

BIRMINGHAM CITY COMMISSION MINUTES
NOVEMBER 11, 2019
MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 151 MARTIN
7:30 P.M.

I. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Patty Bordman called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

II. ROLL CALL

ROLL CALL: Present: Mayor Bordman
Mayor Pro Tem Boutros
Commissioner DeWeese
Commissioner Hoff
Commissioner Nickita
Commissioner Sherman

Absent: Commissioner Harris

Administration: City Manager Valentine, City Attorney Currier, Senior Planner Baka, IT Director Brunk, Communications Director Byrnes, Police Chief Clemence, Planning Director Ecker, Finance Director Gerber, Building Official Johnson, City Engineer O'Meara, Acting City Clerk Arft, BSD Director Tighe, DPS Director Wood

III. PROCLAMATIONS, CONGRATULATORY RESOLUTIONS, AWARDS, APPOINTMENTS, RESIGNATIONS AND CONFIRMATIONS, ADMINISTRATION OF OATHS, INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

11-264-19 ANNOUNCEMENTS

The City will hold a community water forum to help residents learn more about new state water testing rules for lead and copper on Thursday, November 14, 2019 from 6 PM to 9 PM at Seaholm High School. The forum will be held in the Little Theatre Room within Seaholm. Representatives from the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE), Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), South Oakland County Water Authority (SOCWA) and the Oakland County Health Division as well as the City will be on hand.

11-265-19 RECOGNITION OF OUTGOING MAYOR PATTY BORDMAN, CITY COMMISSIONERS CARROLL DEWEESE, AND ANDREW HARRIS

Mayor Pro Tem Boutros presented Mayor Bordman with a gift (special gavel) on behalf of the City in recognition and gratitude of her service.

Outgoing Commissioner DeWeese made the following comments:

- Thanked all of the people who voted for him in the most recent and previous elections.
- He expressed that it was a great privilege to serve on the City Commission.
- Thanked the City Manager, staff, and all of the men and women who volunteer their time on various boards, commissions, and committees to make this City successful.

- Appreciated the opportunity to work with a commission that was willing to tackle difficult issues.
- This was the first commission to institute a neighborhood Master Plan.
- He thanked the Fire Department for the increase in emergency medical services.
- The Police Department increased presence and time by extending workdays to 12 hours.
- Old Woodward will experience an upgrade due to the Commission's diligence.
- He hopes that the new commission would work together as a team for the benefit of the City.
- It has been a great honor and challenge to serve this City.

Outgoing Mayor Bordman made a presentation highlighting key moments during her term:

- Officiated Weddings
- Speaking to a Brownie Troop, Boy Scout Troop, and several neighborhood associations.
- Presented Santa Claus with the key to the City.
- Facilitated the Annual Birmingham Government Day
- WWJ Radio Interview
- Ribbon Cuttings
- Signed over 50 contracts on behalf of the City.
- Welcomed the participants in this year's Citizen Academy and congratulated them at their graduation.
- The Council General of Japan and his wife at their residence hosted Mayor Bordman and her husband.
- Memorial Day speech
- Led Annual Hometown Parade
- Judged food at the Farmers Market Chef's class.
- Attended the Police Department Bicycle rally.
- Represented the City of Birmingham in the Sister City Goodwill Mission to Sheiga, Japan
- Accepted an award on behalf of the City for the improvements made to Lot #6
- The honor of revealing Squad #1, the newest addition to the station, at the Fire station Open House.
- Recognized and thanked City Manager Valentine for his devotion, dedication, support, and hard work in leading the staff, boards, committees, and commissions, in serving this City.
- She reminded the new commission that they have one goal and that is doing what is best for Birmingham.
- She expressed a sense of pride in her tenure.
- She thanked the residents for their support, and the commission for the cooperative attitudes necessary to make Birmingham the great City that it is.

11-266-19 OATH OF OFFICE – LIBRARY BOARD

The Acting Clerk administered the Oath of Office to Library Board Member James Suhay, Robert Tera, and Jennifer Wheeler.

11-267-19 OATH OF OFFICE - CITY COMMISSIONERS

The Acting City Clerk administered the Oath of Office to City Commissioners Clinton Baller, Pierre Boutros, Brad Host, and Therese Longe.

Mayor Bordman called for a brief intermission at 7:43 p.m.

Mayor Pro Tem Boutros reconvened the meeting at 8:03 p.m.

11-268-19 ORGANIZATION OF CITY COMMISSION

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Nickita:
To nominate Commissioner Sherman as the temporary chair of the City Commission for purposes of conducting election of Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem.

VOTE: Yeas, 7
 Nays, 0
 Absent 0

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Longe:
To nominate Mayor Pro Tem Boutros as Mayor.

VOTE: Yeas, 7
 Nays, 0
 Absent 0

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Baller:
To nominate Commissioner Longe as Mayor Pro Tem.

Commissioner Nickita commented on the process of Mayor Pro Tem and expressed his discomfort with electing a Mayor Pro Tem who has not served on this commission; therefore, he cannot support the motion.

Commissioner Sherman concurred with Commissioner Nickita's comments.

VOTE: Yeas, 4
 Nays, 3
 Absent 0

Acting City Clerk Arft administered the oath of office to Mayor Boutros and Mayor Pro Tem Longe.

11-269-19 COMMENTS BY NEWLY ELECTED MAYOR AND MAYOR PRO TEM

Mayor Pro Tem Longe made the following comments:

- She thanked Mayor Boutros for his support and confidence.
- She expressed that she is honored to be elected Mayor Pro Tem.
- She acknowledged the dedication of the outgoing commissioners and expressed gratitude for the time and energy that they invested into improving the community.
- She asked for guidance and generosity of spirit from the current commissioners.
- Expressed gratitude to spouse, family, and friends for their support throughout this journey.
- Acknowledged engaged residents of Birmingham who care deeply about their community, and extended thanks for their support and confidence.
- She looks forward to working with the community and fellow commissioners to do what is best for Birmingham.
- She also promised to ask, listen, be transparent, be responsive, be accountable, and respectful in the role of commissioner.

Mayor Boutros made the following comments:

- Expressed thanks to the commissioners for electing him Mayor.
- Honored and humbled to represent this great City in this capacity.
- He expressed gratitude for the support of the residents of Birmingham and the trust that they put in him to represent and serve them.
- He promised to serve with accountability, integrity, and respect.
- He thanked his wife Beatrice, children, family, and friends for supporting him.
- Finally, he acknowledged and thanked commissioners Patty Bordman, Carroll DeWeese, and Andrew Harris for their service over the last term.

Mayor Boutros gave a brief State of the City to be considered by the new commission:

- Developing a new Master Plan is in process.
- AAA Bond Rating was attained in 2019.
- City taxes have been reduced for the last five years.
- City has the most desirable schools and neighborhoods in the state.
- The importance of City organizations to continually assess areas needing improvement and providing the necessary leadership to address the improvements.
- Critical issues that are of concern to the residents:
 - Finding a permanent home for the Senior Center.
 - Repairing unimproved roads.
 - Identifying parking solutions downtown.
 - Addressing infrastructure.
- He implored everyone in attendance and watching at home to be active participants in the community. Reminding them that their voices are critical and the commission is looking forward to talking to everyone about important issues and answering questions along the way.
- He thanked City Manager Valentine, staff, members of appointed boards and committees, and the business community for all of their contributions to the City.

11-270-19 APPOINTMENTS TO THE RETIREMENT BOARD, RETIREES HEALTH CARE FUND COMMITTEE, TRIANGE DISTRICT CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY, AND FOUNDATION FOR BIRMINGHAM SENIOR RESIDENTS.

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Host:
To appoint Pierre Boutros, Mayor, to the Retirement Board.

VOTE: Yeas, 7
 Nays, 0
 Absent, 0

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Host:
To appoint Therese Longe, Mayor Pro Tem, to the Retirement Board.

VOTE: Yeas, 7
 Nays, 0
 Absent, 0

MOTION: Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Longe:
To appoint Pierre Boutros, Mayor, to the Retirees Health Care Fund Committee.

VOTE: Yeas, 7
 Nays, 0
 Absent, 0

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Host:
To concur in the Mayor’s appointment of Commissioner Sherman to the Triangle District Corridor Improvement Authority.

VOTE: Yeas, 7
 Nays, 0
 Absent, 0

MOTION: Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Longe:
To concur in the Mayor’s appointment of Commissioner Hoff to the Foundation for Birmingham Senior Residents.

VOTE: Yeas, 7
 Nays, 0
 Absent, 0

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Hoff:
To concur in the Mayor’s appointment of Commissioner Host to the Ad Hoc Joint Senior Services Committee.

VOTE: Yeas, 7
 Nays, 0
 Absent, 0

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

All items listed on the consent agenda are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion and approved by a roll call vote. There will be no separate discussion of the items unless a commissioner or citizen so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the general order of business and considered under the last item of new business.

11-271-19 APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Hoff recused herself from Item A only due to absence.
Commissioner Host recused himself from Item A only having not been elected.

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Nickita, seconded by Commissioner Sherman:
To approve the Consent Agenda as submitted.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Yeas, Mayor Boutros
 Mayor Pro Tem Longe
 Commissioner Baller
 Commissioner Hoff
 Commissioner Host
 Commissioner Nickita
 Commissioner Sherman
 Nays,

- A. Resolution approving the Regular City Commission meeting minutes of October 28, 2019.
- B. Resolution approving the warrant list, including Automated Clearing House payments, dated October 30, 2019 in the amount of \$1,187,910.07.
- C. Resolution approving the warrant list, including Automated Clearing House payments, dated November 6, 2019 in the amount of \$910,621.56.
- D. Resolution setting December 9, 2019 at 7:30 PM for a Public Hearing to consider approval of a Special Land Use Permit and Final Site Plan and Design Review for Brooklyn Pizza at 111 Henrietta and 195 W. Maple to allow the operation of a bistro in the B4/D4 Zone.
- E. Resolution adopting the Performance Resolution for Governmental Agencies with the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) and authorizing Assistant City Engineer, Austin Fletcher and Assistant City Engineer, Theresa Bridges, to apply to MDOT for the necessary permit work within the State Highway Right-of-Way on behalf of the City of Birmingham.
- F. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign the City's Hazard Mitigation Plan.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

VI. NEW BUSINESS

11-272-19 RESOLUTION APPROVING THE BIRMINGHAM CITY COMMISSION 2020 MEETING SCHEDULE AS SUBMITTED.

City Manager Valentine presented this item.

Commissioner Nickita pointed out that January 20, 2020 is Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday and asked for confirmation that it is not in conflict with scheduled meetings.

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Hoff, seconded by Commissioner Sherman: To approve the Birmingham City Commission 2020 Meeting Schedule as presented.

VOTE: Yeas, 7
 Nays, 0
 Absent, 0

VII. REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

VIII. COMMUNICATIONS

IX. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA

David Bloom, resident:

- Thanked all of the candidates who ran for office for running a good and hard election, congratulating the candidates who won.
- He recognized Carroll DeWeese for serving on the Planning Board for several years as well as a commissioner. He acknowledged Mr. DeWeese for being respectful, attentive, doing the right thing, and being an asset to the community.

X. REPORTS

- A. Commissioner Reports
 - 1. Notice of Intention to Appoint to the Triangle District Corridor Improvement Authority, and the Board of Review on December 9, 2019
- B. Commissioner Comments
- C. Advisory Boards, Committees, Commissions' Reports and Agendas
- D. Legislation
- E. City Staff

INFORMATION ONLY

XI. ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Cheryl Arft, Acting City Clerk
/vc