CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF ROCHESTER
400 SIXTH STREET, ROCHESTER MICHIGAN

REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 24, 2025
7:00 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER
Mayor Salvia at 7:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL
PRESENT: Mayor Nancy Salvia, Mayor Pro Tem Stuart Bikson, Councilmembers Christian Hauser, Debbie Jones, Steve Sage and Marilyn Trent.
ABSENT: Councilmember Sara King.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
Mayor Salvia led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT SCHEDULED/NON SCHEDULED/PRESENTATIONS
Oakland County Assessing, Equalization Field Supervisor Bryan Paris and Equalization Appraiser Raul Dsouza presented the 2025 pre March Board of Review Valuation Data and Community Comparison.

Public Comment. NONE.

5. CONSENT AGENDA
5A. Minutes for the Regular Meeting of February 24, 2025.

MOTION: Bikson moved, Sage seconded,
To approve the Minutes for the Regular Meeting of February 24, 2025.

VOTE: YES: Salvia, Bikson, Hauser, Jones, Sage and Trent.
NO: None.
ABSENT: King
Motion Carried.

5B. Special Event Application from the St. John Lutheran Church and School to hold the annual Family Praise and Picnic in the Park on Sunday, August 24, 2025 in the Municipal Park.

MOTION: Bikson moved, Sage seconded,
To approve the Special Event Permit for the St. John Lutheran Church and School to hold the annual Family Praise and Picnic in the Park on Sunday, August 24, 2025 in the Municipal Park.

VOTE: YES: Salvia, Bikson, Hauser, Jones, Sage and Trent.
NO: None.
ABSENT: King
Motion Carried.

5C. Special Event Application from the Principal Shopping District to the Downtown Rochester's Makers' Market on Saturday, June 21, 2025 on West Fourth Street between Main Street and Walnut Boulevard.

MOTION: Bikson moved, Sage seconded,
To approve the Special Event Permit for the Principal Shopping District to the Downtown Rochester's Makers' Market on Saturday, June 21, 2025 on West Fourth Street between Main Street and Walnut Boulevard.
VOTE: YES: Salvia, Bikson, Hauser, Jones, Sage and Trent.
NO: None.
ABSENT: King
Motion Carried.

5D. Special Event Application from the Older Persons' Commission to hold the OPC 5K Run/Walk for Meals on Wheels on June 7, 2025 along Letica Drive and the Clinton River Trail.

MOTION: Bikson moved, Sage seconded,
To approve the Special Event Permit for the Older Persons' Commission to hold the OPC 5K Run/Walk for Meals on Wheels on June 7, 2025 along Letica Drive and the Clinton River Trail.
VOTE: YES: Salvia, Bikson, Hauser, Jones, Sage and Trent.
NO: None.
ABSENT: King
Motion Carried.

5E. Special Event Application from HAVEN to hold HAVEN Sexual Assault Awareness Month walk event on Friday April 4, 2025 along the sidewalks from University Drive and Diversion Street.

MOTION: Bikson moved, Sage seconded,
To approve the Special Event Application from HAVEN to hold HAVEN Sexual Assault Awareness Month walk event on Friday April 4, 2025 along the sidewalks from University Drive and Diversion Street.
VOTE: YES: Salvia, Bikson, Hauser, Jones, Sage and Trent.
NO: None.
ABSENT: King
Motion Carried.

5F. Check Register reports for March 6 and 13, 2025.
MOTION: Bikson moved, Sage seconded,
To approve the
VOTE: YES: Salvia, Bikson, Hauser, Jones, Sage and Trent.
NO: None.
ABSENT: King
Motion Carried.

6. OLD BUSINESS/ TABLED ITEMS.
NONE.

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS
7A. Public Hearing and Resolution for application to The Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund for $500,000 and commit 25% matching funds of $125,000 to fund improvements to Elizabeth Park.

Project Manager Jason Warner, Brian Casey of McKenna Associates and Grant Writer Linda Kirksey Davis reviewed the project and answered questions.

Mayor Salvia opened the Public Hearing at 7:35 p.m.

Grant Writer Linda Kirksey Davis read for the record a letter from the adjacent Homeowners' Association in support of the proposed plans for Elizabeth Park.

Mayor Salvia closed the Public Hearing at 7:37 p.m.

MOTION: Trent moved, Jones seconded,
To adopt the Resolution for application to The Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund for $500,000 and commit 25% matching funds of $125,000 to fund improvements to Elizabeth Park.

VOTE: YES: Salvia, Bikson, Hauser, Jones, Sage and Trent.
NO: None.
ABSENT: King
Motion Carried.

7B. Public Hearing for 2021 Community Development Block Grant funding reprograming in the amount of $18,541.55 to be used for ADA compliant pathways in the Municipal Park.

Mayor Salvia opened the Public Hearing at 7:39 p.m.

No one addressed Council.

Mayor Salvia closed the Public Hearing at 7:40 p.m.

MOTION: Hauser moved, Trent seconded,
To approve the 2021 Community Development Block Grant funding reprograming in the amount of $18,541.55 to be used for ADA compliant pathways in the Municipal Park.
VOTE: YES: Salvia, Bikson, Hauser, Jones, Sage and Trent.
NO: None.
ABSENT: King
Motion Carried.

7C. Public Hearing and Resolution for the Principal Shopping District Special Assessment District 2025-01. DDA Director Kristi Trevarrow gave Council a thorough review of the requested SAD.

Mayor Salvia opened the Public Hearing at 8:02 p.m.

Steven Winokur, Masonic Block Properties, 400/402/404 South Main and 103/109/111/115 East Fourth, questioned inconsistencies with the published amounts.

Bob Justin, Rhumbline LLC, 92 and 280 Mill Street, requested these properties be excluded from the SAD as they do not benefit from PSD activities.

Greg Swett, Swett Equity LLC, 81 Mill Street, objected to this address being included.

Pierre Atallah, 610/613/543 Main Street, 134 West University Drive and 530 Pine Street, objects to these properties being included in the PSD SAD as they do not benefit. He requested that medical offices as a class not benefitted by the PSD.

Ann Peterson, 233 N. Alice, commented that Mill Street does not belong in the PSD and supports removing these properties from the SAD.

Paul Haig, downtown resident and business owner, stated that the PSD enhances the downtown.

Ben Giovanelli, DDA Chair, commented on how the DDA and PSD work together to make downtown a desirable place.

City Clerk O'Connor read aloud Letters of Protest received from: Steven Winokur, Masonic Block Properties, 400/402/404 South Main and 103/109/111/115 East Fourth; Greg Swett, Swett Equity LLC, 81 Mill Street; and Daniel Eastman, Garry's Collision, 93 and 97 Mill Street; and Bob Justin, Rhumbline LLC, 92 and 280 Mill Street.

Mayor Salvia closed the Public Hearing at 8:17 p.m.

Council considered the Resolution adopting PSD SAD 2025-01.

MOTION: Jones moved, Sage seconded,
To adopt the Resolution for the Principal Shopping District Special Assessment District 2025-01.

VOTE: YES: Salvia, Bikson, Hauser, Jones, Sage and Trent.
NO: None.
ABSENT: King
Motion Carried.

8. LEGISLATIVE DELIBERATIONS

8A. Ordinance Amendment to the City Code, Chapter 8 – Animals, Article I – In General, to add new Section 8-9 – Feeding of Animals, to prohibit ground feeding of animals and stray/feral cats and dogs, Introduction and First Reading.

MOTION: Jones moved, Hauser seconded,
To give Introduction and First Reading to an Ordinance Amendment to the City Code, Chapter 8 – Animals, Article I – In General, to add new Section 8-9 – Feeding of Animals, to prohibit ground feeding of animals and stray/feral cats and dogs.

VOTE: YES: Salvia, Hauser, Jones and Trent.
NO: Bikson and Sage.
ABSENT: King
Motion Carried.

8B. Ordinance Amendment to the City Code, Chapter 20 – Environment, Article IV, Blight to amend the language - Introduction and First Reading. Councilmember Hauser requested Council postpone action on this amendment for further review.

MOTION: Hauser moved, Trent seconded,
To postpone indefinitely the Ordinance Amendment to the City Code, Chapter 20 – Environment, Article IV, Blight to amend the language - Introduction and First Reading. Councilmember Hauser requested Council postpone action on this amendment for further review.

VOTE: YES: Salvia, Bikson, Hauser, Jones, Sage and Trent.
NO: None.
ABSENT: King
Motion Carried.

9. REPORTS AND REGULAR BUSINESS

9A. Agreement with Dinosaur Hill Nature Preserve – Second Amendment for Community Garden Services.

MOTION: Trent moved, Jones seconded,
To approve the Agreement with Dinosaur Hill Nature Preserve – Second Amendment for Community Garden Services.

VOTE: YES: Salvia, Bikson, Hauser, Jones, Sage and Trent.
NO: None.
ABSENT: King
Motion Carried.

9B. Police Chief Rouhib presented the annual liquor license inspection report.

9C. Resolution making permanent changes to the Voting Precinct Boundaries to combine precincts 01 & 03 into new precinct 01; to combine precincts 02 & 04 into new precinct 02; and to combine precincts 05 & 06 into new precinct 03 and adopting the new Voting Precinct Map.

MOTION: Trent moved, Hauser seconded,
To adopt the Resolution making permanent changes to the Voting Precinct Boundaries to combine precincts 01 & 03 into new precinct 01; to combine precincts 02 & 04 into new precinct 02; and to combine precincts 05 & 06 into new precinct 03 and adopting the new Voting Precinct Map.

VOTE: YES: Salvia, Bikson, Hauser, Jones, Sage and Trent.
NO: None.
ABSENT: King
Motion Carried.

9D. Resolution changing the Voting Polling Location from Rochester Community House to the Municipal Building, 400 Sixth Street and to change the Voting Polling Location from the Older Persons' Commission building to St. Paul's Methodist Church.

MOTION: Hauser moved, Trent seconded,
To adopt the Resolution changing the Voting Polling Location from Rochester Community House to the Municipal Building, 400 Sixth Street and to change the Voting Polling Location from the Older Persons' Commission building to St. Paul's Methodist Church.

VOTE: YES: Salvia, Bikson, Hauser, Jones, Sage and Trent.
NO: None.
ABSENT: King
Motion Carried.

9E. Request to schedule a Public Hearing regarding the FYE 2026 budget for April 28, 2025.

MOTION: Bikson moved, Trent seconded,
To approve the Request to schedule a Public Hearing regarding the FYE 2026 budget for April 28, 2025.

VOTE: YES: Salvia, Bikson, Hauser, Jones, Sage and Trent.
NO: None.
ABSENT: King
Motion Carried.

10. BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS REPORTS.

10A. Cemetery Committee – Jones stated they continue work on the America 250 event.

10B. Community House – Salvia stated they welcomed new board member Lynn Oates.

10C. Paint Creek Trailway Commission- Sage stated that they are still searching for a Trail Manager.

10D. Asset Management Committee – Hauser stated they reviewed First Street road project, east side curb replace and mill and fill, parking lots and upcoming water main projects.

10E. Downtown Development Authority – Trent stated they discussed the Market + The Graham progress.

10F. Budget and Finance Committee – Trent stated they will be seeking grant funding for the Cemetery.

10G. Rochester Avon Recreation Authority - report postponed.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT

Pat Kane, West Fourth Street, commented on three new wildlife habitat certifications.

12. GENERAL MISCELLANEOUS.

City Clerk O'Connor

Bikson, Jones, Trent and Mayor Salvia commented on the successful Founders' Day event.

13. ADJOURN

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

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Lee Ann O'Connor, City Clerk Nancy Salvia, Mayor