

**CITY OF EAST LANSING
CITY COUNCIL
WORK SESSION MINUTES
January 31, 2012**

Present: Beard, Loomis, Power, Triplett, Goddeeris
Absent: None

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Goddeeris. The meeting was held in Courtroom #2 of the 54-B District Court, 101 Linden Street, East Lansing.

Goddeeris said three items are added to the agenda:

- A resolution opposing Public Act 297 and supporting action to preserve East Lansing's "Other Eligible Individuals" policy
- A resolution in support of Medical Amnesty Legislation set forth in Michigan House of Representatives Bill 4393
- Employment contract between George Lahanas and the City Council of the City of East Lansing

Item 1 **Communication from Audience**

- Jim Anderson, 968 Roxburgh Avenue, spoke regarding process of using the Consent agenda

Item 2 **Medical Amnesty Resolution**

Marie McKenna, City Clerk/Assistant City Manager, updated Council and answered questions on ASMSU (Associated Students of Michigan State University) support of Medical Amnesty legislation and a draft resolution in support of House Bill 4393.

It was moved by Triplett and seconded by Power to approve resolution in support of Medical Amnesty legislation set forth in Michigan House of Representatives Bill No. 4393, with the change of the word "minors" to "persons" (paragraph one: "...likelihood of *persons*...", paragraph two: "... policies protect *persons*...", "...also provide *persons*...").

ALL YEAS
MOTION CARRIED

**CITY OF EAST LANSING
EAST LANSING CITY COUNCIL**

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF MEDICAL AMNESTY
LEGISLATION SET FORTH IN MICHIGAN HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES BILL 4393**

WHEREAS, one of the primary responsibilities of the City of East Lansing is to safeguard and promote the health, safety and welfare of student residents, guests and visitors;

the objectives of Medical Amnesty and Good Samaritan policies are to increase the likelihood of persons seeking needed medical attention for alcohol poisoning by decreasing potential consequences for both patient and reporter; and,

WHEREAS, such policies protect persons who require medical attention, as well as those who summon assistance, from possible policy violations or sanctions that may result; they also provide persons with the clarity and direction needed in order to make responsible, life-saving decisions during confusing and stressful situations; and,

WHEREAS, follow-up evaluations and counseling are fundamental components of any Medical Amnesty and Good Samaritan Policy; it is paramount that such follow-up be non-punitive so as not to serve as a deterrent to seeking medical attention; and,

WHEREAS, the Associated Students of Michigan State University (ASMSU) has contributed significantly to advocating for a Medical Amnesty & Good Samaritan Policy; House Bill 4393 contains a critical provision that satisfies this objective.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of East Lansing hereby joins ASMSU in support of Medical Amnesty Legislation set forth in Michigan House of Representatives Bill 4393.

Item 3 **Oakhill Neighborhood Sewer Design Study**

Todd Sneathen, Director of Public Works and Environmental Services; and Robert Scheuerman, Engineering Administrator, briefed Council and answered questions on a proposed design study for Oakhill neighborhood sewer system.

Council discussed need, location, cost, and payment of study.

Goddeeris said this item will be on Council Business agenda next week.

Item 4 **New Interceptor to WWTP and Addition to Siphon**

Todd Sneathen, Director of Public Works and Environmental Services; and Robert Scheuerman, Engineering Administrator, briefed Council and answered questions on sewer improvements recommended in 2008 “Model/Master Plan of Separate Sanitary Sewer System.”

Council discussed cost, location, and proposal from Hubbell, Roth & Clark, Inc.

Goddeeris said this item will be on Council Consent agenda next week.

Item 5 **Resolution Opposing PA 297**

Councilmember Triplett updated Council on Public Act 297, which would prohibit the City of East Lansing from continuing to offer benefits for “Other Eligible Individuals,” and on a Council resolution opposing PA 297 and supporting action to preserve East Lansing’s “Other Eligible Individuals” policy.

It was moved by Triplett and seconded by Power to approve a resolution opposing Public Act 297 and supporting action to preserve East Lansing's "Other Eligible Individuals" policy.

ALL YEAS
MOTION CARRIED

CITY OF EAST LANSING
EAST LANSING CITY COUNCIL

**A RESOLUTION OPPOSING PUBLIC ACT 297 AND SUPPORTING ACTION TO
PRESERVE EAST LANSING'S "OTHER ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS" POLICY**

WHEREAS, the East Lansing City Council unanimously adopted a resolution opposing HB 4770 and 4771 on October 18, 2011; and,

WHEREAS, Governor Rick Snyder signed HB 4770 into law on December 22, 2011, prohibiting public employers from providing domestic partner or other similar benefits to their employees; and,

WHEREAS, the diversity of our community makes East Lansing a great place to live, work, and raise a family; and,

WHEREAS, the City of East Lansing recognizes that respect for diversity is a vital component of successful economic development and talent retention; and,

WHEREAS, the City of East Lansing provides benefits for "Other Eligible Individuals"; and,

WHEREAS, PA 297 would prohibit the City of East Lansing from continuing to offer benefits for "Other Eligible Individuals";

WHEREAS, the American Civil Liberties Union filed a lawsuit, case 2:12-cv-10038, Bassett et al v Richard Snyder, alleging that Public Act 297 violates fundamental constitutional protections, including equal protection of the law and substantive due process on January 5, 2012; and,

WHEREAS, the lawsuit requests a permanent injunction against the enforcement of PA 297.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of East Lansing opposes PA 297 and reaffirms its support for providing benefits to "Other Eligible Individuals"; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of East Lansing directs the City Attorney to assist the ACLU in the lawsuit seeking to enjoin the enforcement of PA 297 in any way that is useful to that case, by amicus brief or otherwise; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of East Lansing directs the City Attorney to cooperate with other public employers challenging the constitutionality of PA 297 to the extent practicable; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of East Lansing directs the City Attorney to take other appropriate actions to protect the legality of the City's "Other Eligible Individual" benefits policy.

Item 6 **City Manager Employment Contract**

Interim City Manager George Lahanas stepped away from the Council table.

Council discussed employment contract between George Lahanas and the City Council of the City of East Lansing which reflects terms and conditions discussed at January 27, 2012 Council meeting.

Goddeeris said if approved, the contract will be presented to George Lahanas for his review.

It was moved by Power and seconded by Loomis to approve employment contract between George Lahanas and the City Council of the City of East Lansing.

ALL YEAS
MOTION CARRIED

Lahanas returned to the Council table.

Item 7 **Refunding of 2009 Downtown Development BANs**

Mary Haskell, Finance Director; Tim Dempsey, Director of Planning and Community Development; and William Danhof, Miller Canfield, One Michigan Avenue, Suite 900, Lansing, briefed Council and answered questions on 2009 Downtown Development Bond Anticipation Notes (BANs).

Council discussed due date of notes, long-term and short-term options, and public and private re-financing costs. Council requested additional information from Haskell and Dempsey.

Goddeeris said this item will be on Council Business agenda next week.

Item 8 **Council Member Reports**

Councilmember Beard:

- Reported on Special Olympics Polar Plunge fundraiser which will be held February 26, 2012.

Councilmember Loomis:

- No Report

Councilmember Power:

- Requested Council review of City Manager performance evaluation system at February 14, 2012 work session.

Mayor Pro Tem Triplett:

- No Report

Mayor Goddeeris:

- Reported on upcoming dates:
 - University Student Commission:
 - March 14 - community reception at Cowles House
 - Community Relations Coalition:
 - April 21 – Taste of East Lansing, Lot 1, 5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
 - April 22 – Earth Day and Downtown cleanup, with Greek community
 - April 10 – Building Bridges, with Greek community
 - February 16, 17, and 18 – Greek Week festivities

Item 9

City Manager's Report

Interim City Manager George Lahanas:

- Said budget discussion retreat will be Saturday, February 4 at 8:30 a.m.
- Requested Executive session for discussion of property acquisition

Item 10

Executive Session

It was moved by Beard and seconded by Power to adjourn to Executive session to discuss property acquisition.

Roll Call:

YEAS – Beard, Loomis, Power, Triplett, Goddeeris

NAYS – None

MOTION CARRIED

Council adjourned to Executive session at 8:45 p.m.

Council returned to the work session at 9:51 p.m.

It was moved by Beard and seconded by Triplett to adjourn.

ALL YEAS

MOTION CARRIED

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9:52 p.m.

Diane Goddeeris
Mayor

Nancy O. Wagner
Administrative Secretary