

City of Southgate

Regular City Council Meeting

January 15, 2025

A Regular Meeting of the Council of the City of Southgate was held on Wednesday, January 15, 2025 in the Southgate City Hall Council Chambers and was called to order at 7:00 PM by Council President Zoey Kuspa.

This meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Victoria Araj, Priscilla Ayres-Reiss, Edward Gawlik, Jr., Christian Graziani, Zoey Kuspa, Phil Rauch

Absent: *Karen George *excused

Also Present: Mayor Joseph G. Kuspa, City Attorney Edward Zelenak, City Administrator Dan Marsh, Assistant City Administrator/Finance Director Doug Drysdale, City Clerk Janice Ferencz, City Treasurer Chris Rollet, City Engineer John Hennessey, Director of Public Safety Joseph Marsh, Police Chief Mark Mydlarz, Fire Chief Justin Graves, Recreation Director Julie Goddard, & Building Inspections Director Tim Leach

Minutes:

Moved by Rauch, supported by Ayres-Reiss, RESOLVED, that the minutes of the City Council Work Study Session dated January 2, 2025 be approved as presented. Carried unanimously.

Moved by Ayres-Reiss, supported by Gawlik, RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting dated January 2, 2025 be approved as presented. Carried unanimously.

Consideration of Bids:

1. Letter from Mayor; Re: Award Bid for City Hall Parking and ADA Improvements CDBG Project moved by Ayres-Reiss, supported by Rauch, RESOLVED THAT the Southgate City Council award bid for the City Hall CDBG Parking & ADA Improvements project to Great Lakes Contracting Solutions, Inc. in the amount of \$669,160.50, plus 10% contingency in the amount of \$66,916.05, for a total amount of \$736,076.55. Great Lakes Contracting Solutions was the lowest bidder and met all specifications. Motion carried unanimously.

Scheduled Hearings:

1. Memo from Administrator; Re: Public Hearing - City of Southgate Parks and Recreation Master Plan moved by Rauch, supported by Ayres-Reiss, RESOLVED that the Southgate City Council hereby enters into a public hearing at 7:03 p.m. in order to entertain views and comments from interested individuals regarding: Southgate 2025-2029 Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Motion carried unanimously.

A presentation was given by Chris Nordstrom of Carlisle Wortman and Associates, the City's Planning Consultant, on the Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

Council President asked for questions or comments from the audience and Council. Councilman Gawlik expressed his appreciation to those that worked on the plan and commented on the updates.

There were no comments or questions from the audience.

Moved by Rauch, supported by Ayres-Reiss, RESOLVED that the Southgate City Council adjourn the public hearing at 7:10 p.m.

Motion carried unanimously.

Communications "A":

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1. Memo from Administrator; Re: Parks and Recreation 2025-2029 Master Plan Request for Approval moved by Gawlik, supported by Araj, RESOLVED THAT the Southgate City Council adopt a resolution to adopt the City of Southgate 2025 – 2029 Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

WHEREAS, the Southgate Parks & Recreation Director & Commission has undertaken a planning process to determine the recreation needs and desires of its residents during a five-year period covering the years 2025 to 2029; and

WHEREAS, the Parks & Recreation Director & Commission began the process of developing a Parks & Recreation Plan in accordance with the most recent guidelines developed by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and made available to local communities; and

WHEREAS, the Parks & Recreation Director & Commission has developed the plan as a guideline for improving recreation opportunities for Southgate residents; and

WHEREAS, residents of Southgate were provided with a well-advertised opportunity during the development of the draft plan to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the Plan; and

WHEREAS, the public was given a well-advertised opportunity and reasonable accommodations to review the final draft plan for a period of at least 30 days; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on January 15, 2025, at Southgate City Hall to provide an opportunity for all residents of the City to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the Parks & Recreation Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, the plan serves as a guideline for park land, open space, and recreation planning by the Parks & Recreation Commission; and

WHEREAS, the plan also serves as a planning tool for other City boards and commissions, such as the Planning Commission and City Council; and

WHEREAS, the adoption of a five-year plan is mandated by the Department of Natural Resources for eligibility for DNR-administered grants; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Southgate City Council hereby adopts the City Southgate Parks and Recreation Master Plan for the years 2025 -2029.

Motion carried unanimously.

2. Letter from the Mayor; Re: IT Software Services Agreement moved by Ayres-Reiss, supported by Rauch, RESOLVED THAT the Southgate City Council approve a 3-year agreement commencing February 1, 2025 and expiring January 31, 2028 with Electronic Tech Solutions (ETS) in the amount of \$5,365.00 per month for IT Software Services. Motion carried unanimously.
3. Memo from the ACA/Finance Director; Re: March 2025 Board of Review Dates moved by Araj, supported by Rauch, RESOLVED THAT the Southgate City Council approve the March 2025 Board of Review dates per the Deputy City Assessor as follows:

Tuesday, March 4th from 9 AM until 7 PM
Tuesday, March 11th from 12 PM until 9 PM

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Tuesday, March 18th from 9 AM until 7 PM

The following date may be utilized if necessary:

Thursday, March 20th from 9 AM until 7 PM

As well as the Board of Review member's compensation in the amount of \$200 per day or \$100 per half-day, and the amount of \$200.00 per day for additional expenses. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Memo from the ACA/Finance Director; Re: 2025 Poverty Exemption Guidelines and Application moved by Rauch, supported by Gawlik, RESOLVED THAT the Southgate City Council approve the 2025 Poverty Exemption Guidelines and Application, based on guidance from the Michigan State Tax Commission. Motion carried unanimously.
5. Letter from the Mayor; Re: Heating and Cooling Maintenance (Waiver of Bid) moved by Graziani, supported by Ayres-Reiss, RESOLVED THAT the Southgate City Council waive the bid process and approve a 2-year extension with Flo-Aire Heating & Cooling, Inc. (Southgate, MI), commencing February 1, 2025 and expiring January 31, 2027 for heating and cooling maintenance services at their current fee schedule (original contract was awarded May 16, 2018). Motion carried unanimously.
6. Letter from the Mayor; Re: Ice Arena Heating and Cooling System Repairs (Waiver of Bid) moved by Araj, supported by Rauch, RESOLVED THAT the Southgate City Council waive the bidding process and approve Quote #1883 in the amount of \$23,895.00, Quote #1834 in the amount of \$6,795.00, and Quote #1812 in the amount of \$5,115.00, from Flo-Aire Heating & Cooling (Southgate, MI), for ice arena heating and cooling repairs. Motion carried unanimously.
7. Letter from the Mayor; Re: Police Training Course Fees moved by Gawlik, supported by Rauch, RESOLVED THAT the Southgate City Council approve police training course fees in the amount of \$6,375.00 to Oakland Community College, Oakland Police Academy Training Center, to be paid with funds provided by the State of Michigan for this required training. Motion carried unanimously.

Ordinances:

1. Memo from Administrator; Re: First Reading of Proposed Disruptive Behavior Amendment to Chapter 670 of the City Code Moved by Ayres-Reiss, supported by Gawlik, RESOLVED THAT the Southgate City Council hereby approves to waive the second reading and adopt the proposed changes to Chapter 670-Peace Disturbances. This ordinance will be otherwise be known as Ordinance no. 1045. Motion carried unanimously.

Claims and Accounts:

Moved by Rauch, supported by Ayres-Reiss, RESOLVED, that Claims and Accounts be paid as outlined on Warrant #1513 for \$1,138,515.63. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment:

Moved by Ayres-Reiss, supported by Gawlik, RESOLVED THAT this Regular Meeting of the Southgate City Council be adjourned at 7:19 P.M. Carried unanimously.

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Zoey Kuspa
Council President

Janice M. Ferencz
City Clerk