**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE PARCHMENT CITY COMMISSION HELD ON MONDAY, MARCH 4, 2024.**

1. **Call to order**

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

1. **Roll Call**.

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

Absent: Conner.

Moved by Commissioner Fooy, supported by Commissioner Cooper to excuse the absence of Commissioner Conner. **Motion** **Carried.**

1. **Approval of Minutes**

Moved by Vice Mayor Jordan, supported by Commissioner Mendoza to approve the amended minutes of the February 19, 2024 Regular meeting. **Motion Carried**.

1. **Additions or changes to the agenda.**

None. Moved by Commissioner Cooper, supported by Commissioner Madaras to approve the agenda as presented. **Motion Carried**.

1. **Citizen Comments – Items ON the Agenda**

None.

**6. Consent Agenda**

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

**7. Unfinished Business**

None.

**8. New Business**

A. Memo, Rate Committee Recommendation on Sewer Surcharge – action. Vice Mayor Jordan reported that as the city is approaching the closing on the USDA Loan and Grant, the final calculation of the repayment was able to be made. He added that the annual payments are around $82,000; with recent Kalamazoo City rates having increased, the amount of money the sewer fund receives in surcharge has exceeded what’s necessary to repay the loan. Moved by Commissioner Madaras, supported by Commissioner Cooper to set the sewer surcharge at 110% effective with the April 1, 2024 water/sewer billing and authorize Treasurer Stutz to notify the City of Kalamazoo of the change. Mayor Britigan noted how important this is to the community. Commissioner Cooper added that she is hoping the city will pay the loan off early. Roll call vote was as follows:

Ayes: Britigan, Cooper, Fooy, Jordan, Madaras, Mendoza.

Nays: None.

Absent: Conner.

Abstain: None.

**Motion Carried 6-0.**

B. Republic Services Waste Removal Proposals – action. City Manager Stoddard explained that she sent out Requests for Proposal (RFPs) for trash services in the area (Waste Management, Best Way, and Republic). She noted that Best Way declined, WM did not respond; therefore Republic was the only RFP received. They sent two different pricing proposals, one including Bulk Trash pickup included in the per-resident pricing, one where Bulk Trash is a separate invoice. Commissioners had questions that Manager Stoddard answered. Moved by Commissioner Fooy, supported by Commissioner Mendoza to table this action until March 18, in order to explore further options for a longer contract term. **Motion Carried.**

**9. Citizen Comments**

Chief Ergang, Kalamazoo Township Police Department, said he is here for commissioner questions and concerns.

**10. Mayor and Commissioner Comments**

Commissioner Mendoza commended the rate committee, adding that it’s exciting to be able to reduce costs for residents, making a direct impact on lives with a “simple stroke of the pen”.

Commissioner Cooper echoed that sentiment, adding that commissioners have understood how residents have been inconvenienced by the sewer surcharge and that she hopes this reduction will allow people to comfortably afford their water/sewer bill.

Commissioner Madaras mentioned attending KATS meeting last week where she was updated on Bike Week May 11-18, and that the BFK art committee is looking for places to put a bike friendly mural in communities (info given to Manager Stoddard). She then informed all of the CCTA plan to assist people to get to bus lines, adding that the Mayor was probably already aware of it.

Vice Mayor Jordan thanked Chief Ergang for coming, saying it’s always good to see him here.

Mayor Britigan remarked what a good press release it will be to reduce the sewer surcharge, then he complimented everyone on the joint PC, ZBA, commission meeting. Lastly he expanded on the CCTA plan, calling it “microtransit”, adding it’s a pilot program for three districts within the boundaries of the CCTA – Oshtemo, Comstock, South Portage – whereby their vehicles will get people to the busline. More information will be forthcoming.

**11. City Manager Comments/Reports**

City Manager Stoddard offered anyone with questions or concerns to call or text her.

**12. Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Commission, it was moved by Commissioner Mendoza and supported by all to adjourn the meeting at 7:36 p.m.

Shannon Stutz, City Clerk