

**THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE THIRTY-SIXTH COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BERKLEY, MICHIGAN
WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:00 PM ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2017 BY MAYOR PRO TEM
BAKER**

PRESENT: Steve Baker, Mayor Pro Tem
Jack Blanchard, Councilmember
Colleen Graveline, Councilmember
Alan Kideckel, Councilmember
Eileen Steadman, Councilmember
Daniel Terbrack, Councilmember

ABSENT: Phil O'Dwyer, Mayor

ALSO PRESENT: Matthew Baumgarten, City Manager
Darchelle Strickland Love, Deputy City Manager
Sabrina Lilla, Finance Director
Derrick Schueller, Public Works Director
Phommady A. Boucher, City Clerk
Chelsey Machota, Communications Coordinator

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Moved by Councilmember Kideckel to approve the agenda.

Seconded by Councilmember Blanchard.

Ayes: Blanchard, Graveline, Kideckel, Steadman, Terbrack, and Baker

Absent: O'Dwyer

Nays: None

Motion Approved.

CITIZENS COMMENTS None

REGULAR AGENDA:

Mayor Pro Tem Baker welcomed and thanked everyone for attending the special council meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to provide residents with information and answer questions related to the recent flood event on Monday, August 28, 2017. He recognized the Berkley School District and the Berkley High School staff for the accommodations. The next regular city council meeting is on Monday, September 18th at City Hall. He advised the residents that the special meeting is being streamed online at www.berkleymich.org and on the city channel WBRK. Mayor Pro Tem Baker explained the process for submitting a question on the blue forms and asked residents return them to Deputy City Manager Darchelle Strickland Love and Communications Coordinator Chelsey Machota.

COUNCIL REMARKS

Councilmember Kideckel thanked everyone for attending tonight's meeting and assured residents that their concerns will be heard.

Councilmember Terbrack is aware that 10-12% of Berkley residents experienced damage from the Monday, August 28, 2017 flood event. His response to this event is why did this happen? What caused it? Because the only thing to do now is take steps to safeguard these types of consequences in the future. And, how can we help those that are dealing with the situation right now? Councilmember Terbrack is looking forward to having those questions answered tonight, hearing from the experts, and potential step that can be taken in the future so it doesn't happen adversely to Berkley again. He does not like to see things happening in a pattern and allow them to continue to happen. Councilmember Terbrack looks forward to hearing from the residents and the only way we are going to be able to come to a conclusion as a community is to listen to everyone's ideas. We need to thoughtfully consider those ideas and decide what course of action to take. He thanked everyone for attending the meeting today and looks forward to the conversation.

Mayor O'Dwyer sends both his regrets and supports. Mayor Pro Tem Baker read a message from the Mayor in the September eNewsletter, "August 2017 ends with the misery of floods. As we empathized with the people of Texas, Berkley was hit with a flash flood and many basements were damaged. As I watched the water and sewer bubble up in my basement, I had a sinking feeling: thankful that it is not as bad as Texas but frustrated at the frequency of these weather events in recent years. Our Public Safety and Public Works departments are available to offer please be safe and follow the city's website and Facebook."

Mayor Pro Tem Baker added that this is a terrible incident and he is heartened to know that we are here together. Our homes should be places of comfort and peace. Our city should be a source of pride and confidence. In 2014, Mayor Pro Tem Baker had 2 1/2 feet of water and sewer in his basement. In 2017, his home had 6 inches of sewer in his basement. Tonight's discussion will ask the questions, what happened and why? What have we done since 2014? And, what more can we do going forward at the resident, city, and region levels?

DISCUSSION ON AUGUST 28, 2017 FLOODING AND PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE

Staff from City of Berkley and Water Resource Commissioner's Office will cover a range of topics related to the city and regional combined sewer system and rain events.

City Manager Baumgarten gave a review of the Special City Council Meeting on August 28, 2017 Flood Event PowerPoint presentation.

Public Works Director Schueller and Roland Alix, Vice President at Hubble, Roth, and Clark (HRC) gave a review of the Berkley's combined system, street detention, and combined sewer network within Berkley in the PowerPoint presentation.

Eddie Zmich, Project Manager at Hubble, Roth, and Clark (HRC) is available to answer any engineering questions related to the City of Berkley.

Jim Nash, Oakland County Water Resource Commissioner and Gary Nigro, Chief Engineer at Oakland County Water Resource Commission, gave a review of the (George W. Kuhn) GWK Drainage System, GWK Drainage District, GWK System Piping, Berkley's Place within the System, and 12 Towns South & Middle in the PowerPoint presentation.

RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS SUBMITTED BY RESIDENTS

The following residents expressed their concerns with the recent Monday, August 28, 2017 flood event:

Tim Canty at 2654 Royal, Berkley

Lisa Kempner at 2660 Columbia, Berkley

Maria Ward at 1838 Rosemont, Berkley

Mary Markel at 1882 Bacon, Berkley

Wendy Zabramski at 3340 Gardner, Berkley

Paul Jordan at 3990 Tyler, Berkley

Julie McNiven-Perr at 1944 Ellwood, Berkley

Gene Dillard at 1837 Rosemont, Berkley

Gina at 11 Mile and Woodward, Berkley

Austin Chapman at 2178 Gardner, Berkley

Jason Schieck at 1844 Tyler, Berkley

Zack Kotila at 1756 Rosemont, Berkley

Mike Struble at 1781 Robina, Berkley

Jim Pesta, at 2795 Gardner, Berkley

Robert Bucksbaum at Oak Park

Guy Bennett at 2993 Kipling, Berkley

Andrew Tucker at 2062 Tyler, Berkley

Kathy Durocher, 2841 Royal, Berkley

George Stevens at 3294 Royal, Berkley

Derrick at Princeton, Berkley

John Barbuscak at 1405 Franklin, Berkley

Rachel Piacentini at 1726 Oxford, Berkley

Tim Detavernier, 1759 Ellwood, Berkley

Jaclyn Parker at 3084 Kenmore, Berkley

Deputy City Manager Strickland Love gave a brief review of the questions received tonight.

Motion suspend the rules and to continue meeting at 10:00 p.m.

Moved by Councilmember Blanchard

Seconded by Councilmember Steadman

Ayes: Graveline, Kideckel, Steadman, Terbrack, Blanchard, and Baker

Absent: O'Dwyer

Nays: None

Motion Approved.

John Staran advised residents by law they are required to file a claim and will need to seek private counsel for any other legal actions.

Mayor Pro Tem Baker thanked the residents, council and City Administration for an important and emotional conversation. He appreciates way the conversation has been discussed, framed, and positions us as a community to understand what we want to do together.

City Manager Baumgarten encouraged residents to send questions to rainevent2017@BerkleyMich.net and the City Manager's Office is available for individuals who would like to speak to someone at the City Hall. He thanked everyone who attended tonight's meeting and completed the blue forms with questions.

ADJOURN

Councilmember Kideckel moved to adjourn the Special Meeting at 10:10 PM.

Seconded by Councilmember Blanchard.

Ayes: Kideckel, Steadman, Terbrack, Blanchard, Graveline, and Baker

Absent: O'Dwyer

Nays: None

Motion Approved.