78 Existence: The Council reaffirms the existence and significance of Act 78, a law passed in 1964 with overwhelming public support. This affirmation is supported by the Mayor's Attorney's admission during his recall hearing and subsequent attempts to include the illegally hired directors under Act 78 during police contract negotiations.
5. Moratorium on External Hires: The Council mandates that for the next 12 months, no positions outside of Act 78, excluding the Chief, Police Officers, Cadets, can be filled within the Police Department. This includes directors, commissioners, ombudsman, or contractors and other related positions.
6. Communication Protocol: The City Clerk is hereby directed to communicate this resolution promptly to all relevant stakeholders, transparently conveying the Council's actions, expectations, and the ongoing rectification process.

This motion, upon approval, shall be effective immediately, as outlined in 11-A. Per Councilman Saab communication dated January 3, 2024.

Ayes: Council Chairman Baydoun, Council Chair Pro Tem Ahmad, Councilwoman Malinowski Maxwell, Councilman Saab, Councilman Wencel.

Nayes: Councilwoman Bryer, Councilman Constan.

Absent: None.

Motion adopted

24-018 Motion by Councilman Saab, seconded by Councilman Ahmad that the City of Dearborn Heights approve the resolution regarding police department canines, and that the following be resolved:

Now therefore be it resolved, that this Council, steadfast in its commitment to transparency, fairness, and fiscal responsibility, proposes the following measures:

1. Review of K9 Grant Utilization: Initiate a thorough review of the decision to acquire three K9s through grants, considering the scale of our department and benchmarking against neighboring practices.
2. Transparent Cost Disclosure: Request the Police Department to meticulously disclose additional costs not covered by the grants, fostering a clear understanding of financial implications.
3. Consideration of Residency: Encourage the consideration of Dearborn Heights residency as a criterion in the selection of K9 recipients, promoting a connection to the community.
4. Postponement of Grant Implementation: Formally request the postponement of K9 grant implementation until the Council completes a comprehensive review, including conducting new interviews.
5. Communication Protocol: Direct the City Clerk to promptly and effectively communicate this resolution to all relevant stakeholders, emphasizing collaboration, transparency, and adherence to best practices.

This motion, upon approval, is to be implemented with immediate effect, as outlined in 11-B. Per Councilman Saab communication dated January 3, 2024.

After further discussion, the motion was amended to reflect the following:

Motion by Councilman Saab, seconded by Councilman Ahmad to put a complete hold on the three (3) canine positions and the grants until the Council receives more information and more clarification and expenditures and so on. This includes all procedures concerning the canines within the police department. In addition, this resolution will be moved to a study session.

Motion unanimously adopted

24-019 Motion by Councilman Constan, seconded by Councilman Saab to renew the business licenses for Fairlane Eagles #3861 at 20738 Van Born, Dawghouse Bar and Grill at 21350 Van Born, Bone Yard at 7010 N. Telegraph, and Fetzer's On The Beech at 5127 S. Beech Daly, as outlined in 13-A.

Motion unanimously adopted

24-020 Motion by Councilman Ahmad, seconded by Councilman Saab to approve the Temporary Food Truck/Tent/Cart License Renewal Application for Solid Oak Eatery, as outlined in 13-B.

Motion unanimously adopted

24-021 Motion by Councilman Wencel to suspend the rules. Hearing no second, the motion failed.

24-022 Motion by Councilman Ahmad, seconded by Councilman Saab to adjourn the Dearborn Heights City Council Regular Meeting.

Motion unanimously adopted

The meeting adjourned at 9:09 p.m.

LYNNE M. SENIA
CITY CLERK

MO BAYDOUN
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

GEORGANNE SEMENIUK
COUNCIL SECRETARY