

*City of Southgate*  
**Regular City Council Meeting**  
*November 5, 2014*

A Regular Meeting of the Council of the City of Southgate was held in the Municipal Council Chambers, 14400 Dix-Toledo Highway, Southgate, Michigan on Wednesday, November 5, 2014 and was called to order at 7:00 PM by Council President Sheryl Denman.

*This meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by roll call.*

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Present: Bill Colovos, Sheryl Denman, Mark Farrah, Patricia Ganzberger, Karen George, John Graziani, Dale Zamecki.

Absent:

Also Present: Mayor Joseph G. Kuspa, City Administrator Brandon Fournier, ACA/Finance Director David Angileri, City Attorney Ed Zelenak, City Engineer John Hennessey, City Treasurer James Dallos, City Clerk Janice Ferencz, Public Safety Director Thomas Coombs, Police Chief Jeff Smith, Fire Chief Doug Gildner, Building Inspections Director Bob Casanova, Director of Public Services Bob Tarabula and Parks & Recreation Program Director Dustin Lent.

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**Minutes:**

Moved by Colovos, supported by Graziani, RESOLVED, that the minutes of the City Council Work Session dated October 15, 2014 be approved as presented. Carried unanimously.

Moved by Zamecki, supported by George, RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting dated October 15, 2014 be approved as presented. Carried unanimously.

Moved by Ganzberger, supported by George, RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Public Hearing Meeting dated October 15, 2014 be approved as presented. Carried unanimously.

**Proclamation:**

Mayor Joseph G. Kuspa read a proclamation declaring the month of November 2014 as National American Indian Heritage Month.

**Scheduled Hearings:**

1. Moved by George, supported by Ganzberger, RESOLVED, that Council enters a public hearing to discuss the Demolition Order for property located at 14868 Reeck Road. Carried unanimously.

The regular meeting adjourned at 7:27 PM for scheduled hearings and reconvened at 7:32 pm.

Moved by Ganzberger, supported by Zamecki, RESOLVED, that this public hearing be closed. Carried unanimously.

2. Moved by Ganzberger, supported by George, RESOLVED, that Council enters a public hearing to discuss the Demolition Order for property located at 15075 Humphrey. Carried unanimously.

The regular meeting adjourned at 7:33 PM for scheduled hearings and reconvened at 7:40 pm.

Moved by George, supported by Graziani, RESOLVED, that this public hearing be closed. Carried unanimously.

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## **Communications "A":**

### **1) Memo from Administrator; Re: Healthcare Conversion Project, was read:**

Moved by Zamecki, supported by Ganzberger; RESOLVED that the Southgate City Council concurs with the recommendation of the Administration adopting the following resolution:

**Whereas**, The City of Southgate administers a retirement system as authorized under State of Michigan Public Act 345 of 1937 and;

**Whereas**, The City of Southgate provides benefits to retired Police Officers and Firefighters consistent with the language of the collective bargaining agreement in force and effect at the time of retirement and;

**Whereas**, The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) has led to substantial and substantive changes governing the City of Southgate's ability to provide medical coverage to employees and retired workers, and;

**Whereas**, The City of Southgate has worked collectively with our retired employees to adopt policies that will lower the cost of providing post-employment health care coverage while honoring the Collective Bargaining Agreements.

**Now Therefore Be It Resolved**, The City of Southgate pursuant to the Authority granted through State of Michigan Public Act 279 of 1909 commonly known as the "Home Rule Act" and the City of Southgate City Charter hereby agrees to the following:

1. Agreement: Beginning on January 1, 2015 the City of Southgate shall provide all Eligible Members with a Medicare Advantage Health Care Plan. The costs of providing the plan shall be borne by the City of Southgate. The City further agrees that Qualified Eligible Members shall receive reimbursement for the costs of obtaining Medicare Part B Insurance Coverage. Any Member deemed ineligible by the Federal Government shall be provided health insurance consistent with the Agreement they retired under and The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA). All eligibility questions will be determined exclusively by the Federal Government after conferring with the City's Finance Department.
2. Spouse: An Eligible Members qualifying spouse upon reaching the age of sixty-five (65) shall be provided with a Medicare Advantage Plan as stated above. Spouses of Qualified Eligible Members shall also receive reimbursement for the costs of a Medicare Part B Insurance Plan. Prior to reaching age sixty-five (65) the Spouse shall remain eligible for health insurance benefits consistent with the benefit currently being received. Nothing in this agreement will impair a spouse's current right of survivorship benefits as currently provided for in the governing Collective Bargaining Agreement.
3. Eligible Member: It is agreed upon that an Eligible Member shall be defined as a retiree of the City of Southgate aged 65 (sixty-five) who is currently participating in the State of Michigan Fire Fighters and Police Officers Retirement Act 345 of 1937 who has or will retire service from the City of Southgate and elects to receive medical benefits.
4. Qualified Eligible Member: A Qualified Eligible Member shall be defined as a Police Officer who was a Command Officer or member of the Police Administration prior to 2006 and Fire Fighter who retired prior to March of 2008.
5. Assurance: It is understood and agreed upon that this system modification constitutes a lateral change in the benefit being provided to the Eligible Member. If the Medicare system were to become insolvent or no longer provide the plan discussed the City of Southgate hereby agrees to reinstate the benefits

previously received by the Eligible Members consistent with The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA).

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6. Reservation: The City reserves the right to make adjustments or modifications to the Health Care Plan being provided to Eligible Members consistent with the applicable governing Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Discussion took place.

Motion carried unanimously.

2) **Memo from Administrator; Re: Information Technology Upgrade3, was read:**

Moved by Zamecki, supported by Graziani; RESOLVED that the Southgate City Council concurs with the recommendation of the Administration and adopts a resolution authorizing the City engage in a three (3) year service agreement with WOW! For a fiber optic 100Mbps dedicated internet connection.

Motion carried unanimously.

3) **Memo from Administrator; Re: Dangerous Building Board; 14868 Reeck Rd, was read:**

Moved by George, supported by Zamecki; RESOLVED that the Southgate City Council concurs with the recommendation of the Dangerous Building Board and order the demolition of the structure located at 14868 Reeck Rd, in accordance with Chapter 1460 of the City of Southgate Codified Ordinances.

Motion carried unanimously.

4) **Memo from Administrator; Re: Dangerous Building Board; 15075 Humphrey, was read:**

Moved by Ganzberger, supported by Zamecki; RESOLVED that the Southgate City Council concurs with the recommendation of the Dangerous Building Board and order the demolition of the structure located at 15075 Humphrey, in accordance with Chapter 1460 of the City of Southgate Codified Ordinances.

Motion carried unanimously.

5) **Letter from Mayor: Re: Appointment to Plan Commission, was read:**

Moved by Zamecki, supported by George; RESOLVED that the Southgate City Council concurs with

The Mayor's recommendation on the appointment of Ed Gawlick (15121 Windermere, Southgate, MI 48195) to the Plan Commission for a term expiring December 2016.

**Persons in the Audience (unscheduled):**

1. Donna Hitz, 12894 Spruce St, Southgate, MI 48195 spoke about solicitors.
2. Dino Papadopoulos. 16256 Cameron, Southgate, MI 48195 spoke about election night.

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## **Ordinances:**

Councilman George offered first and second readings of the Ordinance to amend Section 1060.04; Duties of Owners and Occupants Refuse Collection and Containment.

Moved by George, supported by Colovos, WHEREAS, it is the consensus of the Southgate City Council that the first reading of the ordinance to amend Section 1060.04; Duties of Owners and Occupants Refuse Collection and Containment be waived, NOW BE IT RESOLVED, that the Southgate City Council concurs with the recommendation and hereby adopts Ordinance #970 to amend Section 1060.04; Duties of Owners and Occupants Refuse Collection and Containment; BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said ordinance shall be published as required by the City Charter.

Motion carried unanimously.

## **Claims and Accounts:**

Moved by Ganzberger, supported by George, RESOLVED, that Claims and Accounts be paid as outlined on Warrant #1268 in the amount of \$1,801,927.64.

Carried unanimously.

## **Adjournment:**

Moved by Zamecki, supported by Ganzberger, RESOLVED, that this Regular Meeting of the Southgate City Council be adjourned at 8:27 P.M. Carried unanimously.

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Sheryl Denman  
Council President

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Janice M. Ferencz  
City Clerk

Mk 11/12/14