

Birmingham City Commission Minutes

February 28, 2022

Municipal Building, 151 Martin

7:30 p.m.

Vimeo Link: <https://vimeo.com/677514306>

I. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Therese Longe, Mayor, opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. ROLL CALL

Alexandria Bingham, City Clerk, called the roll.

Present: Mayor Longe
Mayor Pro Tem Boutros
Commissioner Baller
Commissioner Haig
Commissioner Host
Commissioner McLain
Commissioner Schafer

Absent: None

Administration: City Manager Markus, City Clerk Bingham, Senior Planner Cowan, Baldwin Library Director Craft, Planning Director Dupuis, Assistant City Manager Ecker, City Attorney Kucharek, Deputy Treasurer Todd

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

Announcements

Michigan and Oakland County continue to be at a high level of COVID-19 community transmission. As a result, the CDC recommends vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals wear a facemask indoors while in public. The City requires masks in City Hall for all employees, board and commission members, and the public. KN-95 respirators will be provided to everyone attending public meetings.

02-049-22 Ukraine Proclamation

Proclamation condemning Russia's unprovoked and unjustified invasion and attack of Ukraine, and declaring support for the citizens of Ukraine and the democracy and freedom in which they fight to retain.

Appointments

Luke Joseph, applicant for the Board of Zoning Appeals, was interviewed by the Commission. Mr. Joseph was not nominated.

02-050-22 2021 Student Representative Certificates of Appreciation

The Mayor recognized the following fourteen student representatives for their service in 2021 on Birmingham boards and committees and award each student a certificate in appreciation for their civic involvement:

HDC-DRB	Charles Cusimano—Groves Elizabeth Wiegand—Seaholm
Multi-Modal Transportation Board	Lauren Morris—Groves Justin Schoener—Seaholm Alex Walters—Seaholm
Museum Board	Carter Lutz – Groves Aidan Schoener—Seaholm
Planning Board	Daniel Murphy—Seaholm Jane Wineman—Seaholm
Public Arts Board	Hadley Lovell—Seaholm Nora Sherifaj—Seaholm
Parks & Recreation Board	R.J. Carrel—Groves Alison Chapnick—Groves Kyle Sayers—Seaholm

02-051-22 2022 Student Appointments to City Boards and Committees

CM Markus briefly summarized the program of student appointments to City boards and committees and the program’s expectations.

MOTION: Nomination by Mayor Pro Tem Boutros, seconded by Commissioner Host:
To appoint the following students as non-voting members for the calendar year 2022.

HDC-DRB	Meghan Murray - Seaholm Charlie Vercellone - Seaholm
Multi-Modal Transportation Board	Isabela Betanzos - Seaholm Ben Rosenfield - Seaholm
Museum Board	Jordan Snyder - Seaholm
Planning Board	MacKinzie Clein - Seaholm Andrew Fuller - Seaholm
Parks & Recreation Board	Zachary Miketa - Seaholm Matthew Windsor - Seaholm

Commissioners Schafer and Haig spoke to the value of the program and encouraged the students to attend and participate.

VOICE VOTE: Ayes, Mayor Pro Tem Boutros
 Commissioner Baller
 Commissioner Haig

Commissioner Host
Commissioner McLain
Commissioner Schafer
Mayor Longe

Nays, None

02-052-22 Appointment of Ron Reddy to the Board of Zoning Appeals

The Commission interviewed Ron Reddy for the appointment.

MOTION: Nomination by Commissioner Haig:
To appoint Ron Reddy as a regular member to the Board of Zoning Appeals to serve the remainder of a three-year term to expire October 10, 2022.

VOICE VOTE: Ayes, Mayor Pro Tem Boutros
Commissioner Baller
Commissioner Haig
Commissioner Host
Commissioner McLain
Commissioner Schafer
Mayor Longe

Nays, None

02-053-22 Appointment of Pierre Yaldo to the Board of Zoning Appeals

The Commission interviewed Pierre Yaldo for the appointment.

MOTION: Nomination by Commissioner Baller:
To appoint Pierre Yaldo as a regular member to the Board of Zoning Appeals to serve the remainder of a three-year term to expire October 10, 2022.

VOICE VOTE: Ayes, Mayor Pro Tem Boutros
Commissioner Baller
Commissioner Haig
Commissioner Host
Commissioner McLain
Commissioner Schafer
Mayor Longe

Nays, None

02-054-22 Appointment of Larry Lyng as the Alternate Hearing Officer

The Commission interviewed Larry Lyng for the appointment.

MOTION: Nomination by Mayor Pro Tem Boutros:

To make a motion to appoint Larry Lyng as the Alternate Hearing Officer to serve the remainder of a three-year term to expire June 30, 2024.

VOICE VOTE: Ayes, Mayor Pro Tem Boutros
Commissioner Baller
Commissioner Haig
Commissioner Host
Commissioner McLain
Commissioner Schafer
Mayor Longe

Nays, None

CC Bingham swore in the present appointees. Those present by Zoom will be sworn in at a later date.

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

David Bloom apologized to the Commission for an inaccuracy in his comments from the prior Commission meeting regarding the appointments process; expressed interest in helping the City demonstrate solidarity with Ukraine; and, recommended the Commission consider meeting in closed session to discuss the letters regarding a former Board of Zoning appeals member included in the agenda packet.

Dan Marsh, executive director of the Birmingham YMCA, gave an overview of upcoming programming. He noted that financial assistance is available for all YMCA programming.

V. 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.

02-055-22 Consent Agenda

The following items were pulled from the Consent Agenda:

- Public: Item A – City Commission Workshop Minutes – February 14, 2022
- Commissioner Haig: Item B – City Commission Meeting Minutes – February 14, 2022
- Item L – W. Maple Bench Installations

MOTION: Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Boutros, seconded by Commissioner Baller:
To approve the Consent Agenda excluding Items A, B, and L.

VOICE VOTE: Ayes, Mayor Pro Tem Boutros
Commissioner Baller
Commissioner Haig
Commissioner Host
Commissioner McLain
Commissioner Schafer
Mayor Longe

Nays, None

- C. Resolution to approve the warrant list, including Automated Clearing House payments, dated February 16, 2022, in the amount of \$1,502,550.28.
- D. Resolution to approve the warrant list, including Automated Clearing House payments, dated February 23, 2022, in the amount of \$5,008,283.70.
- E. Resolution to approve a one (1) year agreement with MSCA Group, Inc. for professional design services for improvements to the Rouge River Trail Corridor (RRTC) in an amount not to exceed \$11,200.00. In addition, to authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the agreement on behalf of the City. Funding for this project has been budgeted in account # 408-751.000-979.0000
- F. Resolution to authorize the IT department to purchase the security subscription and support license extension for the Palo Alto firewall from AmeriNet. The purchase price not to exceed \$11,360.40. Funds are available in the IT computer maintenance fund account # 636-228.000-933.0600
- G. Resolution to approve a one (1) year agreement with Bang the Table for a subscription to its public engagement platform in the amount not to exceed (\$13,300). In addition, to authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the agreement on behalf of the City. Funding for this project has been budgeted in account #636-228.000-933.0700.
- H. Resolution to authorize the City Clerk to complete the Local Approval Notice at the request of Station MLCC, LLC to transfer ownership of the Class C and SDM Liquor License with Sunday Sales (AM/PM) Permit, (4) Additional Bar Permits, Catering Permit, Off Premise Storage, Outdoor Service Area Permit and Dance/Entertainment Permit from Eton Street Restaurant Inc. (Business I.D. # 392) located at 245-235 S. Eton Street, Birmingham, Oakland County, MI 48009 to Station MLCC, LLC; and request to cancel the Catering Permit, Off Premise Storage and (2) Additional Bar Permits
- I. Resolution to authorize the City Clerk to complete the Local Approval Notice at the request of Forest Grill 2, LLC to approve the request of Forest Grill 2, LLC to transfer the membership in Forest Grill 2, LLC which holds the Class C and SDM License with Sunday Sales (PM) and Outdoor Service Area located at 735 Forest, Birmingham, Oakland County, MI from 50% Elm Restaurant Group, LLC and 50% SSE Restaurant Group, LLC to 100% SSE Restaurant Group, LLC.
- J. Resolution to approve the art donation of a piano to be placed in Shain Park beneath the pavillion from the beginning of May 2022 to the end of November 2022.
- K. Resolution approving a call for entry for artwork with the following terms for fiscal year 2021-2022:
 - 1.) Timeframe options include a loan with a minimum 3-year term, or an accepted donation to the City.
 - 2.) The four locations indicated by the Public Arts Board are prioritized, however the Public Arts Board may recommend other sites more suitable within the City;
 - 3.) Each artist will coordinate with the relevant City Departments for requirements related to installation;
 - 4.) Each artist involved in the call for entry is to be provided a stipend for approved artwork, for a total amount not to exceed \$9,000 from the General Administration Budget, account #101-721.000-811-0000.

- M. Resolution to approve a special event permit as requested by the Birmingham Public Services Department for the 2022 Birmingham Concert In The Park series for the dates as presented, contingent upon compliance with all permit and insurance requirements and payment of all fees and, further, pursuant to any minor modifications that may be deemed necessary by administrative staff at the time of the event.
- N. Resolution to approve a special event permit as requested by the Birmingham Museum to hold the 2022 Birmingham Museum Heritage Plant Exchange on Saturday, June 4, 2022, contingent upon compliance with all permit and insurance requirements and payment of all fees and, further, pursuant to any minor modifications that may be deemed necessary by administrative staff at the time of the event.
- O. Resolution to approve a request from Eisenhower Dance Detroit to hold their NewDanceFest on the stage at Shain Park on July 23, 2022, contingent upon compliance with all permit and insurance requirements and payment of all fees and, further pursuant to any modifications or event cancellation that may be deemed necessary by administrative staff, leading up to or at the time of the event.
- P. Resolution to approve a special event permit as requested by the Birmingham Shopping District to hold the 2022 Day on the Town on Saturday, July 30, 2022, contingent upon compliance with all permit and insurance requirements and payment of all fees and, further, pursuant to any minor modifications that may be deemed necessary by administrative staff at the time of the event.
- Q. Resolution to approve a special event permit as requested by the Birmingham Shopping District to hold the 2022 Farmers Market days beginning on Sunday, May 1, 2022 – October 30, 2022, contingent upon compliance with all permit and insurance requirements and payment of all fees and, further, pursuant to any minor modifications that may be deemed necessary by administrative staff at the time of the event.
- R. Resolution to approve a special event permit as requested by the Birmingham Shopping District to hold the 2022 Birmingham Movie Nights on June 10, 2022, July 15, 2022, August 12, 2022, and September 16, 2022, contingent upon compliance with all permit and insurance requirements and payment of all fees and, further, pursuant to any minor modifications that may be deemed necessary by administrative staff at the time of the event.
- S. Resolution accepting the resignation of Leland Feiste from the Board of Review, to thank him for his service and to direct the City Clerk to begin the process of filling the vacancy.

02-056-22 (Item A) City Commission Workshop Minutes – February 14, 2022

Mr. Bloom asked that his comments from the workshop be recorded in more detail.

MOTION: Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Boutros, seconded by Commissioner Baller:
To approve the City Commission workshop meeting minutes of February 14, 2022 as submitted.

VOICE VOTE: Ayes, Mayor Pro Tem Boutros
Commissioner Baller
Commissioner Haig
Commissioner Host

Commissioner McLain
Commissioner Schafer
Mayor Longe

Nays, None

02-057-22 (Item B) City Commission Meeting Minutes – February 14, 2022

Commissioner Haig recalled that during the discussion of social districts there was a comment regarding the social district legislation's expiration date. He asked for that information to be added.

Mayor Longe stated she had made that comment.

CM Markus recommended that the Commission delay approving the minutes to a future meeting to give the City Clerk an opportunity to review the record and clarify what the comment was.

The Commission took no action.

Public Comment

Mr. Bloom asked that his comments from the meeting be recorded in more detail.

02-058-22 (Item L) W. Maple Bench Installations

Commissioner Haig asked about naming rights for these benches, noting it came up in the discussion at the Multi-Modal Transportation Board.

CM Markus noted that the City has a general naming rights policy which would be applicable to these benches. He said he would discuss naming rights for the benches with Staff and would return to the Commission with clarification.

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Haig, seconded by Commissioner Baller:
To approve new bench installations at the 16 proposed locations listed below and attached in the MKSK document, subject to minor clarification about existing naming rights procedure:

1. W. Maple and Lutheran Church – bus stop
2. W. Maple and Larchlea – bus stop
3. W. Maple and First Presbyterian Church – bus stop
4. W. Maple and First Presbyterian Church
5. W. Maple and Fairfax (Fairfax Park) – bus stop
6. W. Maple and First Methodist Church – bus stop
7. W. Maple and Pilgrim - bus stop
8. W. Maple between Puritan & Lake Park – bus stop
9. W. Maple & Lake Park – midblock crossing
10. W. Maple near Waterfall Court
11. W. Maple midblock crossing to Liden Park
12. W. Maple & Trail entry to Quarton Lake Park
13. Baldwin Road – along sidewalk between Wm. Maple and Rouge bridge
14. Linden Park near Valley View Lane

- 15. Maple Road – bus stop between Birmingham Museum and Baldwin Road
- 16. Martha Baldwin Park – along sidewalk

VOICE VOTE: Ayes, Mayor Pro Tem Boutros
 Commissioner Baller
 Commissioner Haig
 Commissioner Host
 Commissioner McLain
 Commissioner Schafer
 Mayor Longe

Nays, None

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

VII. NEW BUSINESS

02-059-22 Public Hearing – Confirming Roll for Special Assessment District #896 – Maple Road Sewer Lateral Project

The Mayor opened the public hearing at 8:06 p.m.

DT Todd presented the item.

The Mayor closed the public hearing at 8:08 p.m.

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Host, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Boutros:
 To confirm Special Assessment District #896S, Maple Road Sewer Laterals as indicated in the staff report.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes, Mayor Pro Tem Boutros
 Commissioner Baller
 Commissioner Haig
 Commissioner Host
 Commissioner McLain
 Commissioner Schafer
 Mayor Longe

Nays, None

02-060-22 Public Hearing – Corridor Improvement Authority Development & TIF Plan Update

The Mayor opened the public hearing at 8:09 p.m.

SP Cowan presented the item.

The Mayor closed the public hearing at 8:15 p.m.

In reply to Commissioner Schafer, SP Cowan and CM Markus reviewed next steps.

Commissioners Baller and McLain stated their support for the item.

Commissioner Haig concurred with Commissioner McLain that parts of the Triangle need revitalization, but questioned whether this approach would be the most appropriate way to encourage that revitalization long-term given low projected population growth for the region and increasing focus on multi-modal transportation.

In reply to further comment by Commissioner Haig, CM Markus said he would look into which entity would hold the funds while they accrue.

MOTION: Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Boutros, seconded by Commissioner McLain:
To approve the updates to the City of Birmingham’s Corridor Improvement Authority Development and TIF Plan.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes, Mayor Pro Tem Boutros
Commissioner Baller
Commissioner Haig
Commissioner Host
Commissioner McLain
Commissioner Schafer
Mayor Longe

Nays, None

02-061-22 RFP for Front Entrance and Circulation Area Design Development, etc.

BLD Craft summarized the item.

MOTION: Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Boutros, seconded by Commissioner Host:
To authorize the issuance of the Request for Proposals as recommended by the Library Board to finalize designs and prepare for the expansion and renovation of the Front Entrance and Circulation area of the Baldwin Public Library, with the necessary funds to be paid by the Library.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes, Mayor Pro Tem Boutros
Commissioner Baller
Commissioner Haig
Commissioner Host
Commissioner McLain
Commissioner Schafer
Mayor Longe

Nays, None

02-062-22 Code of Conduct

ACM Ecker and CM Markus summarized the item.

Commissioner McLain thanked everyone who participated in the code of conduct workshop and said she was in favor of the aspirational approach.

Commissioner Host said he thought it would be important to have a mixed approach between aspirational and accountable.

Commissioner Baller said he would like to know whether this would be an ordinance change or a change to the Commission's rules of procedure and the implications of each. He said he would also like more information on the proposal to have the Ethics Board enforce the code. He said he agreed with the City Manager's recommendation that the Ethics Board weigh in on the draft of the code once Staff has written it, and agreed that the code should focus on being aspirational. He concluded by saying the Commission should pay as much attention to the codes they are already bound by, such as Robert's Rules, as they will be paying to creating a code of conduct.

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner McLain, seconded by Commissioner Host:
To direct the City Manager to prepare a draft Code of Conduct for the City for placement on a future City Commission agenda for review and consideration.

VOICE VOTE: Ayes, Mayor Pro Tem Boutros
Commissioner Baller
Commissioner Haig
Commissioner Host
Commissioner McLain
Commissioner Schafer
Mayor Longe

Nays, None

02-063-22 2021 Liquor License Review and 2022 Liquor License Renewal (Part 1)

CM Markus presented the item.

MOTION: Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Boutros, seconded by Commissioner Host:
To approve the renewal of liquor licenses for the 2022 licensing period, for the following establishments holding a Class B, Class C, or Microbrewery Liquor License that are in compliance with Chapter 10, Alcoholic Liquors of the City Code:

- Brooklyn Pizza
- Community House
- Elie's Mediterranean
- Emagine Palladium/Ironwood Grill
- Fleming's #3302
- Forest Grill
- Hazel & Ravines
- Lincoln Hills Golf Course
- Mad Hatter
- Market North End
- Springdale Golf Course
- Streetside Seafood
- The Morrie

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes, Mayor Pro Tem Boutros
Commissioner Baller
Commissioner Haig
Commissioner Host
Commissioner McLain
Commissioner Schafer
Mayor Longe

Nays, None

02-064-22 La Strada Cafe 2022 Liquor License Renewal

The Mayor recused herself at 8:52 p.m. citing a business relationship between her spouse and the owner of La Strada Cafe.

The Mayor Pro Tem assumed facilitation of the meeting at 8:52 p.m.

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Baller, seconded by Commissioner Host:
To approve the renewal of the liquor license for La Strada Cafe for the 2022 licensing period as an establishment that is in compliance with Chapter 10, Alcoholic Liquors of the City Code:

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes, Mayor Pro Tem Boutros
Commissioner Baller
Commissioner Haig
Commissioner Host
Commissioner McLain
Commissioner Schafer

Nays, None

02-065-22 2021 Liquor License Review and 2022 Liquor License Renewal (Part 2)

The Mayor resumed facilitation of the meeting at 8:53 p.m. She noted that she had previously had personal interest regarding Adachi Restaurant, Dick O' Dow's and Slice/Shift/Sidecar, but that those personal interests were no longer present and the relevant business relationships have concluded.

MOTION: Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Boutros, seconded by Commissioner Host:
To adopt a resolution to set public hearings on Monday, March 28, 2022 to consider whether the City Commission shall file objections with the Michigan Liquor Control Commission for the renewal of licenses held by the owners/operators of the following establishments that are in violation of Chapter 10, Alcoholic Liquors of the City Code:

- Adachi Restaurant
- All Seasons Of Birmingham
- Bella Piatti
- Birmingham 8 Theater
- Birmingham Pub
- Churchill's Bistro/Cigar Bar
- Dick O Dow's Irish Pub
- Griffin Claw Brewing Company

- Hyde Park Prime Steakhouse
- Luxe Bar And Grill
- Maple Road Tap Room (Whole Foods)
- Mare
- Papa Joe's Gourmet Market Place Birmingham
- Per Noi
- Phoenicia
- Salvatore Scallopini
- Slice/Shift/Sidecar
- Social Kitchen And Bar
- Tallulah Wine Bar & Bistro
- The Townsend
- Toast
- Townhouse

Mayor Pro Tem Boutros and Commissioner Baller asked how the City might resolve more of the outstanding issues with establishments before those issues are brought before the Commission in the future.

CM Markus noted that all of the listed establishments were notified well before the present meeting of their outstanding issues, some of them a number of times. He said that repeatedly addressing enforcement issues with some of these establishments is a poor use of taxpayers' funds that should not have to occur.

Commissioner Haig thanked CM Markus for raising the issue, especially in regards to outdoor dining encroaching into the pedestrian walkway. He said that perhaps establishments should be expected to self-police or that all establishments would lose the privilege of outdoor dining.

Mayor Longe ventured that CA Kucharek would probably have cautions about the legality of Commissioner Haig's proposal.

In reply to additional comments from CM Markus, Commissioner Baller asked whether the City might be able to either mandate or foster a restaurant association that might assist with these issues.

CM Markus said the restaurants would have to make a choice to re-form an association and that mandating it would not likely be effective.

Public Comment

Joe Bongiovanni said the City and dining establishments should work together to resolve their issues and should avoid having a contentious relationship.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes, Mayor Pro Tem Boutros
 Commissioner Baller
 Commissioner Haig
 Commissioner Host
 Commissioner McLain
 Commissioner Schafer
 Mayor Longe

Nays, None

02-066-22 Setting a Public Hearing for 220 Merrill 2022 Liquor License

The Mayor recused herself at 9:09 p.m., citing a business relationship with 220 Merrill.

The Mayor Pro Tem assumed facilitation of the meeting at 9:09 p.m.

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Haig, seconded by Commissioner Host:
To adopt a resolution to set a public hearing on Monday, March 28, 2022 to consider whether the City Commission shall file objections with the Michigan Liquor Control Commission for the renewal of licenses held by the owners/operators of 220 Merrill which is in violation of Chapter 10, Alcoholic Liquors of the City Code:

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes, Mayor Pro Tem Boutros
Commissioner Baller
Commissioner Haig
Commissioner Host
Commissioner McLain
Commissioner Schafer

Nays, None

02-067-22 Setting a Public Hearing for the Daxton 2022 Liquor License

The Mayor resumed facilitation of the meeting at 9:10 p.m.

The Mayor Pro Tem recused himself at 9:10 p.m., citing a business relationship with the Daxton.

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Host, seconded by Commissioner Schafer:
To adopt a resolution to set a public hearing on Monday, March 28, 2022 to consider whether the City Commission shall file objections with the Michigan Liquor Control Commission for the renewal of licenses held by the owners/operators of the Daxton which is in violation of Chapter 10, Alcoholic Liquors of the City Code:

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes, Mayor Longe
Commissioner Baller
Commissioner Haig
Commissioner Host
Commissioner McLain
Commissioner Schafer

Nays, None

02-068-22 2021 Liquor License Review and 2022 Liquor License Renewal (Part 3)

The Mayor Pro Tem rejoined the meeting at 9:11 p.m.

MOTION: Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Boutros, seconded by Commissioner Host:
To direct the City Manager to notify the owners/operators of licensed establishments for which a public hearing is set, in writing, that they may submit any written material for consideration by the City Commission prior to the date of the public hearing or at the hearing, that the licensee may

appear in person at the hearing or be represented by counsel, and that the licensee may present witnesses or written evidence at the hearing.

VOICE VOTE: Ayes, Mayor Longe
 Commissioner Baller
 Commissioner Haig
 Commissioner Host
 Commissioner McLain
 Commissioner Schafer
 Mayor Pro Tem Boutros

Nays, None

Commission Items for Future Discussion. A motion is required to bring up the item for future discussion at the next reasonable agenda, no discussion on the topic will happen tonight.

The Commission and the City Manager had a brief discussion regarding how best to further show the City’s support for Ukraine.

The Mayor Pro Tem asked if there should be an official motion, and the Mayor noted that there is occasional precedent for the Commission to just have a brief discussion on a topic in this agenda section to provide direction to the City Manager.

Commissioner Schafer said she wanted the Commission to discuss ways to encourage the community to get involved.

Commissioner Haig noted that other communities are likely to be in distress in the future, and recommended the City develop a policy for when and how the City demonstrates solidarity with other communities.

Mayor Pro Tem Boutros concurred.

The Mayor recommended that the City Attorney verify that the City has the ability to do this demonstration of solidarity now, and that the Commission consider possible future policies once that has been clarified.

CM Markus noted that individuals’ direct donations and philanthropy to legitimate non-profit organizations tend to have the most direct, positive impact.

The Commission consensus was to direct the City Manager to further explore ways of lighting up City Hall with the colors of the Ukrainian flag to demonstrate Birmingham’s solidarity with the Ukrainian people.

Commission discussion on items from prior meeting

VIII. REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

IX. COMMUNICATIONS

X. REPORTS

A. Commissioner Reports

1. Notice of intention to appoint to the Board of Review
 2. Notice of intention to appoint to the Museum Board
- B. Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Haig cautioned that Russian leadership should not be conflated with the Russian populace when discussing Russia's invasion of Ukraine, and said the same is true of other political conflicts.

The Mayor noted that the proclamation given at the beginning of the meeting stated the City "stand[s] in solidarity with [...] the brave citizens of Ukraine and Russia who are standing up against this assault on democracy," in order to offer exactly the nuance Commissioner Haig was recommending.

- C. Advisory Boards, Committees, Commissions' Reports and Agendas
- D. Legislation
 - E. City Staff
 1. 2nd Quarter Investment Report
 2. 2nd Quarter Budget Report
 3. City Manager's Report

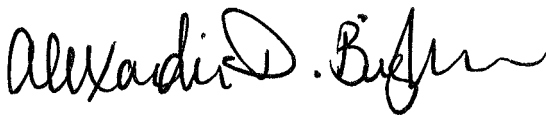
The City Manager presented his report.

- a. Mary Kucharek – Board Appointment Nominations
 - b. Letter to Paul Reagan
4. Mary Kucharek – Regarding ethics and the February 14, 2022 City Commission meeting

INFORMATION ONLY

XI. ADJOURN

Mayor Longe adjourned the meeting at 9:43 p.m.



Alexandria Bingham
City Clerk



Laura Eichenhorn
City Transcriptionist