

City of Southgate

Regular City Council Meeting

September 18, 2024

A Regular Meeting of the Council of the City of Southgate was held on Wednesday, September 18, 2024 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., Karen George, Christian Graziani, Zoey Kuspa, Phil Rauch

Absent:

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

Minutes:

Moved by Ayres-Reiss, supported Gawlik, RESOLVED, that the minutes of the City Council Work Study Session dated September 4, 2024 be approved as presented. Carried unanimously.

Moved by Graziani, supported by Rauch, RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting dated September 4, 2024 be approved as presented. Carried unanimously.

Moved by Rauch, supported by George, RESOLVED that the Southgate City Council hereby enters into an executive session at 7:01 p.m. to discuss Director of Public Safety and Police Chief Contract Amendments.

Roll Call

Araj	yes
Ayres-Reiss	yes
Gawlik	yes
George	yes
Graziani	yes
Kuspa	yes
Rauch	yes

Passes 7 – 0

Moved by Rauch, supported by Ayres-Reiss, RESOLVED that the Southgate City Council hereby closes the executive session at 7:13 p.m.

Roll Call

Araj	yes
Ayres-Reiss	yes
Gawlik	yes
George	yes
Graziani	yes
Kuspa	yes
Rauch	yes

Passes 7 – 0

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Consideration of Bids:

1. Letter from Mayor; Re: Southgate Tower Park & Bridge – Park Pavilion moved by George, supported by Ayres-Reiss, RESOLVED THAT the Southgate City Council award the bid for the Southgate Tower Park & Pedestrian Bridge Project – Park Pavilion to J.G. Morris Jr., Inc. in the amount of \$638,000.00, with funds to be provided from the Wayne County ARPA grant. Motion carried unanimously.

Scheduled Hearings:

1. Continuation of Public Hearing for the Demolition of 19364 Eureka moved by Rauch, supported by Gawlik, RESOLVED that the Southgate City Council hereby reconvene the public hearing at 7:14 p.m. in order to entertain views and comments from interested individuals regarding: the Demolition of the Property at 19364 Eureka. Motion carried unanimously.

No questions or comments from Council or audience.

Moved by Rauch, supported by George, RESOLVED that the Southgate City Council adjourn the public hearing at 7:15 p.m.

Motion carried unanimously.

Communications “A”:

1. Memo from Public Safety Director; Re: Homecoming Parade – Permit Fee Waiver moved by George, supported by Araj, RESOLVED THAT the Southgate City Council waive the \$100 permit fee for the Homecoming Parade to be held on October 4, 2024. Motion carried unanimously.
2. Letter from Mayor; Re: Contract Extension for 2024-25 Road Reconstruction Program (Waiver of Bid) moved by Araj, supported by Rauch, RESOLVED THAT the Southgate City Council waive the bid process and approve a contract extension with GV Cement Contracting Company for the 2024-25 Road Reconstruction Program at the unit prices under the 2023-24 Humphrey Court & Burns Avenue Road Reconstruction Project approved on August 2, 2023. Motion carried unanimously.
3. Memo from Administrator; Re: Demolition of 19364 Eureka moved by Ayres-Reiss, supported by George, RESOLVED THAT the Southgate City Council affirms the recommendation of the Dangerous Buildings Board that the property located at 19364 Eureka Road must be repaired or demolished within 90 days. Motion carried unanimously.
4. Memo from Administrator; Re: Director of Public Safety and Police Chief Contract Amendments moved by Gawlik, supported by George, RESOLVED THAT the Southgate City Council authorize the Mayor to sign the proposed contract amendments for the Director of Public Safety and the Chief of Police. Motion carried unanimously.
5. Memo from Administrator; Re: DUWA Second Amended Articles of Incorporation (2AO1) moved by Araj, supported by George, RESOLVED THAT the Southgate City Council approve the attached resolution for the approval of the Second Amended Articles of Incorporation for the Downriver Utility Wastewater Authority. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF SOUTHGATE

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OF TO APPROVE THE SECOND AMENDED ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF THE DOWNRIVER UTILITY WASTEWATER AUTHORITY RESOLUTION NO. 328-24

WHEREAS, 1955 PA 233, as amended ("Act 233") authorizes an authority to acquire sewage disposal systems as defined within said act and to improve, enlarge, expand, and operate such systems; and WHEREAS, by the terms of Act 233, the Downriver Utility Wastewater Authority ("DUWA"), with members the cities of Belleville, Ecorse, Lincoln Park, River Rouge, Southgate, Wyandotte, Allen Park, Taylor, Dearborn Heights, Romulus, Riverview, and the Charter Townships of Van Buren and Brownstown ("Communities") has ownership and operation of a sewage disposal system ("System"), and WHEREAS, DUWA owns and operates the System pursuant to Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws; and WHEREAS, the DUWA Board of Commissioners have recommended changes to the Articles of Incorporation to acknowledge change in circumstances and such Amended Articles have been reviewed by the municipality's counsel and the DUWA Legal Committee and the DUWA Board. NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the City of Southgate ("municipality") hereby agrees that:

1. The Second Amended Articles of Incorporation of the DUWA are hereby approved and the appropriate administrative official of the municipality is hereby authorized to execute said Articles.

ON MOTION OF Araj SUPPORTED BY George the
foregoing Resolution was adopted by the following vote:

ROLL CALL: ABSENT 0 AYE 7 NAY 0

I, Janice M. Ferencz, Clerk for the City of Southgate hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and accurate copy of a Resolution adopted by the City Council for the City of Southgate at a regular meeting held on the 18th day of September, 2024, and that said meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meeting Act, being Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, and that the minutes of said meeting were kept and will be or have been available as required by said Act.

6. Letter from Mayor; Re: Change Order No. 1 Cobb Park & Waverly Park Basketball Court Improvements moved by Rauch, supported by Gawlik, RESOLVED THAT the Southgate City Council approve Change Order No. 001 to Cobb Park & Waverly Park Basketball Court Improvement Contract with Rolar Construction Corporation in the amount of \$409,000.00 for the Southgate Tower Project – Tennis Courts project, utilizing funds from the Wayne County ARPA grant. Motion carried unanimously.

Ordinances:

1. Memo from Administrator; Re: Changes to City Code – Chapter 666.04 – Second Reading Moved by Ayres-Reiss, supported by Gawlik, RESOLVED THAT the Southgate City Council hereby adopts the proposed language changes to section 666.04 Trespass; Vagrancy. This ordinance will be otherwise known as Ordinance no. 1044. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business:

Councilman Rauch asked for an update on the EPA Community Change Grant Application. City Administrator Marsh gave a thorough explanation of what the project would entail and encouraged residents to reach out to him with comments and/or questions.

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Unscheduled Persons In Audience

1. Martell Bivings, 620 Lakewood St, Detroit, introduced himself and explained that he is running as the democratic candidate for Michigan 13th Congressional District.

Claims and Accounts:

Moved by Rauch, supported by George, RESOLVED, that Claims and Accounts be paid as outlined on Warrant #1505 for \$1,613,833.42. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment:

Moved by George, supported by Gawlik, RESOLVED THAT this Regular Meeting of the Southgate City Council be adjourned at 7:34 P.M. Carried unanimously.

Zoey Kuspa
Council President

Janice M. Ferencz
City Clerk