

REGULAR MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m., Mayor Pro Tem, Michael Higgins, presiding.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Moment of Silence

PRESENT: Councilpersons Mario DiSanto, Mark Kandes, Thomas McPartlin, Thomas Murphy and Frank Vaslo. Mayor Steven M. Brown entered the meeting at 8:07 p.m.

ALSO PRESENT: City Attorney Ed Zelenak and City Clerk Donna Breeding

Mayor's Remarks

RESOLUTION 07-307 Minutes

By Councilman DiSanto, supported by Councilman McPartlin

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Regular Meeting held under the date of September 4, 2007 be approved as recorded.

Motion unanimously carried.

Mayor Brown entered at 8:07 p.m.

RESOLUTION 07-308 Appointment/Library Commission

By Councilman Vaslo, supported by Councilman McPartlin

RESOLVED, that Susan Ball, of 1642 Capitol, be appointed to the Library Commission to fill the unexpired term of Wendy Hilton. Term to expire November 28, 2009.

Motion unanimously carried.

Better Home Awards presented to John Fry, 1612 Liberty and John & JoAnn Finn, 1616 Liberty

Business of the Month award presented to Clemente's Bar & Restaurant, 2230 Fort St.

PROCLAMATION given to Eagle Scout Brandon Wendl

RESOLUTION 07-309 Attend Training/K-9 Officer

By Councilman Murphy, supported by Councilman McPartlin

RESOLVED, that Mayor and Council authorize Patrol Officer Dean Vann and K9 Aegis to attend the National Canine Academy in Alpena, Michigan from October 14 through October 19, 2007. A Police Department vehicle will be used. Cost not to exceed \$400.00. Funds to come from the Police Department's Forfeiture Account—101.000.370CU.

Motion unanimously carried.

RESOLUTION 07-310 Prop. Ord. Amend./P & F Retirement

By Councilman Murphy, supported by Councilman Vaslo

WHEREAS, the City of Lincoln Park has agreed to amend the City of Lincoln Park Police and Fire Retirement System to effectuate the terms of a Deferred Retirement Option Plan.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Retirement Ordinance is hereby restated with the addition of a Deferred Retirement Option Plan to provide that effective September 17, 2007, a member satisfying the terms of the Deferred Retirement Option Plan is eligible to participate in said DROP, in accordance with the following:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, by the Council of the City of Lincoln Park, Michigan, that the City of Lincoln Park Police and Fire Retirement System is amended to include a "Deferred Retirement Option Plan" entitled "AMENDMENTS TO POLICE AND FIRE RETIREMENT SYSTEM" be given its first and second reading by TITLE only.

Motion unanimously carried.

Discussion regarding Police Department staffing.

RESOLUTION 07-311 State Government Budget

By Mayor Brown, supported by The Full Council

WHEREAS, after seven straight years of state budget deficits and five years of budget cuts, we are facing yet another \$1.8 billion shortfall in state revenue for the 2008 fiscal year, and

WHEREAS, more than \$3.6 billion has been cut from the state's budget over the past five years, and the state is operating with fewer state employees than we had in 1970, and

WHEREAS, funding for local governments has been cut by \$2 billion over the last five years resulting in a loss of over 1,600 police officers and 2,000 firefighters statewide thereby compromising the safety of our local communities, and

WHEREAS, we have cut major taxes over 32 times in the past decade, our unemployment rate remains one of the highest in the country, and our state economy continues to struggle, and

WHEREAS, higher education in Michigan has already been cut by \$250 million which has resulted in college students and their families having to pay double digit tuition increases and a college education moving further out of reach for the state's middle class, and

WHEREAS, further cuts to state safety net programs for food assistance, childcare and health care will only result in a shift of demand to already overburdened county and municipal programs.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Lincoln Park cannot sustain further cuts in essential services and that further funding cuts will result in a loss of quality of life for the citizens of our community and this state and an inability to retain and attract new business, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Michigan Legislature and Governor must demonstrate bipartisan leadership by affirming their commitment to finding funding solutions to address the budget deficit in a manner that will move Michigan into a sound economic future and ensure a high quality of life for our residents. A copy of this resolution be sent to our state representative, state senator, Governor Granholm and the Michigan Municipal League.

Motion unanimously carried.

CITIZENS COMMUNICATIONS

ORAL REPORTS OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:14 p.m

STEVEN M. BROWN, MAYOR

DONNA BREEDING, CITY CLERK