

# MINUTES OF REGULAR ROMULUS CITY COUNCIL MEETING

April 25, 2016

Romulus City Hall Council Chambers, 11111 Wayne Rd. Romulus, MI 48174

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Pro Tem, John Barden.

## Pledge of Allegiance

## Roll Call

**Present:** Kathleen Abdo, John Barden, Linda Choate, Harry Crout, Sylvia Makowski, Celeste Roscoe, William Wadsworth.

## Administrative Officials in Attendance:

LeRoy D. Burcroff, Mayor

Stacy Paige, Treasurer

Ellen L. Craig-Bragg, City Clerk

**1. Moved by Crout, seconded by Wadsworth, to accept the agenda as presented.**

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**16-209 2A.** Moved by **Makowski**, seconded by **Abdo**, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council held on April 11, 2016. **Roll Call Vote: Ayes** – Abdo, Barden, Choate, Crout, Makowski, Roscoe. **Abstain:** Wadsworth. **Motion Carried.**

**16-210 2B.** Moved by **Crout**, seconded by **Abdo**, to approve the minutes from the special meetings held on April 11, 2016 at 5:45, Study Session to discuss 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarterly Investments and 6:00 p.m. Study Session to discuss Proposed 2016-17 City Budget. **Roll Call Vote: Ayes** – Abdo, Barden, Choate, Crout, Roscoe. **Abstain:** Makowski, Wadsworth. **Motion Carried.**

## 3A. Petitioners:

Petitioners, Dick Kasaba and Brian Bush from Artisan Reserve, Inc., requested approval to establish a Microbrewery to be located at 36542 Goddard Road; and approval to apply for a State of Michigan Liquor License as a Microbrewer, Pursuant to MCL 436.1411(1). Discussion: Councilman Wadsworth asked if they will be manufacturing the beer on the premises to sell to the public; and if so, will there be a smell emitted into the neighborhood? Councilman Wadsworth also asked if food will be sold. The petitioner stated that there will not be any smells emitted and the beer will be manufactured on site and no food will be sold, but maybe at a later date. Councilwoman Makowski asked when they are planning to open. The petitioner answered they are planning to open after state approval for liquor license; the application process for the liquor license takes 3 - 4 months.

**16-211 3A1.** Moved by **Makowski**, seconded by **Choate**, to approve Artisan Reserve, Inc. to be located at 36542 Goddard Road to establish a microbrewery. **Motion Carried Unanimously.**

**16-212 3A2.** Moved by **Abdo**, seconded by **Wadsworth**, to adopt a resolution for approval to apply for a State of Michigan Liquor License as a Microbrewer, Pursuant to MCL 436.1411(1). **Motion Carried Unanimously.**

## 4. Chairperson's Report:

Chairman John Bardon announced that there was a study session, at 6:00 p.m. to discuss the proposed 2016-17 City Budget. Councilman Wadsworth requested a memorial resolution for the family of Nathaniel Butler. Councilman Wadsworth, Mayor, Treasurer and Mayor Pro Tem expressed their condolences and shared their memories of Mr. Butler.

**16-213 4A1.** Moved by **Wadsworth**, seconded by **Roscoe**, to adopt a memorial resolution for the family of Nathaniel Butler. **Motion Carried Unanimously.**

**4. Moved by Roscoe, seconded by Choate, to accept the Chairperson's Report. Motion Carried Unanimously.**

## 5. Mayor's Report:

Mayor Burcroff congratulated the Citizens Academy for a great job in planning the Hometown Hero's event. The Mayor also thanked all the groups who came out for the City's Clean Sweep event. Mayor Burcroff showed a video of upcoming events in the City of Romulus, and wished Councilman Wadsworth a happy birthday.

**16-214 5A.** Moved by **Makowski**, seconded by **Crout**, to concur with the administration and award RFP 15/16-08 to the most responsible, responsive bidder, American Fireworks Company, for the 2016 Community Fireworks Display, scheduled for June 30<sup>th</sup>, in the amount of \$12,500. **Motion Carried Unanimously**

**16-215 5B.** Moved by **Makowski**, seconded by **Roscoe**, to concur with the administration and award ITB 15/16-15 to the most responsive, responsible bidder, W.W. Williams Midwest, which will authorize the Mayor and Clerk to enter into the five (5) year Contractual Services Agreement (beginning July 1, 2016 and ending June 30, 2021) for any needed generator repairs and for the annual inspection and maintenance of the backup generators for all of the City's buildings at a total cost not to exceed \$21,595, for the generator maintenance over the term of the contract. **Motion Carried Unanimously**

**16-216 5D.** Moved by **Abdo**, seconded by **Wadsworth**, to concur with the administration and award ITB 15/16-18 to the lowest overall, most responsive, responsible bidder, Environmental Testing & Consulting, Inc. and authorize the Mayor and Clerk to enter into the two year Contractual Services Agreement for the testing and reporting for the presence of hazardous materials in structures (residential, commercial, and industrial properties located on both City owned and privately owned properties) that are due to be demolished. Discussion: Councilman Wadsworth asked the Mayor if this was for the purpose of testing the ground before the city knocks something down. The Mayor stated that it is to make sure there is nothing such as asbestos and other things in the building before coming down. **Motion Carried Unanimously.**

**16-218 5E.** Moved by **Makowski**, seconded by **Wadsworth**, to authorize a no fee permit for the use of Elmer Johnson Park on June 10, 2016 for the Romulus Middle School's Annual 8<sup>th</sup> grade picnic from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. **Motion Carried Unanimously.**

**6A. Clerk's Report:** None.

**6B. Treasurer's Report:** None.

## 7. Public Comment:

A resident, representing the Romulus Junction Sub Neighborhood Watch Committee, spoke to council regarding his concerns about the run down and condemned houses in his neighborhood. He submitted pictures of some of the houses he was concerned about and asked what is the time line for a house to be condemned before it is demolished? He further stated that the houses devalue other homes in the neighborhood and asked about how they can get the matter resolved. He voiced his concerns regarding the lack of privacy at the Police Department when he went to talk to someone about his concerns. The resident gave the clerk some information concerning public safety and asked if the information could be made available on the city's website. A second resident, who owns a business in Romulus, commented on receiving a certified letter from the city regarding weed cutting. He stated that his grass is always cut and stated that the city was wasting a lot of money on these mailings and suggested an alternative way to respond to residents who do not cut their grass that would save the city money. Councilwoman Makowski stated that he was her neighbor and his yard never looks bad and Councilwoman Abdo commented that she is also a neighbor and the letter must have been sent to him in error.

## 8. Unfinished Business:

Councilman Wadsworth reminded the public of the Animal Shelter Bowl-A-Thon Fundraiser to be held on Friday, May 13, 2016. There are still a few spots left and all the proceeds go to the Animal Shelter. If anyone would like to donate to the event, they can contact him. Mayor Burcroff addressed the concerns of the resident regarding the ordinance issue, blight, and demolition of houses. The Mayor stated that he's working with the building and ordinance departments to resolve these issues. He invited the resident to visit his office so they can further address his concerns. Mayor Burcroff addressed the concerns of the second resident who received a certified letter regarding weed cutting. The Mayor explained why the decision to send certified letters was initiated and stated that he would look into why the residents address was on the list and would report back to council. Councilman Wadsworth also commented on the reason for sending a certified letter. Clerk Bragg stated that the Romulus Code of Ordinance is available on the city's website and is consistent with other municipalities. In response to the 2<sup>nd</sup> resident's concern, Clerk Bragg stated council adopted a resolution last month amending the fee schedule for the Ordinance Department to add a new fee for certified mailings.

Councilwoman Abdo commented on the 1<sup>st</sup> resident's concerns regarding not being able to discuss their concerns in private at the police department. Mayor Pro Tem, John Barden recognized Robert McCraight, Director of the Building Department. Mr. McCraight applauded the residents for getting together to address the issue regarding the condition of the properties. He commented that his department has been working with several residents in the area to take care of the problem and will continue to work towards resolving the issue.

## 9. New Business:

Councilwoman Abdo announced the Romulus Drug Task Force bowling fundraiser on Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at the Romulus Lanes. The profits go to support scholarships at the Romulus High School. Tickets are available at the Chamber of Commerce and in the Clerk's Office.

## 10. Communication:

Mayor Pro-Temp John Barden announced that there will be a Public Hearing for the 2016-17 Budget on May 2<sup>nd</sup> and adoption of the 2016-17 Budget will be on May 9<sup>th</sup>. Councilman Crout congratulated his granddaughter on her graduation from the University of Michigan. Councilwoman Abdo congratulated a student from Romulus High School on winning the Gates Millennium Scholarship. Mrs. Abdo commented that this is the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row that a Romulus High School student has received this scholarship and it is the first time the scholarship has been given to the same high school two years in a row.

**16-219 11.** Moved by **Choate**, seconded by **Makowski**, to pay Warrant 16-08 in the amount of \$710,612.25.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

**12. Moved by Makowski, seconded by Crout, to adjourn the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council.**

**Motion Carried Unanimously.**

I, Ellen L. Craig-Bragg, Clerk for the City of Romulus, Michigan do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of the minutes of the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council held on April 25, 2016.