

# MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL WORK SESSION OF THE PARCHMENT CITY COMMISSION HELD ON MONDAY NOVEMBER 20, 2017.

## 1. Call to order

Mayor Heasley called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

## 2. Roll Call.

Present: Mayor Heasley, Vice Mayor Britigan, Commissioners Cronin, Evans, Heasley, and Hageman. City Manager Stoddard, City Treasurer/Clerk Stutz, and City Attorney Soltis.  
Absent: Commissioner Fooy.

## 3. Public Comment on Agenda items.

None.

## 4. Discussion of the re-conveyance of the Mill Property.

Attorney Soltis began by explaining that the last signed agreement with River Reach (RR) that he has a copy of is dated 12/21/2009. He has a secondary amendment that is signed, so in the absence of another agreement we can ask for the property back. City Manager Stoddard cited that the property currently has no tax liability, but there is an outstanding unpaid invoice that RR owes the City. Chief Bourgeois commented that there is virtually no security at the property despite DPW's diligence with the fence – there are frequent breaches. He explained that trespassing, malicious destruction of property and other laws that could be prosecuted must be helped along by the property owners. As the property currently stands, it is hazardous to many.

Questions were raised about whether the cost of demolition is greater than the value of the land, whether RR could be interested in the City's reconveyance and if a conversation could get started. Vice Mayor Britigan supported having a plan forward with this as an alternative. Commissioner Heasley suggested if we do acquire the property again, that we be prepared to enforce our own ordinances (blight, security etc.).

## 5. Joining/Special Project with Kalamazoo County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority

Vice Mayor Britigan recounted the main points of a meeting between key individuals at the County Brownfield Authority. He noted that we can join forces with them on a project by project basis, that they are very willing to partner with us, that they seem to have more access to good and reputable developers as well as creative ways to fund projects. All in all, he felt it was a productive meeting.

## 6. Medical Marijuana Forum at PUMC 7pm on 11/29/17

City Manager Stoddard encouraged all to attend, saying she had blank cards for anonymous questions. She then asked Chief Bourgeois to give some background information.

The Chief explained the history of the 2008 medical marijuana law that is currently in effect. He continued by spelling out how the state's Licensing and Regulatory Affairs department (LARA) has begun promulgating rules on processing – licensing, and seed to sale tracking. Chief Bourgeois stated that municipalities had to actively “opt in” to any of the 5 uses (grower, processor, transporter, lab, or dispensary), and reminded everyone that underlying all of this is the fact that marijuana is still a Level I controlled substance according to the federal government. He then reported that Kalamazoo Township has signaled to accept all 5 uses and that they will control them through zoning ordinances.

## 7. Broadcasting of Meetings

City Manager Stoddard asked for Commissioner feedback on broadcasting the meetings live. She mentioned that it is already included in our franchise fees and that PMN has a timeslot available.

Commissioner Heasley said he was “all for it”.

Vice Mayor Britigan recounted a discussion he had with someone from the City of Sterling Heights whose meetings tripled in length after they began to broadcast them. He also noted his concern that it could turn into campaigning, or airing our “dirty laundry” to the public. The Vice Mayor then conceded that it could force people to behave themselves.

City Manager Stoddard reported that during her time at the City of Wyoming has broadcasted their meetings and they were still very structured.

The Vice Mayor then suggested the new commission should decide.

## 8. Other Matters

None.

## 9. Citizen Comments – Items ON the Agenda

Bob Green, 133 N Riverview stated that he has enjoyed being able to see other municipal meetings on PMN and thinks it would be great in our city.

**10. Adjournment**

The work session was adjourned by Commissioner Heasley at 6:50 p.m.

Shannon Stutz  
City Clerk