

The City of South Lyon  
Regular City Council Meeting  
July 22, 2013

Mayor Wallace called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Mayor Wallace led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance

PRESENT: Mayor Wallace  
Council Members: Kivell, Kopkowski, Rzyzi, Kramer, Wedell, and Dixon  
ALSO PRESENT: City Manager Murphy, City Attorney Wilhelm, Chief Collins, Department  
Head Martin and Clerk/Treasurer Deaton

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

City Manager Murphy stated he would like to remove the appointment to the Housing Commission and add the acceptance of a donation by Dr. Kaplan

CM 7-1-13 MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA AS AMENDED

Motion by Wedell, supported by Kivell  
Motion to approve agenda as amended

VOTE: MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MINUTES

CM 7-2-13 MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES AS PRESENTED

Motion by Kivell, supported by Wedell  
Motion to approve the minutes as presented

VOTE: MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

PUBLIC COMMENT

Carl Richards of 390 Lenox stated he would like to inform everyone of things that are coming up such as Depot Day in September, and there will be a nice set of festivities. He further stated they will need 4 volunteers to sit on the board of directors because the current terms run out in September. Mr. Richards stated there is a new book in the works about the history of South

Lyon. He further stated this is the month that is exactly 10 years from the date of our 150<sup>th</sup> year centennial. He stated this should be a community wide project, not just a Historical Society project. He anticipates we will need to raise at least \$150,000 to \$200,000. He further stated he has been studying the Master Plan and it is something that we need according to state law and he has some recommendations.

Gordon Segul of 240 Brookwood Drive stated he would like to thank everyone that is helping to find the trailer and four wheeler that was stolen. He further stated they had a successful motorcycle ride on July 13<sup>th</sup> with 223 motor cycles, involved and he is very happy they were able to raise some money for our injured soldiers because we need to take care of our soldiers.

OLD BUSINESS None

NEW BUSINESS

1. Donation by Dr. Kaplan

City Manager Murphy stated 2-3 years ago, there was a boulder that was found in the middle of N. Lafayette in front of Dr. Kaplan's office. The Department of Public Works removed it and it was kept at the DPW yard for a while, then moved to McHattie Park. He further stated recently Dr. Kaplan contacted him regarding this rock, and he offered to give the rock back to him, but told him Oakland County will not allow it to be placed in the right of way, therefore Dr. Kaplan stated he would like to donate it to the City.

CM 7-3-13 MOTION TO ACCEPT DECORATIVE ROCK FROM DR KAPLAN VALUED AT \$200.00

Motion by Kivell, supported by Kopkowski

Motion to accept decorative rock from Dr. Kaplan valued at \$200.00

VOTE: MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Homecoming Parade

Chief Collins stated the high school student council would like the same Parade route as last year. He further stated the Coordinator turned in the application in plenty of time, and he sees no problems with it. Discussion was held regarding the business's approval that will be affected by the road closures. Mayor Wallace stated there was an issue last year regarding some

delivery trucks and Sun Steel because they were unable to turn into the parking lot because of the parking along the road. Chief Collins stated it is only for a half hour and it is one day a year.

CM 7-4-13 MOTION TO APPROVE THE ROAD CLOSURES FOR THE HOMECOMING PARADE

Motion by Kramer, supported by Wedell

Motion to approve the Road Closures for the Homecoming parade and be it

Resolved That Lisa Deaton, City Clerk/Treasurer is hereby authorized to make application to the Road Commission for Oakland County on behalf of the City of South Lyon in the County of Oakland, Michigan for the necessary permit to conduct the South Lyon High School Homecoming Parade on September 27, 2013 between 4:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. and the related street closures:

N. Mill Street from Lake St. to Kestrel Ridge, Kestrel Ridge from N. Mill Street to Eagle Heights, Eagle Heights from Kestrel Ridge to Eleven Mile Rd., Eleven Mile Rd. from Martindale to Pontiac Trail.

VOTE: MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Lake Street Project

Jesse VanDeCreek from HRC stated he would like to update Council on the Lake Street Road Project. He stated the final design is complete and they are waiting for one more permit for the push button signalization. Upon receipt of that permit application it will be complete and then will be forwarded to MDOT. He further stated the total cost breakdown is the City paying \$183,263 and the federal government and County paying \$568,037.00. Mr. VanDeCreek stated there will be a revised construction cost before the final contract is awarded. He further stated the project will start in the Spring of 2014, and will be completed in 60-90 days. Discussion was held regarding the difference between the projects being done in the rural areas, as opposed to an agricultural area. Mr. VanDeCreek stated they will have to build all the sidewalks ADA compliant, and therefore they had to get 9 easements from some of the business owners.

4. Agreement with HRC for the design of the Police/Fire parking lot

Jesse VanDeCreek of HRC stated this is an updated proposal for the replacement of the Police/Fire Department parking lot. The asphalt is full of cracks and in very bad shape. He further stated the longer we wait the more base they will have to pull out. Mr. VanDeCreek stated they are hoping to pulverize what is there, reshape it and put a new cap on it. He further stated this project has some potential improvements of adding parking spots, and for increasing traffic circulation. He stated they would like a one way in on the easterly entrance, and an exit only on the westerly exit. Mr. VanDeCreek stated there is no drainage under the car ports, and this project will improve the drainage in the area. Councilman Kramer thanked Mr. VanDeCreek for including the breakdown of the costs of the project. The question was asked if

item #17 for \$15,000.00 is for just the screening around the dumpster, or is that the pad and the bricks. Mr. VanDeCreek stated right now the dumpster is lying in the parking lot, and it seems to float around the lot depending on where it is dropped off, and there is a grassy area, where they could place the dumpster with the screening and it will match the aesthetics at the Wells Street Parking lot. It will be faced with brick to match the surrounding buildings, with a lockable gate, and screen wall. He further stated it will be a 3 sided structure, and it won't be seen by the public. Discussion was held regarding the sides of the structure being made of wood versus concrete. Councilman Kramer stated his concern is that these buildings are getting older, and at some point, 10-15 years down the road, the City may want to knock down the two buildings, and it is a lot of money for something that in the end we may have to knock in 15 years. Mr. VanDeCreek stated this is definitely a want and not a need, but it is council's preference. Mayor Wallace stated having a lock on it will not keep people from dumping. He further stated he feels a wood wall around the dumpster is fine for now. Mr. VanDeCreek stated they can work with Council and the Fire Chief to develop something that Council feels is a reasonable cost, but it will have to be on a concrete pad, the sides could be posts and a shadowbox wood fence if that is acceptable. Councilman Rzyzi stated he would have liked HRC to supply Council with other options for the dumpster. He further stated \$15,000 is a lot of money, and if we could do something for half that price and save \$7000.00 or \$8000.00 and it is good quality, he would like to have seen that as an option. City Manager Murphy stated this is an agreement for the preliminary design services from HRC, and we can then make adjustments to that design. Discussion was held regarding this issue being brought to the Planning Commission.

CM 7-5-13 MOTION TO APPROVE DESIGN SERVICES FROM HRC FOR POLICE/FIRE PARKING LOT

Motion by Kramer, supported by Wedell

Motion to approve the design services from HRC in the amount of \$32,220.00 for the Police/Fire parking lot.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

MOTION PASSED- 2 OPPOSED

Kivell Yes

Kopkowski Yes

Rzyzi No

Wallace No

Wedell Yes

Kramer Yes

Dixson Yes

5. Center for Active Adults Agreement

City Manager Murphy stated this agreement is \$60.00 more than last year, based on more participation than previous years. There is a new Director and things are going well.

CM 7-6-13 MOTION TO APPROVE SOUTH LYON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS AGREEMENT FOR SENIOR CITIZEN PROGRAM

Motion by Rzyzi, supported by Kivell

Motion to approve the agreement with the South Lyon Community Schools for the Senior Citizen Programs and contribution of \$43,202.00

VOTE: MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. Donation Acceptance

City Manager Murphy stated Shirley Karf is would like to donate \$15.00 towards any of our children's programs because of some fair and reputable service she received from South Lyon Cycle. He further stated he would like to add this to our donation to the South Lyon Recreation Authority.

Mayor Wallace stated he would like to adjust the ordinance so the City Manager can accept the smaller donations and thank them without it coming before Council. Councilmember Kopkowski stated she feels it should stay as it is because not everyone opens their pockets to make a donation and they should be recognized and it doesn't take much time.

CM 7-7-13 MOTION TO ACCEPT DONATION

Motion by Wedell, supported by Kramer

Motion to accept the donation of \$15.00 from Ms. Shirley Karfis, and to thank her for her generosity.

VOTE: MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7. Firearms Trade-in

Chief Collins stated the Police Department currently has 16 handguns that have not been used for years, and they are sitting in the Police Property room. Sgt. Baker received a few different bids for these weapons. He further stated, Sgt. Baker was able to get Gander Mountain to up their bid by a few hundred dollars, and he feels their bid of \$3,100.00 is a fair bid. Chief Collins stated Gander Mountain is a reputable and licensed firearm dealer, and the City will have store credit for weapons equipment and/or ammunition.

CM 7-8-13 MOTION TO APPROVE THE TRADE IN OF FIREARMS BY THE POLICE DEPT

Motion by Kramer, supported by Kopkowski

Motion to approve the trade-in of sixteen (16) unneeded Police Department firearms to Gander Mountain for \$3,100.00 to be utilized for equipment and/or Ammunition.

VOTE:

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8. Manager's Evaluation

Councilman Kivell stated there a number of things he is happy about. He further stated the City Manager has a great relationship with all departments, as well as the outside bodies, such as Rec Authority, DDA and he feels very comfortable that he represents the City in a good way and people are comfortable discussing issues with him . Councilman Kivell stated the City Manager has a good relationship with the staff as well. He further stated there are some things that could be worked on, such as City Manager Murphy seems to respond to advice or recommendation from a single council person more strongly as an individual response than Council as a whole. He further stated he is happy City Manager Murphy is managing our City.

Councilman Rzyzi stated he would like to thank Mr. Murphy and that he is doing a good job. He further stated he knows it is a difficult position dealing with a lot of different people in the community, different departments, different interests and motivations and he is doing a great job managing the staff and the City as a whole. He further stated he has only heard positive feedback from the residents, nothing negative. Councilman Rzyzi stated he would also like to thank him for having the evaluation in an open meeting because it is important for the public to see all that happens within the City. He further stated he would like to make a few things aware, such as a few things that may cause a rise in peoples taxes, which disappoints him, such as in 2015 the water mill rate will need to be raised, as stated in the budget, as well as the possibility of a Recreation Center being built, and a possible raise in the School Millage, and we just had water rate increases. Councilman Rzyzi stated home values will be going up, which means people will be paying more in taxes, so he would like the City Manager and Department Heads to be diligent to watch every dollar that is spent of the taxpayer's money. He further stated last year he requested some tracking of some cost saving ideas, or grant ideas. He further stated he would like to see a resolution with Colonial Acres water lines, and who will be responsible for Phases 4 and 5. He further stated he would like a resolution with the MERS retirement issue. Councilman Rzyzi stated he would also like to see some discussion regarding the widening of Pontiac Trail, and we need to widen all the spots the City is responsible for. He further stated City Manager Murphy is doing a great job, and keep up the good work.

Councilman Wedell stated he looked back at his notes from the last few years, and related the notes to this evaluation. He further stated he looked at the financial end of it, because that is his primary interest. He further stated over the last few years, we have lost several millions of dollars in taxable value, and we have come through with a fund balance intact, our services intact as well as our staff intact. He further stated there were some personnel issues that took a lot of his time, and was successfully navigated, and he feels the City Manager is doing a great job and he is glad he is here.

Councilmember Dixon stated she would like to see the Colonial Acres issue completed very soon. City Manager Murphy stated they had their dates all set, but it is in Colonial Acres hands to set the next date. She further stated he is doing a great job.

Councilman Kramer stated he has no complaints. He further stated City Manger Murphy is available 24/7. Councilman Kramer stated the City Manager helped clean up after the Blues Brews and Brats, and he would be surprised if any other City Managers would be found doing such. Councilman Kramer stated the City Manager is the point person between the Recreation Center Committee and Lyon Township and Green Oak Township.

Councilmember Kopkowski stated she doesn't have complaints but she would like to offer some constructive criticism. She further stated she feels he relies on outside sources for information too often, and she would like him to have more answers about what is happening around town without having to always check with someone else. Councilmember Kopkowski stated she also reviewed his contract and in the spirit of trying to minimize future costs, like we are doing with the union contracts and pensions, and under termination clause it states that he will be paid 6 months in pay and benefits, and she would like to maybe lower that number. City Manager Murphy stated he would like to raise that because it normally takes a City Manager at least 9 months to a year to obtain a new job.

Mayor Wallace stated at least 50% of the time, the City Manager doesn't have any comment during the Managers report, and he thinks he should have something to add since there are two weeks between meetings. He further stated he would like the Colonial Acres issues to be solved, as well as the MERS. Mayor Wallace stated he would also like to suggest that if the Manager needs to discuss something with an employee, it should be done in his office, not in front of everyone. He further stated he still wishes he lived in the City or at least the School District. Mayor Wallace stated it is all based on communication and keeping up with it and he is always willing to listen even when he doesn't agree with it. Mayor Wallace stated he does mesh well with others and he represents the City very well.

### MANAGERS REPORT

City Manager Murphy stated there was an article in the paper that had incorrect information. He further stated that Pontiac Trail and Ten Mile will not be closed for 6 weeks, there will be intermittent lane closures, and he will have more information after the next meeting.

### COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilman Wedell stated he attended Blues, Brews and Brats over the weekend, and it was a great time for everyone.

Councilman Kramer stated that two firms will be presenting their pitch for the Recreation Center on the 24<sup>th</sup> of July at 2:00 at Green Oak Township Hall. He further stated they plan on attending Council and board meetings in August for our Council, as well as Lyon Twp and Green Oak Township for updates. He further stated they are no longer approaching Salem Township, because they have never responded.

Councilmember Dixson stated she also enjoyed the Blues, Brews and Brats.

Councilman Rzyzi stated he would like to know if the DWRF is running behind schedule. City Manager Murphy stated they are actually running way ahead of schedule, and it will be completed this year, not next year like originally planned.

Councilmember Kopkowski stated she enjoyed the Blues, Brews and Brats as well. Councilman Kivell stated he doesn't feel it is appropriate for the City to be paying for the Porta John in the Cemetery because it was originally supposed to be for the people visiting loved ones in the Cemetery, but it ended up being for the 20 or so people using the garden area of the Cemetery, and he would like it moved to the maintenance building or just removed from the Cemetery.

Mayor Wallace stated it is more beneficial for the people visiting the Cemetery because it has been moved to the newest parts of the Cemetery where most people visit their departed relatives. He further stated we need volunteers for the Planning and Historical Committees. Historical Board members do not need to be City residents, but the Planning Commission members will need to be City residents. Mayor Wallace stated he is glad to hear the DWRF is moving ahead of schedule.

#### ADJOURNMENT

#### CM 7-9-13 MOTION TO ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn by Kivell, supported by Kramer  
Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:55 p.m.

VOTE: MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully submitted,

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Tedd Wallace Mayor

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Lisa Deaton Clerk/Treasurer