

City of Lincoln Park
Receivership Transition Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, May 16th, 2017
Lincoln Park City Hall
Council Chambers
1355 Southfield Road
Lincoln Park, Michigan 48146

RTAB MEMBERS PRESENT:
KEVIN BONDS - CHAIR
JESSICA THOMAS
GENELLE ALLEN (By telephone)

ALSO PRESENT:
MATT COPPLER, City Manager
PATRICK DOSTINE
Michigan Department of Treasury

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1 **Tuesday, May 16, 2017**

2 **Lincoln Park, Michigan**

3 *** * * * ***

4 **Called to order at 1:03 P.m.**

5 MR. BONDS: I'm going to call the meeting to
6 order, and start off with roll call.

7 MR. DOSTINE: Genelle Allen.

8 MS. ALLEN: Here.

9 MR. DOSTINE: Brendan Dunleavy.

10 (No response)

11 MR. DOSTINE: John Zech.

12 (No response)

13 MR. DOSTINE: Jessica Thomas.

14 MS. THOMAS: Here.

15 MR. DOSTINE: Kevin Bonds.

16 MR. BONDS: Here.

17 MR. DOSTINE: You have quorum.

18 MR. BONDS: All right.

19 Approval of today's agenda. We've got a
20 additional item that will need to be included, which is
21 Resolution 2017-~~171~~ 172 So I'll need a motion to include, to
22 approve today's agenda, with the addition of Resolution
23 2017-~~171~~ 172.

24 MS. THOMAS: So moved.

25 MS. ALLEN: Support.

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MR. BONDS: Any further discussion?

(No response)

MR. BONDS: Hearing none, all those in favor signify by stating aye. Aye.

MS. THOMAS: Aye.

MS. ALLEN: Aye.

MR. BONDS: Just a reminder, public please sign up to speak during public comment.

The next item is the approval of the RTAB minutes from the regular meeting of April 18th. Chair will entertain a motion to approve the minutes from April 18th as presented.

MS. THOMAS: So moved.

MS. ALLEN: Support.

MR. BONDS: Any further discussion?

(No response)

MR. BONDS: Hearing none, all those in favor, signify by stating aye. Aye.

MS. THOMAS: Aye.

MS. ALLEN: Aye.

MR. BONDS: All right.

Old business, there is none.

New business, let's -- we could start with the resolution 2017-172 ~~1~~, that was presented. So Mr. Coppler, if you want to give us some background on this?

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MR. COPPLER: This is the new resolution?

MR. BONDS: Yeah, 2017-~~171~~ 172.

MR. COPPLER: So, at last night's mayor and council meeting, they did approve Resolution 2017-171. And this came from a request of two council members to please sign one to modify the emergency manager order number 60-4(A)(30), and that deals with the city's requirement, within the order, to levy a tax on its residents of up to \$50,000. This is related to the advertising tax, that the legislature allowed us -- it was Act 359.1925, that allows municipalities to levy a tax for purposes to advertise; I have it right here, so I'll read it for you.

"To levy special tax to be used for advertising, publicity, recreation, or exploitation, tending to encourage the industrial, commercial, educational and recreational advantages of the city."

This was originally put in place back in 2013, by the council, and since then has been approved as part of the budget resolution, to re-levy that every year. In his final words, the emergency manager said that the city will continue to levy this and collect it.

With that being the case, we have put money to be appropriated in the upcoming budget -- which you'll be seeing next month, by the way for \$49,983, and the money's

1 being spent on items such as the summer concert series,
2 which we reinstated last year, with this money.

3 We also spend this money on doing our Happenings
4 magazine, which goes and sends out information related to
5 the city and the recreation program. All these things
6 would, we also should say a large number is for our web
7 page. We pay for our web page, through this fund as well.

8 These are things that allow us to accomplish
9 these different goals without putting it within the
10 general fund.

11 MR. BONDS: Okay.

12 MR. COPPLER: They, again, during the discussion
13 phase last night, there were a number of council members
14 that supported this; obviously, it was adopted five and
15 one, I believe. And stating the thought that they wanted
16 to give back to the residents, since we're starting to
17 come out of this financial turmoil we've been in for the
18 last few years.

19 And because the residents have supported the
20 city through this period, they wanted to return, albeit a
21 small number, back to them, to show their thanks for their
22 support. This amounts to a little bit less than, right
23 around .9 of a mill, that would be removed from the tax
24 levy, if it were to be modified.

25 MR. BONDS: Okay. The chair will entertain a

1 motion to approve, deny, or postpone Resolution 2017-~~171~~
2 ~~171~~, which will remove the millage for the tax equivalent,
3 to generate \$50,000 in revenue.

4 MS. THOMAS: I have a question. We have to --

5 MR. BONDS: We need --

6 MS. THOMAS: Okay.

7 MR. BONDS: It's so that, the chair is looking
8 to, for a motion to approve, deny, or postpone the
9 resolution.

10 MS. ALLEN: So if I may chime in just for a
11 minute, because one, I couldn't really hear Mr. Coppler
12 and, I don't have any of the materials. Is it possible to
13 postpone this, given that I know that we don't have all of
14 our members here, and unfortunately, I don't feel
15 comfortable, because I didn't understand everything he
16 said, and I don't have anything in front of me. Is that
17 appropriate?

18 MR. BONDS: Yes, it is. That's part of the
19 motion. So, and to rephrase, the chair will entertain a
20 motion to approve, deny, or postpone Resolution 2017-171.

21 MS. THOMAS: Well, I move to postpone the
22 Resolution 2017-~~171~~ 172.

23 MR. BONDS: Is there a second?

24 MS. ALLEN: Second.

25 MR. BONDS: Any further discussion?

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(No response)

MR. BONDS: Hearing none, all those in favor, signify by stating aye. Aye.

MS. THOMAS: Aye.

MS. ALLEN: Aye.

MR. BONDS: Motion passes, so we'll pick this up at the next. Thank you.

Resolutions from the regular city council meeting of April 3rd, 2017. The chair will entertain a motion to approve the resolutions from the April 3rd, 2017, regular city council meeting.

MS. THOMAS: So moved.

MS. ALLEN: Support.

MR. BONDS: Been properly moved and supported; any discussion on the motion?

(No response)

MR. BONDS: Hearing none, all those in favor, signify by stating aye. Aye.

MS. THOMAS: Aye.

MS. ALLEN: Aye.

MR. BONDS: Motion passes.

Next item are resolutions from the regular city council meeting of April 17th, 2017. There was numerous resolutions from the city, from this council meeting, that were approved at our last board meeting. We will

1 entertain a motion to approve the remaining resolutions
2 from the April 17th, 2017, regular city council meeting.
3 And these are items --

4 MS. ALLEN: So moved.

5 MS. THOMAS: Support.

6 MS. ALLEN: Sorry if I got ahead of you.

7 MR. BONDS: You're okay. Motion has been made
8 to support, and has been properly second. Any further
9 discussion?

10 (No response)

11 MR. BONDS: Hearing none, all those in favor,
12 signify by stating aye. Aye.

13 MS. THOMAS: Aye.

14 MS. ALLEN: Aye.

15 MR. BONDS: All right, motion passes.

16 City manager items, which are items one through
17 four, while the action on these items occurred during a
18 council meeting outside of the normal review period for
19 today's board meeting, the city manager is requesting to
20 bring them forward for early review.

21 All of these items have been approved by the
22 city council, at their May 1st, 2017, council meeting.
23 The first item is Resolution 2017-151 -- or excuse me,
24 159, which is the award of the bid to Hard Rock Concrete,
25 for the Riverbank Avenue reconstruction project. Mr.

1 Coppler?

2 MR. COPPLER: As part of the roads improvement
3 program for 2017, the city is looking to reconstruct a
4 section of Riverbank Avenue. We recently opened the bids,
5 and they were then awarded by the city council after the
6 first meeting. The low bid, and best bid, was Hard Rock
7 Concrete, Westland, Michigan.

8 MR. BONDS: Okay. The chair will entertain a
9 motion entertain a motion to approve, deny, or postpone
10 Resolution 2017-159, which is the award the bid to Hard
11 Rock Concrete.

12 MS. THOMAS: I move to approve Resolution 2017-
13 159.

14 MR. BONDS: It's been moved; is there a second?

15 MS. ALLEN: Second.

16 MR. BONDS: And second. Any discussion on the
17 motion?

18 (No response)

19 MR. BONDS: Hearing none, all those in favor,
20 signify by stating aye. Aye.

21 MS. THOMAS: Aye.

22 MS. ALLEN: Aye.

23 MR. BONDS: Motion passes.

24 Next item is the approval of Resolution 2017-
25 160, which is the award of the contract to Hennessy

1 Engineers, Inc., for the Riverbank Avenue reconstruction
2 oversight and construction services.

3 MR. COPPLER: So my comments for this one will
4 be the same for the next three, so I'll kind of do it all
5 in one. We have Hennessy Engineers, which is the city's
6 contract engineering company, provide the oversight, as
7 well as the construction management functions for the
8 city, on all three of these projects.

9 And so, these are done pursuant to the past
10 agreement the city has with Hennessy contracting.

11 MR. BONDS: Okay. The chair will entertain a
12 motion to approve, deny, or postpone Resolution 2017-160,
13 which is the award of the contract to Hennessy Engineers.

14 MS. THOMAS: I move to approve Resolution 2017-
15 160.

16 MR. BONDS: Motion's been made; is there a
17 second?

18 MS. ALLEN: I second.

19 MR. BONDS: And properly second; any further
20 discussion on the motion?

21 MS. ALLEN: I do have a question about the three
22 items?

23 MR. BONDS: Yes, ma'am.

24 MS. ALLEN: I understand that this is evolving
25 from the contract that's been awarded to Hennessy, but I

1 don't understand how the funding, or how the amounts were
2 determined, or why you have to come back for the
3 individual contract amount? If the contract has been
4 awarded to Hennessy already?

5 MR. COPPLER: So, the master agreement lays out-

6 MR. BONDS: Can you hear him?

7 MS. ALLEN: It's better now, yes.

8 MR. BONDS: Okay.

9 MR. COPPLER: Can you hear me better now?

10 MS. ALLEN: Yes, thank you.

11 MR. COPPLER: Okay. So, the master agreement
12 lays out what the fees are for Hennessy Engineering to
13 charge, but each project, we go to them, and get a
14 estimate, based upon, you know, those amounts, and what
15 they're -- they figured the hours are going to be.

16 It then gives the city council, and by
17 extension, the RTAB, the ability to make sure that, you
18 know, we're only being charged for what we need to be
19 charged. I mean, we easily could, you know, skip this
20 process, but I think it's a process that allows more
21 transparency, if we all know exactly how much is being
22 spent, what is being spent, and how it's being spent.

23 MS. ALLEN: Okay, thank you.

24 MR. BONDS: Any further discussion?

25 (No response)

1 MR. BONDS: All those in favor of the motion,
2 signify by stating aye. Aye.

3 MS. THOMAS: Aye.

4 MS. ALLEN: Aye.

5 MR. BONDS: Motion passes. We've got, looks
6 like two more for the same entity, that we've got,
7 approval of Resolution 2017-161, which is also to Hennessy
8 Engineer. We can move to combine these. We also have
9 Resolution 2017-162, which is the award of contract to
10 Hennessy Engineer for concrete sectioning. The other one
11 was for asphalt resurfacing. Going to move those
12 together, so Mr. Coppler, I don't know if there's any more
13 that you can add to this process.

14 MR. COPPLER: I think I'll go by my previous
15 statements.

16 MR. BONDS: We got you covered. Okay.

17 MS. THOMAS: So I'll make a motion to combine?

18 MR. BONDS: Yeah, the chair will entertain a
19 motion to approve or deny both resolutions, 2017-161, and
20 2017-162, which are award of the contracts to Hennessy
21 Engineer.

22 MS. THOMAS: So moved.

23 MS. ALLEN: Second.

24 MR. BONDS: Any discussion on the motion?

25 (No response)

1 MR. BONDS: Hearing none, all those in favor,
2 signify by stating aye. Aye.

3 MS. THOMAS: Aye.

4 MS. ALLEN: Aye.

5 MR. BONDS: Motion passes.

6 Okay, we have zoomed through; we are into the
7 city manager's appointments. There are three police
8 officers and one police sergeant. The chair will
9 entertain a motion to approve or deny the city manager's
10 appointments as stated.

11 MS. THOMAS: So moved.

12 MS. ALLEN: Second.

13 MR. BONDS: Any discussion on the motion?

14 (No response)

15 MR. BONDS: Hearing none, all those in favor,
16 signify by stating aye.

17 MS. THOMAS: Aye.

18 MS. ALLEN: Aye.

19 MR. BONDS: Motion passes. The following
20 reports, which are items six through eleven, which is the
21 budget to actual, cash flow and balance sheet, check
22 disbursement, overtime report, tax collection, and the
23 monthly reports are all received and filed. Any questions
24 from any of the board members?

25 MS. THOMAS: I do have a quick question. I

1 can't -- look -- making sure that it's here. But the
2 community center, looks like there's some roofing
3 problems, or whatnot, associated with it?

4 I know we had discussed this in the past, to
5 figure out what the long, short term and long term
6 strategy is. Can you elaborate on what the strategy is,
7 to address some of the structural concerns with the
8 community center?

9 MR. COPPLER: Well, I think it's hard not to
10 discuss in general, the facility issues. That's just one
11 of the many issues we have. In the upcoming budget, which
12 you'll see at the next meeting, we are starting to address
13 some of the more severe roof problems within the city.

14 That one, although at times is bad, is not as
15 bad as some of our other facilities. So we're actually
16 going to be working on the Kennedy Memorial Building this
17 upcoming year. And the city police department building as
18 well, that work there. Those were the two highest
19 priority buildings.

20 The strategy at this point, is to try to address
21 the leaks as they come up. But you know, every one of our
22 facilities is in need of a roof, at this point. It's not
23 much of a strategy, at this point, but we are addressing
24 what we think are the worst cases, and those that we can
25 get funding for. Because the police department actually,

1 we're getting funding through the state treasury office
2 for that, so.

3 MS. THOMAS: Thank you.

4 MR. BONDS: Genelle, did you have any comments?

5 MS. ALLEN: No, I don't.

6 MR. BONDS: Okay, thank you. We're going to
7 move onto the city administrator report, please?

8 MR. COPPLER: Just had two quick items, as a
9 heads up. As I mentioned, you'll be seeing the city's
10 budget at the next meeting. Council, mayor and council
11 will be meeting next week to finalize that budget. And at
12 that point in time, you'll also see the capital plan that
13 we're proposing for the upcoming year.

14 The second thing I want to give you a heads up
15 on, so June may be a little bit of an active month for
16 everyone here. We are going through collective bargaining
17 with all of our unions. We are hopeful that the majority
18 of those will have tentatives, and will be bringing those
19 to council and RTAB meetings, to get final approvals so we
20 can have them in place for July 1st. That's all I have
21 for you.

22 MR. BONDS: And can I ask a question on that
23 bargaining, collective bargaining?

24 MR. COPPLER: Sure.

25 MR. BONDS: There's not going to be any effort,

1 at this stage of the game, to tier those agreements?

2 MR. COPPLER: Oh, absolutely.

3 MR. BONDS: Okay.

4 MR. COPPLER: I mean, that's -- yeah, this is an
5 undertaking, at this point, to get something done.

6 MR. BONDS: Okay. All right, yeah, because it's
7 probably more problematic that you have them all coming at
8 the same time, versus how it normally is tiered.

9 MR. COPPLER: Yeah, it's manageable at this
10 point in time, because of the limited amount of
11 negotiation we're really doing. But I think, down the
12 road, when these contracts come up for renewal, it's going
13 to be a different playing field. And so I think that
14 those are going to take a little bit longer, be a little
15 bit more in depth, so, you know we're going to need more
16 time. Because there's no way you can settle them at the
17 same time.

18 MR. BONDS: Okay.

19 MR. COPPLER: Unless, you know, you're planning
20 on bringing in five or six city managers, because you
21 know, one keeps dropping, so.

22 MR. BONDS: All right, thank you very much.
23 We're now ready to move into public comment, please.

24 MR. DOSTINE: Mr. Chair, we have a request from
25 Councilman Kelsey.

1 MR. BONDS: Absolutely.

2 MR. KELSEY: Good afternoon.

3 MR. BONDS: Good afternoon.

4 MR. KELSEY: It's kind of vacant out there; I
5 thought maybe you were everyone thinks it's -- save some
6 money. My name's Councilman Kelsey; I'm also a resident
7 of Lincoln Park. One question I've got is, it was
8 discussed at numerous RTAB meetings, about the review of
9 where the RTAB is at, with the city's oversight.

10 I didn't hear anything at this meeting so far
11 about where that's at. Last time I heard, if I'm not
12 mistaken, at the last meeting, the chair asked the
13 representative of the treasury, and there was discussed
14 about the fact that they would contact the appropriate
15 people.

16 And I thought May was mentioned as a probable,
17 maybe, maybe not. Well obviously, this is your May
18 meeting, and I haven't heard nothing, and we're at the
19 end, so I'm assuming that's not going to happen.

20 So my question is, is that when is it going to
21 happen? It's not an exact science, but I'm sure such a
22 big group as the state, with numerous very good people,
23 that they've gone through numerous, you know, emergency
24 managers, with some of the cities not quite familiar with,
25 and you are, too.

1 So I guess my question is, what's the
2 progressive date for when this issue should be kind of
3 resolved, one way or the other, is all I'm asking. And
4 knowing that, there is also a issue of, the state will, we
5 still will not be out of state control for another year
6 after that, so it's not like we're going to put the shoes
7 on and run.

8 And so, that's my other comment, is that it
9 shouldn't be after the presence of the last couple
10 budgets, and the issue with what's been going on. And of
11 course these meetings we have here, and the right of the
12 board to question the intention of the city, where we're
13 going, all that stuff.

14 It's like, we're getting a little antsy. And
15 we're kind of wondering, there should be a timeframe,
16 whatever it is, okay, or, at least a review date of where
17 the state is going to review it and say, okay, we're, this
18 date we're going to review it, and we'll give you a answer
19 two weeks or three weeks from that review date. Thank
20 you.

21 MR. BONDS: Thank you. Any more public comment?

22 MR. DOSTINE: Oh, that's it. That would be it
23 for public comment.

24 MR. BONDS: Okay. All right, under board
25 comment, I'll take the opportunity to address the

1 evaluation process. As the councilmember had stated, and
2 stated very clearly, we were under -- it would have been
3 an assumption, that we would be ready for the
4 recommendation to move from Treasury to the governor's
5 office, in May.

6 That assumption didn't work out as well as
7 planned, because it's still in Treasury. All indicators
8 are that the City of Lincoln Park is doing a phenomenal
9 job of reclaiming its financial stability, and its
10 planning.

11 So, we don't have any indicators from, as a
12 board, that this is not going to happen. The issue is
13 just timing. And it's probably could reflect of what you
14 see today. So we are, we're hoping to -- in fact, I'll
15 make an inquiry again tomorrow, myself.

16 Because it has to go from Treasury to a
17 recommendation to the governor, and then the governor will
18 issue the final decree, so to speak. So we'll follow up
19 on that. But I do want to make sure that, and I know that
20 you all are taking this in very serious in your day to
21 day.

22 But remember, as the city manager has just
23 talked about today, about the infrastructure needs of the
24 city, you're not unlike any other community in the state.
25 The state overall has huge infrastructure needs. The

1 state overall has communities that are burdened with
2 retirement issues.

3 So again, you're not unlike any other community.
4 What I will say is, as we move forward to the evaluation
5 process coming through, and hopefully looking for a
6 tentative release, keep your eye on the prize of
7 stability. Make sure that when the city manager is ready
8 to do that capital improvement plan, the input has been
9 provided across the city government. Of what are those
10 priorities, and how those will be addressed.

11 Because that's going to be the key of, you know,
12 keeping your community stable. You know, again, it's just
13 like a bankruptcy. Once a bankruptcy has been
14 adjudicated, there's still a recovery period. And the
15 same thing will be for the city.

16 Once we are released from this decree, the
17 councilman rightly stated, it will take about a year
18 before you will formally be released from any other
19 external reviews. So please keep that, be very mindful,
20 that the steps that you've taken thus far, it must
21 continue.

22 I mean, you've got to take it in a very
23 conservative, a very well thought way of doing your
24 budgets and your planning. So that's all I have to say.

25 Anybody else have any comments they would like

1 to offer?

2 MS. THOMAS: I would add, to the infrastructure
3 needs, on, as is stated, the infrastructure needs are
4 great. And they don't go away magically. And I've
5 watched it time and time again; I'm in the middle of a lot
6 of this stuff right now, even as we speak.

7 And the infrastructure, the -- I should say,
8 maybe, the uncertainty of the infrastructure needs, and
9 the timing at which you're going to be forced to do
10 something -- those are some of the hangups, right, those
11 are some of the things, the uncertainties that can easily
12 put you back in a situation, you know, that you are not in
13 a situation to move forward in the manner that you already
14 have been doing.

15 So, you know, to really just pay attention to
16 those infrastructure needs, uncertainties, and try to plan
17 for them. Because they're coming; it's just a matter of
18 when. And the question is, is the city in a position to
19 address those needs when they arise?

20 MR. BONDS: Okay, any other comments?

21 (No response)

22 MR. BONDS: If not, we will move for
23 adjournment.

24 MS. THOMAS: I move to adjourn the meeting.

25 MS. ALLEN: I second.

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MR. BONDS: All those in favor?

MS. THOMAS: Aye.

MR. BONDS: Aye.

MS. ALLEN: Aye.

MR. BONDS: Thank you very much. Genelle,
thoughts and prayers with you and your family. Thank you
for attending.

MS. ALLEN: Thank you.

MS. THOMAS: Thank you.

MR. BONDS: The meeting is adjourned.

(Proceedings adjourned at 1:26 p.m.)

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STATE OF MICHIGAN
COUNTY OF WASHTENAW) .ss

I certify that this transcript is a complete, true, and correct transcript to the best of my ability of the RTAB meeting held on May 16th, 2017, City of Lincoln Park. I also certify that I am not a relative or employee of the parties involved and have no financial interest in this case.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED: May 23, 2017

s/ Amy Shankleton-Novess

Amy Shankleton-Novess (CER 0838)
Certified Electronic Reporter