

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NOVI  
MONDAY, MARCH 4, 2019 AT 7:00 P.M.  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS – NOVI CIVIC CENTER – 45175 TEN MILE ROAD**

**Mayor Gatt called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL:** Mayor Gatt, Mayor Pro Tem Staudt, Council Members Breen, Casey, Mutch, Poupard, Verma

**ALSO PRESENT:** Pete Auger, City Manager  
Victor Cardenas, Assistant City Manager  
Thomas Schultz, City Attorney

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Member Mutch asked that they include under Mayor & Council Issues: Shawood Lake Goose Nest Survey.

**CM 19-03-024 Moved by Mutch, seconded by Poupard; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**To approved Agenda as amended.**

**Roll call vote on CM 19-03-024**                      **Yeas: Staudt, Breen, Casey, Mutch, Poupard, Verma, Gatt**  
**Nays: None**

**PUBLIC HEARING: None**

**PRESENTATIONS:**

1. Proclamation in recognition of National Nutrition Month for March and March 13, 2019 as Registered Dietitian Day – Aarti Batavia, Ascension Providence Hospital

Aarti Batavia thanked Mayor Gatt and City Council for the Proclamations declaring March as National Nutrition Month and March 13<sup>th</sup> as Registered Dietitian Day. Ms. Batavia is a registered dietitian and nutritionist out of Ascension Providence Park Medical Office Building. She helps individuals that have autoimmune conditions such as IBS, Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis, fibromyalgia and helps individuals with cognitive decline. The purpose of National Nutrition Month is to increase the public awareness of the importance of good nutrition. She stated whether it is starting the day off right with a healthy breakfast, fueling before an athletic event, or taking care of your loved one with dementia, the foods that you choose can make a difference. Food is information for your genes. Preparing foods to go further at home and within the community can have a positive impact. Registered dietitians can help people adopt healthier eating styles while reducing food loss and waste. She thanked Mayor and Council for all of their support and said "I am Novi".

2. Novi Chamber of Commerce Toast of the Town 2019 Novi Business Award Winners –  
Mayor Gatt

Mayor Gatt called Senator Jim Runestad, and Sheryl Walsh-Molloy, Communications Director to the podium. Senator Runestad said the State of Michigan has issued Proclamations and they are individualized, but some of the things are the same on each one. He read a Proclamation for Provident Dentistry for the "Best Place to Work" (small business). The Proclamations are signed by Senator Jim Runestad, State Representative Kathy Crawford, and Governor Gretchen Whitmer. Ms. Walsh-Molloy expressed that the City of Novi is a proud partner with the Novi Chamber, and that she has had the privilege of representing the City on the Novi Chamber Board of Directors. Ms. Walsh-Molloy introduced Farah Shammami, Executive Director of the Novi Chamber Commerce. About a month ago we held the "Toast of the Town". It was a very successful evening, many celebrated with us that evening where we honored seven businesses, large and small in four different categories. It is customary to bring those businesses that were honored here before Council and the general public to provide a little token of appreciation from the City to them. Ms. Shammami said that 2019 was a wonderful year; the "Toast of the Town" is getting larger every year. She said they are very excited for all of their winners this year, they are proud to recognize and honor them. Thank you everyone. Ms. Walsh-Molloy said they would call the businesses to come to the podium and Senator Runestad would present the Proclamation and Mayor Gatt would have a token of appreciation. Ms. Shammami presented the winners for Best Place to Work, Provident Dentistry (small business) and Critical Signal Technologies (large business). She presented the winners for Community Builder, Tony Sacco's (small business) and ITC Holding (large business). The winners for Customer Service Excellence were Fountain Park Apartments of Novi, (small business) and Varsity Lincoln (large business). She presented the Novi Newcomer Award to American Interiors. On behalf of the Novi Chamber Board of Directors it really means the world to our Chamber of Commerce to have the City's partnership. So many communities don't have this energy that we have. We hear it from our businesses day in and day out. Thanks again for your support of the Chamber of Commerce. Mayor Gatt said there were three businesses for each category, he wanted to applaud the finalist that didn't win an award. Thank you.

**MANAGER/STAFF REPORT: NONE**

**ATTORNEY REPORT: NONE**

**AUDIENCE COMMENT:**

Allen Bialek, 44094 Winthrop Dr., Novi stated that he has been a Novi citizen for 25 years and he is a Vietnam Veteran. He would like to invite everyone to his Veterans Tribute on March 29, 2019 which is the Vietnam War second National Holiday at the Police Training Center at 2:30 p.m. which he would like to draw in some of the high school children, then again at 7:00 p.m. for families. He wanted to thank the City, community and his neighbors for supporting his efforts these last five years. It all started in 2004

when his Godson came up to him at eight years-old, he said "Uncle Al what is a Veteran". He put this together and it has jumped to 260 people that he has reached in 2015 to 527 in 2017 and last year he said he hit the highest at 1844 people last year. God Bless America. A Veterans Showcase, that won on Emmy Award and is on You Tube which he promotes to everyone he sees is up to 699 views. His wife keeps motivating him to get out there and remember our Veterans. He thanked everyone very much again to spend time with him on March 29<sup>th</sup> to remember people like Andrew Becker, his dad, and all of the Veterans that served our Country, but also our family members who got us to this point today that gave us the opportunity in this beautiful City that we have. Thanks again, God Bless.

Colleen Bouren, 1391 East Lake Dr., Novi she said they are trying to build a house on East Lake Drive. They tore one down and are in the process of trying to reconnect to the electricity and DTE found that they do not have an easement to any of the poles that are behind the property from Herman Street to Morgan Creek on East Lake Drive. They are trying to do an easement to reconnect the power, but there is a parcel of land that was an old street that was vacated, Chapman Drive. They are questioning who owned that land. It is part of their legal description and is part of their tax parcel, but DTE is saying when the City vacated it they didn't specifically convey the property to the homeowners. They are saying they need a resolution to specifically convey the land to the homeowners. They did a lot of research with the City Clerk, Assessing, and the County. The County said the City has done it correctly and they don't need to specifically convey it because there is a State Act with the Land Department that says if the City abandons it the adjacent homeowners automatically get the land. DTE is telling them that they need to get a specific resolution to convey the land. She is asking for help from the City because they are stuck in the middle. They would like someone to sponsor a resolution or to help them work with DTE to get this figured out. Mayor Gatt said the City Manager Auger will have someone talk to her.

Dorothy Duchesneau, 125 Henning St., Novi thanked PRCS Director Muck that there is now a link on the City's website concerning the wildlife in the City of Novi. Specifically she was talking about geese. It can be found under the heading of Government/City Services/Community Development/Environmental Issues and Resources/Geese. There is a link under Geese to the 2019 State of Michigan DNR resident Canada goose management frequently asked questions page. This gives you a crash course on the State's position on what she refers to resident geese and the States views on their management. The actual term resident goose refers to those geese that tend not to migrate, but stay year round and raise their young in the same location. They may disappear temporarily and move a short distance south as lakes freeze over or because a shortage of food in the winter. They come back every year to the same marshes and lawns that they love and where they stay 3/4 of the year. A migratory goose on the other hand only passes through and travels from as far south of Mexico to the northern reaches of Canada. Studies have shown that besides being longed lived when they have no predators geese have an amazing GPS built in system, it brings them back year after year to the location where they first learned to fly usually from the family nest. What is interesting in these studies is that it seems until the goslings actually do learn to

fly the GPS does not activate. Goslings that are moved during the time prior to the time prior to having developed their wings such as a goose round up do not return to the place where they were moved from. They learn to fly at a different location. However the same cannot be said of the parents who tend to return at an average rate of 80% the following year. When these parents return, whether later that summer, or the next spring they produce another eight to twelve eggs repeating the process over and over again. Geese are very excellent protective parents. They can however be retrained to relocate but only when they discover their nest is not a good or safe place to raise their family. Goose droppings are becoming a health issue in Pavilion Shore Park, please look at and explore the available options to address the issue. Pavilion Shore and Shawood Lake are indelibly connected and can be an excellent test case for the City.

**CONSENT AGENDA REMOVALS AND APPROVALS:**

- A. Approve Minutes of:
  - 1. February 25, 2019 – Regular meeting
  
- B. Enter Executive Session immediately following the regular meeting of March 4, 2019 in the Council Annex for the purpose of discussing privileged correspondence from legal counsel.
  
- C. Approval of Warranty Deeds for a parcel adjacent to the Manchester multi-family development to dedicate 60 feet of right-of-way along the south side of Thirteen Mile Road and to dedicate 30 feet of right-of-way along the west side of Holmes Road (parcel 50-22-11-200-020).
  
- D. Adoption of Resolution accepting Wayne County permit conditions to plant 41 trees along 8 Mile Road.
  
- E. Approval to award the contract for office supplies to Global Office Solutions, through the Michigan Association of Counties (MAC) CoPro+ cooperative purchasing program, for two (2) years with one 1-year renewal option, for an estimated annual amount of \$60,000.
  
- F. Approval of Ordinance No. 19-156.03, an Ordinance To Amend the City of Novi Code of Ordinances, Chapter 2, "Administration", Article V, "Boards And Commissions", Division 3, "Board of Review" Sections 2-193, And 2-193.1 Through 2-193.6, relating to poverty exemptions in order to comply with state law requirements and to add an asset test. **SECOND READING**
  
- G. Approval of request to transfer ownership of an escrowed 2018 Resort Class C licensed business with Sunday Sales Permit (PM), Outdoor Service Permit, and new SDM license, Sunday Sales Permit (AM) and Dance-Entertainment Permit, issued under MCL 436.1531(4), non-transferable, from ANBE Investments, Inc. to Alchile Mexican Grill Novi Inc. located at 42100 Grand River Avenue, Novi, MI 48375.

H. Approval of Claims and Accounts – Warrant No. 1031

**CM 19-03-025 Moved by Mutch, seconded by Casey; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**To approve the Consent Agenda as presented.**

**Roll call vote on CM 19-03-025 Yeas: Breen, Casey, Mutch, Poupard, Verma, Gatt, Staudt  
Nays: None**

City Clerk Hanson provided the results of balloting: Beautification Commission had three full terms that were awarded to Christen Pietraz, Isaly Szetela, and Laura Williams. Building Authority had one full term awarded to Larry Czekaj and one partial term awarded to William Bluford. Construction Board of Appeals had two full terms awarded to David Byrwa and Michael Thompson. The Zoning Board of Appeals had one partial term, alternate, awarded to Michael Longo.

#### **MATTERS FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

1. Appointments to Boards and Commissions.

Mayor Gatt submitted Melissa Agosta and Torry Yu for reappointment to the Library Board for two full terms.

**CM 19-03-026 Moved by Casey, seconded by Staudt; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**To appoint Melissa Agosta and Torry Yu to the Library Board.**

**Roll call votes on CM 19-03-026 Yeas: Casey, Mutch, Poupard, Verma, Gatt, Staudt, Breen  
Nays: None**

Mayor Gatt submitted Pete Auger and Rob Petty for reappointment to the Economic Development Corporation for two full terms.

**CM 19-03-027 Moved by Casey, seconded by Poupard; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**To reappoint Pete Auger and Rob Petty to the Economic Development Corporation.**

**Roll call votes on CM 19-03-027 Yeas: Mutch, Poupard, Verma, Gatt, Staudt, Breen, Casey  
Nays: None**

**AUDIENCE COMMENT: None**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS: None**

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL ISSUES:**

Member Mutch said the item he was bringing forward was based on information that he became aware of last week when he attended the meeting of the Lakes Area HOA. He outlined a memo that was sent to Council earlier that day that LAHA, the Lakes Area HOA is currently contracting with a company called Goosebusters which has been for several years working to address the Canada Geese population on Walled Lake. Apparently they have been very successful at that. Unfortunately despite the success on Walled Lake the area on the south end of the lake and particularly Pavilion Shore Park continue to be overrun by geese. Anybody that has been to the park has experienced the volume of goose droppings that are happening both on the pathways and on the grass. It is having a significant impact on the park to the point that the City purchased a piece of equipment that they run through regularly to try to clean that up which gives you a sense of the scale that we are dealing with. The folks at Goosebusters and LAHA are willing to survey Shawood Lake which they believe is the source of many of the geese at Pavilion Shore Park due to its proximity to the park and the fact that no activity has been going on at Shawood Lake. The intent of what they would do is just to see how many nests are there and determine whether there is an issue or not. The challenge they are having with that is most of the property that surrounds Shawood Lake is actually owned by the City of Novi. The folks with Goosebusters don't want to go on the City property and survey that property without authorization from the City allowing them to do so. He thought it would be helpful for the City to work in cooperation with them to have them do that survey and determine to what extent there is a goose problem on Shawood Lake. Once we have that information we can determine if there is an appropriate next step to take. He believed until we know if, and to the scope of that problem, we are really not in a position to take any further action. He was looking for Councils' support to allow City administration to grant approval to Goosebusters to access any of the City owned property bordering Shawood Lake for the purpose of conducting a goose nest survey for LAHA and then once we have that information we will be able to determine any appropriate next steps. Mayor Gatt asked if anyone on Council would have a problem with that.

Member Breen commented that she was also at the LAHA meeting with Member Mutch and she appreciated his efforts and all of the citizen's efforts to bring this issue with the geese to our attention. There is definitely a problem up there and she is looking forward to the City's efforts to try to resolve this. She brought up a couple of other issues. One, she is looking forward to the Wildlife Study that the City has been waiting on because it may give us a better idea understanding the ecosystem up there. Second, she said she has been hounding City staff to get the City to look at Shawood Lake as a whole and the ecosystem out there and the canals that are off shooting. We owe the citizens some answers for what is happening up there on the north end. We need to look at the stormwater plan, not just the geese. We need to look at the entire

ecosystem as Shawood and Walled Lake are connected. She thought the City was far past the time to look at that area. Some of these improvements at Lakeshore Park are expected to stop some of the runoff into Shawood Lake, but the water quality there is not good. She appreciates everyone's efforts to move all this forward.

**CONSENT AGENDA REMOVALS FOR COUNCIL ACTION: None**

Mayor Gatt said they plan to adjourn into Executive Session and that they did not plan on coming back.

**ADJOURNMENT** – There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:32 P.M.

---

Cortney Hanson, City Clerk

---

Robert J. Gatt, Mayor

---

Transcribed by Deborah S. Aubry

Date approved: March 18, 2019