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**City of Lansing Committee on Intergovernmental Relations &
June 24, 2015 @ 5:30 pm
City Council Conference Room- 10th Floor**

Council Member Boles called the meeting to order 5:31 p.m.

PRESENT

Councilmember A'Lynne Boles
Councilmember Jody Washington-excused
Councilmember Jessica Yorko- arrived at 5:35 p.m.
Myra Ford, Lansing School Board
Gabriel Johnson, Lansing School Board- arrived at 5:35 p.m.
Rachel Lewis, Lansing School Board- arrived at 5:33 p.m.

OTHERS PRESENT

Sherrie Boak, City Council Office Manager
Veronica Wood, Lansing School Board Administrative
Zachary Katz, City Attorney Office
Dorcas Shamake
Edwina Marshall

No quorum at the start of the meeting.

Public Comment

No public comment.

Minutes

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER YORKO TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 12, 2014 AS PRESENTED TO BE PLACED ON FILE. MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER YORKO TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM DECEMBER 10, 2014 AS PRESENTED TO BE PLACED ON FILE. MOTON CARRIED.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER YORKO TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM MAY 6, 2015 AS PRESENTED TO BE PLACED ON FILE. MOTON CARRIED.

OTHER

Council Member Boles updated the group on a recent social media post she received about a situation at Beekman School. There was an update on the situation to the Committee and the

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LSD Committee members present. It was noted that there was a situation where a teacher witnessed another teacher dragging a student down the hallway. Council members were asked to be a voice of the students. Council Member Boles noted that this incident does fall under the jurisdiction of the Lansing School Board, and Council will help in any way they can. Board Member Ford confirmed that the School Board did receive an email about the incident on June 23, 2015. The position of the School Board President is to meet with the Superintendent and at this point until the Board members hear about the incident and research they cannot comment.

Ms. Marshall asked that things be put in place for much needed communication and oversight. Ms. Marshall was a firm believer that this incident did occur, and she did send an email to a School Board member. Ms. Marshall asked the School Board members present to investigate.

Council Member Boles stated she would forward the social media posts onto the School Board members so they can see all the dialogue.

Ms. Shamake stated she was the person who witnessed the incident and feels after she reported it to administration she has been retaliated against, but tolerates a hostile work environment for 4 months to stay there for the kids.

Council Member Boles asked the School Board members if there is someone that collects complaints. Board Member Lewis introduced herself, and stated she will speak to Ms. Shamake about the steps that need to occur. It was noted the next School Board meeting is July 9th at 6:30 p.m. Council Member Boles requested that the group let the public that have been involved in the social media be acknowledged and be informed that the process has begun and they will report back when due process is completed.

Board Member Johnson asked Ms. Shamake a few questions on her time at Beekman, other emails, and who she met with so far. Ms. Shamake confirmed she has met with Lori Abbot, Beekman Principal; Troy Scott, LSD HR Director; and David Hockaday, Union Representative.

Council Member Boles asked Ms. Shamake if she has created a timeline of the incident and investigate thus far, and Ms. Shamake confirmed she had.

Board Member Ford noted to the group that the LSD Superintendent is out until after July 4th, so there may not seem to be activity on until after that. Board Member Johnson added that her knowledge was that the School Board President, Mr. Spadafore, had already started an investigation at his end.

Council Member Yorke concluded the discussion by telling Ms. Shamake that if she finds the investigation to be unsatisfactory, there might be other outside organizations she could search out.

Discussion/Action

Junior City Council Scope & Intent

The group recapped the last meeting where it was determined to start a program in August when school started, and begin with the 6th – 8th graders at Gardner. The scope and intent would be to include and engage the students with matters that are going on in the City, and to expose and enlighten them into the City government. This might encourage them to have a desire to participate in a government process. This would include inviting Andy Schor to one meeting, address government policies and procedures, budgets and include an election process. It was noted that Council members will make the first contact with the Gardner School

principal Ms. Nixon. The members of the IGR Committee would be the liaison, and also include other Council Members when a certain Committee Chairperson could address their topic. Since it is 9 weeks, there can be 9 target areas.

Joint Maintenance

Council Member Boles stated that other members of administration were invited to attend, however were not present, so she commented on an email from Mr. Andy Kilpatrick who asked the Committee to discuss the upcoming school Bond in 2016 and their recent RFP request for alternative uses at Otto, Eastern and the Physical Plant.

Board Member Lewis stated that Mr. Spadafore will do a full bond presentation at the July 9th School Board meeting. At the next IGR joint meeting she will update the full group. Council Member Boles offered to let all of Council to know of this upcoming presentation.

Board Member Lewis spoke about the recent RFP's and that the request went out on Friday, June 19th, and published on June 21. The RFP is asking for organizations or companies to propose what they would do with the vacant sites, Otto, Eastern and the Physical Plant. Council Member Boles stated she would have a conversation with Mr. Kilpatrick to see if the City had any specific interest or concern.

Board Member Lewis provided a list of 12 properties the City owns that are adjacent to Schools property, that they would be interested in pursuing a joint maintenance program with. Those included:

Attwood Park	Averill Park	Cavanaugh Park
Elmhurst Park	Gier Community Center	Kendon Park
Letts Community Center	Lewton Park	Lyons Park
Pleasant View Park	Wainwright Park	Woodcreek Park

Board Member Lewis then gave information on earlier discussion on building/facility reservations, and confirmed they were still working on the process and a policy that has not been finalized yet.

Board Member Lewis asked for an update on a joint RFP for mowing, facility maintenance, and asphalt maintenance and snow removal.

Council Member Boles and Yorke asked that an email be sent to Mr. Hannan in the Mayor's office for an update, and they will also ask at the next Committee of the Whole meeting.

Council Member Boles noted she had recently met with MEA Representative Jerry Swartz and there is a large concern that the schools are moving to privatization of services.

Volunteer Opportunities

Council Member Boles recapped that the volunteer opportunities were going to be seamless because people were looking to volunteer, however each school is different. Board Member Ford stated any volunteer should be able to go to their school of choice and sign up to volunteer. However it was noted that the School Public Safety department address all volunteer applications and background checks, so they could start there.

Board Member Lewis stated that volunteer opportunities can be on the joint shared calendars. Currently they are working on a new website, and once that launches the City website could set up a link to the school site.

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Council Member Boles stated she would report out on all the topics from this meeting at the June 29, 2015 Council meeting.

Council Member Yorke asked what the service requirements were in the schools, such as Honor Society, Student Council, etc. Board Member Ford noted that there is no diploma requirement, but if there was a list of opportunities that Council could forward to the Board members they could pass them along. Council Member Yorke noted she could work on a list and also annual items.

Facility Reservations

This was discussed earlier under Joint Maintenance.

Pool Updates

Board Member Ford noted that recently the School Board voted on the bid request to fix the pool at the Hill Center. A timeline was not available because they are expanding on the pool which is more than simple repairs.

Board Member Johnson asked for the hours to the Moores Park pool, and Council Member Yorke stated she would provide that to her. The group continued discussions on park liaison for the 4th Ward, and improvement on the basketball courts at Moores Park.

Board Member Johnson asked for information and contacts for the City Market, and Council Staff and Council members provided her with numbers and contacts at LEPFA.

The next Committee meeting was set for Thursday, July 16th at 5:30 p.m. at the Lansing School Administration Building.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Submitted by, Sherrie Boak, Recording Secretary

Lansing City Council

Approved by the Committee on _____