

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE PARCHMENT CITY COMMISSION HELD ON MONDAY JUNE 20, 2022.

1. Call to order

Mayor Britigan called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Mayor led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call.

Present: Mayor Britigan, Vice Mayor Jordan, Commissioners Conner, Cooper, Evans, Fooy, and Madaras. City Manager Stoddard, Treasurer/Clerk Stutz, Attorney Soltis.

Absent: None.

3. Minutes

Moved by Commissioner Madaras, supported by Commissioner Evans to approve the minutes of the June 6, 2022 Regular meeting. **Motion Carried.**

4. Additions or changes to the agenda.

None. Moved by Vice Mayor Jordan, supported by Commissioner Fooy to approve the agenda as presented. **Motion Carried.**

5. Citizen Comments – Items ON the Agenda

Maryann Renz, Citizens Climate Lobby, explained that her group focuses on citizens' impact on energy, and that the "Trees Act" is currently sitting in committee in Congress. It is Department of Energy grants for communities to plant more trees, and Parchment could greatly benefit. She encouraged everyone to contact Congressman Upton to support/co-sponsor the bill.

Sandy Bliesener, 260 Parchmount, sent a letter to the commissioners that was read by Clerk Stutz:

Good morning Nancy, I understand that the services provided by the Kalamazoo Township Police Department (KTPD) will be discussed at the City Commission meeting this evening. I would like to express my support for the City of Parchment to accept the terms offered by KTPD for their services, and I hope you will read this letter during the public comment period for items on the agenda. My apologies for not being there in person.

I have lived in Parchment for 19 years and have not had any issues with public safety since KTPD began serving Parchment. Their response to my neighbor's call in the middle of the night last summer when thieves were attempting to steal the engine out of equipment left by a road crew was immediate and resulted in an arrest without incident. I often see the KTPD vehicle both on Parchmount and in the alley behind my house, and they seem to have a more frequent presence along Riverview Drive as well. My house was robbed in the middle of the day in 2012 – I don't know if Parchment's PD was still in place then or if it was KTPD, but they were able to track down the thieves and followed up afterward to let me know that arrests were made. When the Parchment Action Team was meeting monthly a KTPD officer attended fairly regularly and contributed to the discussion. In my opinion KTPD has served the City of Parchment well during their tenure here.

As a business owner, I understand the challenges of committing resources when the future is impossible to predict. If the city of Parchment is unwilling to agree to a reasonable term of service with KTPD, they cannot be expected to hire additional officers whose salaries they may not be able to maintain if our contract is up in the air every couple of years. If there are any concerns about KTPD not having enough officers to meet our needs, the best approach would be to commit to five or more years of service so they can do what is needed on their end to recruit.

For these reasons, I am in support of the City of Parchment renewing the KTPD contract for five or more years. Thank you, Sandy Bliesener

6. Consent Agenda

A. Questions by Commissioners were answered regarding specific items. Moved by Commissioner Madaras, supported by Vice Mayor Jordan to receive the consent agenda items. **Motion Carried.**

7. Unfinished Business

None.

8. New Business

A. Police Contract – action. After City Manager Stoddard reiterated the commission's requests in the negotiation, she turned it over to Attorney Soltis, who went over the important provisions of the new contract. Some of those were full services during the midnight shift, no additional charges if more than one officer responds, price increase reflects current costs, and the contract can be extended 3 years if notified by April 2, 2026. Commissioners had questions answered. Moved by Commissioner Fooy, supported by Commissioner Madaras to approve the police contract with Kalamazoo Township

Police Department as written, which concludes on 6/30/26 or 6/30/29 if extended, and authorize the Mayor to sign any documents related to the action. Roll call vote was as follows:

Ayes: Britigan, Cooper, Evans, Fooy, Jordan, and Madaras.
Nays: Conner.
Absent: None.
Abstain: None.

Motion Carried 6-1.

Commissioner Fooy thanked City Manager Stoddard for representing the city and getting a “really good contract”.

Commissioner Madaras added that most of the things we asked for are in this contract, which she’s comfortable with.

Commissioner Cooper noted that while she’s heard people complain about traffic, none of them came to meetings; the people who came to meetings were speaking in support of KTPD which is why she supported this contract. She encouraged residents to speak up. Vice Mayor Jordan agreed, adding that speeding might be the lesser of evils when it comes to enforcement needed in the city.

B. Republic Waste Contract – action. Mayor Britigan explained the RFP process, including the presentations that were made in front of the Commission. He reported that the City Commission chose Republic, and this is the resulting contract. Attorney Soltis noted this contract is similar to past contracts, except for item A5 (complaints) and B2 (fuel recovery fees). Questions were answered, some discussion followed. Commissioner Madaras said that the Rate Committee recommended Republic mainly so there would not be an increase in cost to residents. Commissioner Cooper asked for consideration for 2 bulk trash pick up dates next year. Moved by Commissioner Cooper, supported by Commissioner Madaras to approve the Republic Waste contract as proposed, and authorize the City Manager to sign any documents related to the action. Roll call vote was as follows:

Ayes: Britigan, Conner, Cooper, Evans, Fooy, Jordan, and Madaras.
Nays: None.
Absent: None.
Abstain: None.

Motion Carried 7-0.

C. PHS Homecoming Parade Approval, September 30 - action. Moved by Commissioner Conner, supported by Commissioner Evans to approve the proposed parade route and time as presented via email by Jodie McManus. **Motion Carried.**

D. Siegfried Crandall PC (Auditor) Engagement Letter - action. City Manager Stoddard explained that this letter is the formal action the auditors need in order to begin field work, and that the City Commission already agreed to the contract. She added that Siegfried Crandall was a pleasure to work with last year, and for twelve years in her past work life as well. Moved by Commissioner Madaras, supported by Commissioner Conner to authorize the Mayor to sign the Auditor Engagement Letter from Siegfried Crandall. Roll call vote was as follows:

Ayes: Britigan, Conner, Cooper, Evans, Fooy, Jordan, and Madaras.
Nays: None.
Absent: None.
Abstain: None.

Motion Carried 7-0.

E. Approval of Contractor for Parchmount Speed Tables and Repaving between Orient and Clarin - action. City Manager Stoddard reported that the first quote we received for the work was from Lakeland Asphalt for \$126,000 which was updated to \$133,000. She added that DPW sought out two more bids, and Michigan Paving & Materials came in at the lowest, \$103,350. The City Manager reported that Michigan Paving had done work for the City on Riverview in 2015 and DPW was satisfied with their work. She answered questions from commissioners. Moved by Commissioner Madaras, supported by Commissioner Conner to approve the bid by Michigan Paving & Materials to repave and build in two speed tables into Parchmount Avenue for the price of \$103,350 and authorize the City Manager to execute all documents related to this action. Roll call vote was as follows:

Ayes: Britigan, Conner, Cooper, Evans, Fooy, Jordan, and Madaras.
Nays: None.
Absent: None.
Abstain: None.

Motion Carried 7-0.

F. Resolution #2022-7 urging Representative Fred Upton to co-sponsor the TREES Act (H.R.3522) - action. Maryann Renz, Citizens Climate Lobby, reiterated that this legislation is sitting in committee, explained that trees could be given to private citizens and mentioned Parchment's "tree equity score" was surprisingly low, indicating the City would really benefit from this bill. Moved by Commissioner Cooper, supported by Vice Mayor Jordan to approve Resolution #2022-7 Urging Representative Fred Upton to Co-Sponsor the TREES Act. Roll call vote was as follows:

Ayes: Britigan, Conner, Cooper, Evans, Fooy, Jordan, and Madaras.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

Abstain: None.

Motion Carried 7-0.

9. Citizen Comments

None.

10. Mayor and Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Cooper said she looks forward to working together with KTPD and is excited for Parchmount to be paved.

Commissioner Madaras also expressed excitement for Parchmount to be repaved.

Commissioner Evans thanked Treasurer Stutz for the breakdown on the warrant, and thanked City Manager Stoddard for her work on the police contract.

Commissioner Conner invited everyone to the Kindleberger Festival Cruise In, and thanked festival director Kris Jordan for all of her hard work.

Commissioner Fooy mentioned reading an article in the Gazette about the City of Kalamazoo planting 500 trees and thinks this legislation could really help our city.

Vice Mayor Jordan thanked City Manager Stoddard for her work on the police contract, and is also excited to see Parchmount repaved.

Mayor Britigan noted the next meeting of the Commission is July 18, and reminded everyone of the 40th year of the Kindleberger Summer Festival, July 6-11.

11. City Manager Comments/Reports

City Manager Stoddard thanked the KSF organizers, then reminded the commissioners she will be on vacation and that the city will "be in good hands". She then invited anyone who has questions or concerns to call and discuss them with her.

12. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Commission, it was moved by Commissioner Cooper and supported by all to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

Shannon Stutz, City Clerk