

LOWELL CITY COUNCIL
MEMORANDUM



DATE: April 8, 2022

TO: Mayor DeVore and the City Council

FROM: Michael T. Burns, City Manager *MTB*

RE: Friday Memo

Attached to the Friday memo are the following:

- Agenda for the Monday April 11, 2022 Arbor Board Meeting
- Agenda for the Monday April 11, 2022 Planning Commission Meeting
- Agenda for the Thursday April 14, 2022 Downtown Development Authority Meeting

I am not going to lie; I had a wonderful time in Arizona and the weather was phenomenal. I had a difficult time returning back Wednesday evening as the weather here hasn't been great. Anyhow, I am trying to get items wrapped up with the budget. The budget will be ready on Monday April 19th.

Before I left, Charlie West and I met with a representative from the West Michigan Health Insurance Pool as we finally received some pricing. As I said previously, we are not getting less expensive pricing with this, but we are spreading our risk thus reducing the risk of major annual increases. Plus, I want to make sure our employees have a sound health insurance plan. I believe we have a good plan now. However, we run the risk of major increases due to being a very small unit on our own.

I am awaiting some additional pricing from WMHIP for another plan option but I am starting to prepare a possible package for the unions to review. I will need to approach the unions in order to consider any changes. The only issue is we cannot consider a plan change until next January. We will need to keep the current Priority plan until then if we do move to the pool.

Before I left, I was informed that longtime Parks and Streets Supervisor Scott Fosburg will be retiring on May 20th at 11:35 AM. Scott has served the City proudly since September of 1991. In his retirement letter to me, he asked to leave specifically at 11:35 AM on the 20th. I informed Scott I am not sure I can grant this request. Scott left his mark on the City and will be difficult to replace. I wish him well in his retirement.

I also want to congratulate Ralph Brecken. This week, Ralph completed the final year of the Michigan Public Service Institute. MPSI is a three-year training program, which provides instruction designed expressly for public works supervisors, managers, and directors. The course curriculum includes three one-week sessions (one week each year) focusing on training in public service, professional development and enhancing individual growth.

A few years back, Rich LaBombard and I basically made Ralph attend MPSI. I know he was reluctant on attending. He reminded me of that yesterday when I congratulated him, and is now glad he went through the program. Lew Bender leads the instruction for these sessions and Lew spoke very highly to me about how Ralph has come along since MPSI began.

I originally had planned to attend the ceremony for Ralph. Unfortunately, with my vacation and all of the other issues on my plate recently, I got my days mixed up. I felt bad about that and let Ralph know.

This is all I have. Have a good weekend.



CITY OF LOWELL
ARBOR BOARD AGENDA

MONDAY, APRIL 11, 2022 AT 12 NOON

CITY HALL – [DOWNSTAIRS FLAT RIVER CONFERENCE ROOM](#)

1. CALL TO ORDER; ROLL CALL
2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S)
4. REVIEW FINANCIAL REPORTS
5. CITIZEN COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA
6. OLD BUSINESS
7. NEW BUSINESS
 - a. Election of Chair
 - b. Approve 2022 Meeting Dates
 - c. Comprehensive Tree Plan
 - d. Consider Business Selection for Arbor Day Tree
 - e. Arbor Day April 29th Activities (Suggestions)
8. BOARDMEMBER COMMENTS
9. ADJOURNMENT



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PLANNING COMMISSION-CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
CITY OF LOWELL, MICHIGAN
AGENDA
FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF
MONDAY, APRIL 11, 2022 AT 7:00 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, ROLL CALL
2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS
 - a. February 14, 2022 – Regular Meeting
4. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS CONCERNING ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA
5. OLD BUSINESS
 - a. Public Hearing - Proposed Adult Use Marihuana Zoning Amendment
6. NEW BUSINESS
 - a. Public Hearing – Grand Rapids Gravel – Special Land Use Re-Application
7. STAFF REPORT
8. COMMISSIONERS REMARKS
9. ADJOURNMENT



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CITY OF LOWELL
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
INFORMATIONAL MEETING
THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 2022
12 NOON

1. CALL TO ORDER; ROLL CALL
2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
3. APPROVAL MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S)
 - a) February 10, 2022
4. TREASURER'S REPORT
5. PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA
6. OLD BUSINESS
7. NEW BUSINESS
 - a) Budget
8. REPORTS AND MEMBER COMMENTS
9. ADJOURNMENT