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The Review

Hamtramck



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Quick Hits

Inauguration ceremony this Sunday

By Charles Sercombe

A new political cycle starts next week.

City Councilmembers Mohammed Hassan, Mohammed Alsomiri will once again take an oath of office at a ceremony being held at the Hamtramck Public Library, located at 2360 Caniff.

Joining them will be political newcomer Muhtasin Sadman who beat out incumbent Councilmember Nayeem Choudhury.

Choudhury's defeat came as a surprise since he was one of the top vote-getters in the primary election. Both Hassan and Alsomiri were also top-three finishers in the primary.

Choudhury's loss prompted him to claim that 200 absentee ballots were not counted.

At the time he said he made this charge because:

"I don't know, the whole community is shocked and saddened that they voted for me by absentee ballots – over a thousand. They don't know why I lost against a candidate that came in fifth place in the primary."

Absentee ballots played a huge role in the election as most voters voted early.

According to sources, federal investigators are examining the handling of absentee ballots by one – or possibly more – candidates.

Sadman's election keeps the city council all-male, and all-Muslim.

Continued on page 2

— HAMTRAMCK'S NEWSPAPER OF RECORD —

'Newsmaker of the Year:' A cultural lightening rod

By Charles Sercombe

With the year 2023 now behind us, it's time, once again, to name Hamtramck's "Newsmaker of the Year."

By newsmaker, we mean a person or issue that dominated public discussion.

Without a doubt, the city has a cultural divide between the religious conservative members of the community and those on the politically progressive side.

And the number one issue that still stirs up debate is the ban on allowing pride flags to be flown on public property.

In this case, public property is commonly understood to mean city-owned flagpoles, but there are some who argue that the wording is too broad and too vague.

In other words, is it a violation of the city resolution to carry a pride flag on city sidewalks or in city parks?

The ban also limits the types of flags that can be displayed on public property to the U. S., State, City of Hamtramck, and Prisoner of War flags, along with those international flags that reflect the international makeup of the city.

The ban came on the heels of the election of an all-male, all Muslim city council and mayor.

Prior to them coming into elected office, the city allowed pride flags to be flown on city flagpoles.

But last summer, the city council and mayor put a stop to that, saying the flag is too controversial.

The city council justified the ban by insisting it is an effort to remain "neutral" on what some consider to be controversial flags. In the council's

resolution on the matter, it was said:

"The City does not want to open the door for radical or racist groups to ask for their flags to be flown, and this action is being taken to ensure the city's neutrality."

Not everyone was buying that explanation.

The state's top law enforcer, Attorney General Dana Nessel, who is openly gay, implored the city to rescind its resolution.

At a rally held in Zussman Park by LGBTQ supporters, Nessel said:

"Banning the pride flag is meant to send the very opposite message: a message of intolerance, hatred, and bigotry. ... As it's said, 'In situations of injustice, neutrality always favors the oppressor, never the oppressed.' And as Martin Luther King Jr. so aptly observed: 'The hottest place in hell is reserved for those who remain neutral in times of great moral conflict. Anyone who accepts evil, without protesting against it, is one who cooperates with it.'"

Nessel added: "And make no mistake: homophobia, transphobia, are indeed forms of evil

just as much as Islamophobia is." She also said that the council's action is a "national embarrassment."

The pride flag issue has also attracted the attention of a number of media outlets from the state, not to mention nationally and internationally.

None of the backlash fazed the council, nor Mayor Amer Ghalib, who also supported the pride flag ban.

The ban has had a ripple effect.

Amid the controversy, a rash of pride flags being flown at private homes and businesses were vandalized. Incidents of vandalism continue to this day.

The ban also led to an awkward situation for the mayor and some councilmembers during the annual Hamtramck Labor Day Parade. They refused to be placed in front of a group of people carrying pride flags.

Instead, they chose to ride in an SUV several positions ahead of the flag carriers.

The ban also led to an incident of open defiance, and repercussions thereafter.

Two members of the Hamtramck Human Relations Commission, Chairman Russ Gordon and member Catrina Stackpoole, raised a pride flag on one of the Jos. Campau flagpoles.

"For me, the raising of this flag is less about defiance and more about protest, and a plea for tolerance," Gordon said.

He added that the resolution to ban the pride flag stems from religious "bigotry," and that "ordering the removal of this flag will just fan the flames."

Stackpoole said that "This flag represents people in this community that, for years, were unable to be openly gay without harassment and worse."

Both predicted they would be removed from the commission by the mayor.

Mayor Ghalib did not hold back on criticizing the two.

"It was a very irresponsible action by a militia that has zero respect for law and order and that once used to lead the city. I haven't decided yet on what way to terminate them," Ghalib said.

Continued on page 2



State Attorney General Dana Nessel addresses a rally in Zussman Park held in protest of the city council and mayor banning pride flags from being flown on public property. Nessel said the decision made Hamtramck a "national embarrassment."

School Board to meet

By Charles Sercombe

Last year, the Hamtramck Schools Board of Education failed to meet in three separate months throughout the year.

The third of those missed meetings was just this past month, in December.

Next week, the board starts off with its first meeting of the year on Wednesday, Jan. 10, which is to be held at the district's administrative building next to Keyworth Stadium (on Roosevelt St., east of Gallagher) at 6 p.m.

It's being listed as a special meeting, but the meeting announcement did not say what would be discussed.

The board has a number of issues to face that are carrying over from last year.

In December, the board was going to conduct a job performance review of Superintendent Jaleelah Ahmed.

The board also has to tackle what to do about the loss of funds represented by a repeatedly failed millage renewal that had previously helped fund the maintenance of district buildings. Voters twice, here in Hamtramck, overwhelmingly rejected the proposals.

That will leave a massive \$760,000 hole in the district's budget.

Also, the district's enrollment fell significantly this year, with the loss of 109 students. That decrease equals a little over \$1 million in further financial loss of state-level support.

And, on top of all this, there are the on-going resignations of administrators and teachers – forcing the district to have to scramble to find replacements.



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‘Newsmaker of the Year:’ A cultural lightening rod

Continued from front page

They were indeed later removed from the commission. And that action led to Gordon and Stackpoole filing a federal lawsuit. In their lawsuit, they said their First Amendment and civil rights were violated, and also allege the mayor

and city council’s ban on displaying pride flags on city property was driven by religious belief.

To back up the religious aspect the council’s ban, they quoted former Councilmember Nayeem Choudhury with his explanation on why he supported the pride flag ban.

“... We have to respect the religions. We have to respect the people around here. Schools, mosques, churches,” Choudhury said.

Mayor Ghalib was unfazed by the lawsuit.

“This was expected. Another unnecessary distraction by the former power structure that doesn’t like to see the city moving forward. Good things are happening for the first time in decades, such as budget surplus and infrastructure repair,” Ghalib said.

“This exposes the former egregious leadership failure, therefore they want to constantly create obstacles on our way.”

He also added: “As commissioners, they broke their oath and they were in defiance of the city’s rules and regulations, therefore they should be held accountable for two things: first, taking decisions without having meetings or quorum for the human relations commission.”



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**Sunday, January 7,
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Solemnity of Baptism of
our Lord**

**Jan 9 – Holy Mass for all people
on our Prayer List 7 pm**

**Jan 13 – Take-out Soup Kitchen
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School Bell

Dickinson West Elementary

Jennifer Bradley, a 5th Grade teacher at Dickinson West, shared some exciting news about a student, Ferdos Alsufyani. We’ll let Bradley tell the story:

“Everyone who has been at D.W for awhile knows Ferdos. She has been here since kindergarten. She is always so pleasant, sweet and always looking like the diva princess she is.

“She has a sassy, fun, personality as well. I met the family when I had her sister Amira for 5th Grade during the quarantine of Covid.

“When the students were virtual, I would drop things off for Amira or have our class online, and got to see Ferdos occasionally as well. I knew she was going through a struggle with her health, and that it was a hardship on the family.

“You never knew it though because her family is always so happy and thankful. I decided to nominate her to be a Jays



Ferdos Alsufyani, a 5th grader at Dickinson West (with glasses on) meets with WNIC radio personality Jay Towers.

Junior. I asked her mom to help me fill out the application, and I submitted it.

“The radio station called me to ask a few questions and then they called mom to give her the great news! She was chosen to be a 2023 Jay’s Junior!

“Jay Juniors is a program with Jay Towers at WNIC 100.3 FM radio station here in Detroit. He wanted to help struggling kids and their families who are dealing with a chronically or terminally ill child by taking them to Disney World, all expenses paid, even the spend-

ing money.

“The entire family spent five days at the Polynesian Resort at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida on Dec. 5.”

Quick Hits

Cont. from front page

The inauguration ceremony starts at 1 p.m. with refreshments and socializing, with the oath of office taking place at 2 p.m., and then followed by photo opportunities, refreshments and light snacks.



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This week at the Library . . .

January 5, 2024

Inaugural Ceremony: The Oath of Office for the city government will take place on January 7, 2024 at the Hamtramck Public Library. Registration and social hour will start at 1 pm, ceremonies will start at 2 pm. Light snacks and refreshments will be served from 1 pm to 4 pm. Everyone is invited to witness oath of office and meet with the new city officials.

Bicycle Trail: Do you perambulate through alleyways? Would you care to voice your desire for safe cycling spaces throughout the city? Consider attending the public discussion about the proposed designs for the renovation of the Holbrook to Caniff stretch of west Joseph Campau alley. Hear what is up and share your thoughts with city representatives here at the library on January 10th at 5:30—7:30 pm.

Khalil Gibran: This author was born on January 6, 1883. He has given us so much more than “The Prophet”, which nevertheless became one of the best selling books of all time. Books that we read can become a source of inspiration and can open our minds to novel concepts taking us to far away places and times which are removed from our own present.

Chess Club: Something new just for you. Games held on this Thursdays at 3:30 pm right here in the library. Open to newbies, experienced pros, and all those in between.

Story Time: Get you kids together and drop in on our Monday afternoon

Story Time at 3:45 pm and Wednesday Story Time at 12:00 noon. Presented by guest readers from Hamtramck Federation of Teachers.

Game Night: We are moving to Wednesdays. Join us for Game Night at the library. We are serving up something fun each Wednesday at 4 pm. Stop by and let us know that you have come to play. Everyone is invited.

Women’s Right to Vote: This amendment to the U.S. Constitution was introduced in Congress by Senator A.A. Sargent of California on January 10, 1878. The amendment did not pass until 1920, forty-two years later.

John Hancock: This American statement and patriot was born on January 12, 1737 in Braintree, Massachusetts. He was elected president of the Second Continental Congress in 1775 and was the first signer of the Declaration of Independence and went on to become the first elected governor of Massachusetts.

Horatio Alger: This author was born on January 13, 1834 in Revere, Massachusetts. He wrote over 100 books for boys, many featuring “Rags to Riches” themes of poor boys triumphing over life’s obstacle.

Hal Roach: This American film pioneer was born in Elmira, New York on January 14, 1892. He produced nearly 1,000 movies of all lengths, including classics and comedies.

Library is located at 2360 Caniff Avenue, Phone (313) 733-6822
Or visit its website at <http://hamtramck.lib.mi.us> for on line catalog
Attachments for printing, faxing or scanning send to hamtramcklibrary@gmail.com

Review: Opinion Page

In Our Opinion

Time for a reset for the Board of Education

Happy New Year! With our 2023 Year In Review behind us, we now look forward to another year, chockfull of news.

Hamtramck has no shortage of news.

One thing we'd like to see shape up this year is the Hamtramck Board of Education. It's time for a full reset, in our opinion.

It's no secret that the school district is facing a number of pressing issues and problems.

We desperately need a school board whose members take their jobs more seriously.

Not meeting at all on three different months in one calendar year is not acceptable behavior for a public body. School board members owe it to the community that voted them into office to actually do their jobs.

We are hoping that, with a new year here, there will be a new start. We're trying to be optimistic.

If some board members find it problematic to carry out their obligations, we suggest they own up to it and respectfully resign, in order to allow the district to carry out its mission.

The board is scheduled to hold a meeting next Wednesday, Jan. 10, and this will provide a time to wipe the slate clean and commit to serving the public, parents and students of this community.

Other Voices: Guest Editorial

Snow shoveling volunteers are needed

By Julia Sosin and Max Gilginas

As winter sets in, we're cranking up the coziness meter and gearing up our snow squad. The season's been a bit of a softie so far, but we're not about to let a sudden snowfall catch anyone off guard.

Last winter, we tackled frozen, snow covered sidewalks with the finesse of penguins on ice skates, assisting over 50 households thanks to the dedication of more than 20 volunteers. We're not saying we're winter wizards, but ... actually, yes, we are.

If you're in an owner-occupied home and the thought of facing the icy elements sends shivers down your spine, fear not! If you have no one to help, we are here for you. Reach out to us, and we'll pair you with a winter superhero faster than you can say, "Where's my hot cocoa?" (Well, as quickly as we can ...)

For those feeling the philanthropic itch, we're open for business! Whether you want to donate supplies, shower our volunteers with praise or some yummy rewards, or join the ranks of the snow-shoveling elite, we're ready to welcome you with open arms.

It's like joining an exclusive winter club, but with less frostbite, and a rewarding experience, knowing your neighbors are safe and up to code.

Last year's success was epic, but this year, we're aiming for legendary status. Together, let's make Hamtramck the beacon of warmth and laughter in the midst of winter's chilly grip.

Join us, and let's show our neighbors that snow isn't going to win – because, with your help, we've got the upper hand on that slippery foe.

Fill out the form on the city's website, or call Max Gilginas at (313) 800-5233, extension 326.

(Julia Sosin is a member of Hamtramck Mutual Aid, and Max Gilginas is the city's Community Involvement Coordinator.)

Muslims are urging swing state voters not to vote for Biden

By Charles Sercombe

Muslims across the country have stepped up their opposition to the re-election of President Biden.

Biden is facing increasing criticism of his handling of the Israel-Palestine situation. In the latest move, Biden side-stepped congress to authorize more military aid to Israel.

Israel invaded Gaza after Hamas fighters crossed into Israel on Oct. 7 and killed 1,400 people, while also taking over 200 hostages.

It is estimated that Israel's army has responded by killing about 20,000 civilians in Gaza in its effort to eradicate Hamas.

The U.S. has had a long history of supporting Israel.

In retaliation for Biden's continued support of Israel, there is now a movement called #AbandonBiden. The movement, started by prominent Muslim-Americans, says that they will support a third party candidate instead of Biden.

However they concede that, by doing so, they might enable former President Trump to win the presidential election this November.

Trump has promised to enact a ban on allowing Muslims from entering the U.S., and also to deport immigrants who support Hamas.

Muslim leaders are campaigning to convince their followers in swing states, like Michigan, Minnesota and Arizona, to withhold their support for Biden.

"We will save America from itself, by punishing Biden at the ballot box," said lead organizer Jaylani Hussein in a statement.

Hussein conceded that, by so doing, "There is a likelihood that our votes may weaken the Democrats that the Republicans may win. We're not fools about that. ... We will risk an unknown four years of Trump."

In Hamtramck, where the majority of residents are of the Muslim faith, there has also been talk of not supporting Biden. At a rally, several weeks ago, held in Hamtramck in support of Palestine,

Continued on page 5

Odds & Ends

Career help... The Michigan Department of Lifelong Education, Advancement and Potential – it shortens down to the acronym MILEAP – announced the launch of their new program designed to help some young adults onto decent-paying career paths.

The program is known as the Michigan Reconnect Short-Term Training Program, and it is aimed at state residents 21 and older who do not yet have at least an associate degree.

Backed by a \$6 million dollar investment through the state budget, the program grants up to \$1,500 each for up to 4,000 eligible people to attend one of the program's eligible career trainings in fields such as health care, technology, manufacturing, and others.

Governor Whitmer was enthusiastic about the program, noting that "Every Michigander deserves the opportunity to pursue a degree or certificate to land a good-paying, in-demand job without breaking the bank."

She said that programs like these can help "ensure every Michigander can 'make it' in Michigan."

Michelle Richard, acting director of MILEAP, said "This program will expand Michigan's talent pipeline... and help more businesses hire the skilled individuals they need to compete and grow."

To be eligible, you must be at least 21 prior to submitting the application; be a Michigan resident for at least the past year; be a high school grad or, for example, have your GRE; and have not yet earned at least an associate degree.

Those fitting these parameters should review the list of eligible career training programs at Michigan.gov/Career-Training, as you will need to indicate your chosen career provider as part of the application process.

You will apply at Michigan.gov/Reconnect. Do so by Dec. 15, 2024.

You will then need to get started on your training program by Dec. 31, 2024.

Vintage plates... A couple of interesting changes are afoot at Michigan's ever-evolving Secretary of State.

The bureau will be ushering in another optional style of license plate – this one, with a backstory attached – and will also be making significant security changes to driver's licenses and state IDs.

In case you're thinking that the first part of this sounds familiar, you'd be right.

Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson brought back the 1965 blue and yellow "Water-Winter Wonderland" design as an upgrade option for car owners back in December of 2021. Through the end of this past November, 2023, over 1.2 million of these plates have been issued.

For this latest additional option, they reached back two more years to 1963. That year's plate featured a darker green background with white letters. But it's the rationale for bringing it back that's perhaps more interesting.

The idea is to commemorate the 60th anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and then-UAW president and local labor icon Walter Reuther leading the Walk to Freedom in Detroit in 1963.

Dr. King delivered his "I Have a Dream" speech in front of then-named Cobo Hall during that visit; he would reprise it some two months later on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial after the famous March on Washington in late August of that year.

Less than five years later, Dr. King would be assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee.

The plates will be available to order beginning on Saturday, Jan. 27, either online at Michigan.gov/SOS or when buying a new vehicle at a dealership.

As to the new license and state ID security designs, the state has turned to what they refer to as "cutting edge technology" to help craft items that will be even more secure against replication or ID theft, as well as differently designed.

One example of this are that the new licenses will have the names of the 5 Great Lakes visible at certain angles to the light. The current IDs have an image of the Mackinac Bridge.

REAL-ID compliance is currently indicated by a star inside a gold circle in the upper right-hand corner. The new ones will have a gold Michigan silhouette with a star inside.

Font and color changes will readily distinguish old-style IDs from new. They will begin being implemented at the end of this month, January, 2024, and until all the old ones are phased out over the next four years.

You'll want to make sure you have one or the other REAL-ID-type cards on you by May 7, 2025 – at least, if you want to take a domestic flight (you'll need it to board) or enter a military base or else certain other federal buildings.

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January 5, 2024

Hamtramck Public TV-19

Broadcasting on Comcast Channel 19 in Hamtramck area and YouTube Live world wide (Hamtramck Public Library)

What’s on this coming week?

Holiday Special produced by Horizon School, Coming soon, History Pod-casts from Museum Motivate Me Interviews, Music programs ESL Classes for the 2023-24 school year Local events, Library programs, Interviews, Council meeting highlights, Evenings with authors, and more.....

BECOME A LOCAL REPORTER: If you know how to take photos or make film clips on your phone, you can download them to Hamtramck TV along with a news story, to be aired the same day. Send in event announcements, comments to city officials, facts you want to share with the community, etc.

Hamtramck Public TV is broadcasting from Hamtramck Public Library On Comcast Channel 19 and streaming on YouTube Live (24/7) Google “Hamtramck Public TV”, and click on link “Hamtramck Public TV” Or go to YouTube; Hamtramck Public TV; Hamtramck Public Library; videos

To place community announcement call the Library at 313-733-6822 Or email: HamtramckTV@gmail.com Announcements submitted by 10 am Will go on air the same day (evening) To send large video files (TINYurl.com/hpl-tv)

CRIME LOG

By Charles Sercombe

This week's Crime Log covers Dec. 19-28.

Tuesday, Dec. 19

- A hit-and-run accident occurred at Yemans and Falcon.
- An assault was reported in the 12000 block of Selfridge.
- Officers responded to a call about people yelling on Andrus.
- A robbery was reported at PNC Bank on Jos. Campau.
- A person was arrested on Grand Haven for being disorderly, and for being wanted on a Hamtramck warrant.
- A complaint was made about a disorderly group of people on Dequindre.
- Two people were arrested on Sobieski for domestic assault.

Wednesday, Dec. 20

- A break-in was reported on Yemans.
- Officers responding to a report about a fight on Caniff arrested a suspect.
- A theft was reported in the 2300 block of Com-mor.
- An incident of fraud was reported in the 9400 block of McDougall.
- A theft was reported in the 3200 block of Leh-man.
- A theft was reported in the 2200 block of Can-iff.
- At about 2:30 a.m. officers, responding to an assault in the 3200 block of Lehman, arrested four people.
- A hit-and-run accident happened on Hamtramck Dr.
- A teenage runaway was reported on Evaline.

Thursday, Dec. 21

- A fight was reported in the 2200 block of Dan-forth.
- At about 12:30 a.m. officers, responding to a home invasion and domestic assault in the 12000 block of Dyar, arrested a suspect.
- An incident of fraud was reported in the 9600 block of Jos. Campau.
- An incident of fraud was reported in the 2600 block of Whalen.
- An assault was reported in the 9300 block of McDougall.
- A theft from an auto was reported in the 2700 block of Poland.
- Neighbor trouble was reported in the 2600 block of Casmere.
- A person complained of being harassed in the 3400 block of Evaline.
- An assault was reported in the 11400 block of Moran.

Friday, Dec. 22

- At 5 a.m. officers, responding to a complaint about noise in the 3200 block of Yemans, arrested a suspect.
- A business in the 2000 block of Caniff reported having trouble with a customer.
- An auto was reported

stolen in the 2000 block of Trowbridge.

- Family trouble was reported in the 2000 block of Trowbridge.
- An assault was reported in the 3400 block of Evaline.
- Officers, checking on the well-being of a person in the 11600 block of Lumpkin, arrested a woman for being wanted on a felony warrant, and for possessing dangerous drugs.

Saturday, Dec. 23

- An assault was reported at just before 2 a.m. on Caniff.
- A theft from a vehicle was reported in the 9800 block of Conant.
- A hit-and-run accident happened in the 9800 block of Jos. Campau.
- A Detroit resident was arrested, after a traffic stop, for drunk driving.
- A fight was reported, at 11 p.m., in the vicinity of Chrysler Dr. and Bel-mont.

Sunday, Dec. 24

- Gunshots were reported in the area of Nagel and Caniff.
- An auto was reported stolen in the 3900 block of Dorothy.
- A report was made about a break-in of an auto.
- A vehicle was stolen in the 12000 block of Klinger.
- Family trouble was reported in the 2700 block of Trowbridge.
- A complaint was made about disorderly juveniles in the 3200 block of Trowbridge.
- Officers, responding to a call about a disorderly person who was trespassing in the 2700 block of Trowbridge, arrested a male suspect.

Monday, Dec. 25

- No incident report was available for this date.

Tuesday, Dec. 26

- An assault was reported in the 2200 block of Wyandotte.
- An assault was reported in the 3500 block of Caniff.
- Neighbor trouble was reported in the 2200 block of Andrus.
- A fight was reported in the 2400 block of Com-mor.

Wednesday, Dec 27

- Neighbor trouble was reported in the 2400 block of Andrus.
- At about 12:30 a.m. officers, responding to a call about a domestic assault in the 3500 block of Caniff, arrested a suspect.
- A break-in was reported in the 2300 block of Neibel.
- An assault was reported in the 9500 block of Jos. Campau.
- A fight was reported in the 2200 block of Dan-forth.
- A child was reported missing in the 11600

Continued on page 5

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ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Hamtramck Public Schools

Project:

Hamtramck Public Schools

Description:

High School Window Replacement and Interior Upgrades

Architect:

Partners in Architecture, PLC
65 Market Street, Mt. Clemens, MI 48043

Construction Manager:

Frank Rewold and Sons Inc.
303 E. Third St., Suite 300, Rochester, MI 48307

Estimator:

Mike Gagnon
(248) 618-0220
mgagnon@frankrewold.com
Questions addressed ONLY to Mike Gagnon

Bid Documents:

Bid documents including bid forms may be obtained from Frank Rewold and Sons Portal at:
<https://frankrewold.sharefile.com/d-sf92d03f519764f05802f3ca370f3e0b0>
Bid documents will be available on or after January 11, 2024

Non-Mandatory Prebid Walk-Through:

11:00 a.m., Thursday, January 18, 2024 - Meet at project site – 11410 Charest Street, Hamtramck, MI. Parking is limited so plan to arrive early. Meet at the main doors at the front entrance on Charest Street.

Bid Due Date:

2:00 p.m., Thursday, January 25, 2024
Bids will only be accepted on forms provided. Proposal forms must be in a sealed envelope, mailed or delivered in person prior by 2:00 p.m. EST on the due date to:

Attn: Richard Wawrzynski, Hamtramck Public Schools
C/O Frank Rewold and Sons Inc.
303 E. Third St., Suite 300, Rochester, MI 48307

2:00 p.m. Public Bid Opening:

Thursday, January 25, 2024
Frank Rewold and Sons Inc.
303 E. Third St., Suite 300, Rochester, MI 48307
4th Floor Mezzanine

Labor and Material and Performance Bond:

In accordance with Michigan Compiled Laws Section 129.201, successful contractor(s) must obtain Performance and Payment Bonds for any Bid Category exceeding \$50,000. The Performance and Payment Bonds shall be in an amount equal to the contract amount. The Performance and Payment Bonds shall be for the protection of Hamtramck Public Schools and Frank Rewold and Son Inc. and shall be executed by a surety company authorized to do business in the state of Michigan and be listed in Federal Register or have an AM Best Rating of B+ or better. All bonds to be dual obligee bonds to Hamtramck Public Schools and Frank Rewold and Son Inc.

Prevailing Wage Rates:

This is a Davis Bacon Wage project. Please see the architectural specifications for required wages and associated information

Bid Bond:

5% bid security required. Bid bonds are required, however, certified or cashier checks are acceptable for bids under \$50,000.

Nonexempt:

This project is not tax exempt for state sales tax and/or use tax. All materials and supplies incorporated and used in construction and becoming a permanent part of this project will not be exempt from state sales tax and/or tax

Disclosure Statements:

Each bid proposal must be accompanied by a sworn and notarized statement disclosing any familial relationship that exists between owner or any employee of bidder and any member of board of education or superintendent of Hamtramck Public Schools. Each bid proposal must also include a signed Iran Economic Sanctions Affidavit. The board of education will not accept a bid proposal that does not include this sworn and notarized disclosure statement or the Iran Economic Sanctions.

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ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Hamtramck Public Schools

Project:

Hamtramck Public Schools

Description:

HVAC Improvements Phase 5 – Dickinson East Elementary School

Architect:

Partners in Architecture, PLC
65 Market Street, Mt. Clemens, MI 48043

Construction Manager:

Frank Rewold and Sons Inc.
303 E. Third St., Suite 300, Rochester, MI 48307

Estimator:

Mike Gagnon
(248) 618-0220
mgagnon@frankrewold.com
Questions addressed ONLY to Mike Gagnon

Bid Documents:

Bid documents including bid forms may be obtained from Frank Rewold and Sons Portal at:
<https://frankrewold.sharefile.com/d-s0226297446d3489e807f1603745fc862>
Bid documents will be available on or after January 11, 2024

Non-Mandatory Prebid Walk-Through:

9:00 a.m., Thursday, January 18, 2024 - Meet at project site – 3385 Norwalk Street, Hamtramck, MI. Parking is limited so plan to arrive early. Meet at the main doors at the front entrance on Norwalk Street.

Bid Due Date:

2:00 p.m., Thursday, January 25, 2024
Bids will only be accepted on forms provided. Proposal forms must be in a sealed envelope, mailed or delivered in person prior by 2:00 p.m. EST on the due date to:

Attn: Richard Wawrzynski, Hamtramck Public Schools
C/O Frank Rewold and Sons Inc.
303 E. Third St., Suite 300, Rochester, MI 48307

2:00 p.m. Public Bid Opening:

Thursday, January 25, 2023
Frank Rewold and Sons Inc.
303 E. Third St., Suite 300, Rochester, MI 48307
4th Floor Mezzanine

Labor and Material and Performance Bond:

In accordance with Michigan Compiled Laws Section 129.201, successful contractor(s) must obtain Performance and Payment Bonds for any Bid Category exceeding \$50,000. The Performance and Payment Bonds shall be in an amount equal to the contract amount. The Performance and Payment Bonds shall be for the protection of Hamtramck Public Schools and Frank Rewold and Son Inc. and shall be executed by a surety company authorized to do business in the state of Michigan and be listed in Federal Register or have an AM Best Rating of B+ or better. All bonds to be dual obligee bonds to Hamtramck Public Schools and Frank Rewold and Son Inc.

Prevailing Wage Rates:

This is a Davis Bacon Wage project. Please see the architectural specifications for required wages and associated information

Bid Bond:

5% bid security required. Bid bonds are required, however, certified or cashier checks are acceptable for bids under \$50,000.

Nonexempt:

This project is not tax exempt for state sales tax and/or use tax. All materials and supplies incorporated and used in construction and becoming a permanent part of this project will not be exempt from state sales tax and/or tax

Disclosure Statements:

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Muslims are urging swing state voters not to vote for Biden

Continued from page 3

there were chants of “Genocide Joe has got to go.” One speaker, Khaled Turanni, an American-Palestinian activist, said that, unless Biden reverses course, Arab voters and others opposed to Israel’s occupation of Palestine will “swing Michigan,” and that “We have options.” Some city councilmembers have also lashed out at Biden, calling him “sleepy Joe” – a slur that Trump uses to describe Biden. Councilmember Khalil Refai told The Review that “We haven't decided what we will do for the presidential election. Who knows, maybe the community will decide to just vote for everything else, and skip the president section. Until now, the community leaders haven’t decided yet. Until that time comes, we will decide.” In an act of solidarity with the people of Palestine, the Hamtramck City Council recently voted to rename the Hamtramck portion of Holbrook as “Palestine Avenue.” The renaming is only an honorific gesture, and the street’s name will officially remain “Holbrook Avenue.”



Continued from page 4

block of Sobieski.


- A Detroit resident was arrested, in the area of Hanley and Conant, for possessing a stolen Moped.

Thursday, Dec. 28

- An incident of fraud was reported in the 12100 block of Conant.
- Gunshots were reported in the 11600 block of Mitchell.
- A vehicle was reported stolen in the 11700 block of Moran.
- Customer trouble was reported at a business in the 3200 block of Caniff.
- An accidental shooting was reported in the 3800 block of Belmont.

Obituaries

MONTGOMERY

 Jerry Montgomery, 59, of Hamtramck, MI passed away on Sunday, December 24, 2023. Jerry was born October 7, 1964 in Detroit, Michigan to Gerald L. Davis & Charlene L. Montgomery. He graduated from Washington Career Center in 1983. He learned the skill of automotive maintenance and had an appreciation of Cadillac vehicles. He also enjoyed taking drives in his car. Jerry is survived by his mother Charlene Montgomery and sisters Charlene Kelly, Nora Montgomery, Diana (Mark) Coe, Monica (Billy) Jackson, Denise (Tadario) Henton and Charnita Montgomery. He also leaves behind an aunt, cousins, nieces and nephews, and a close family friend David Clarkston. Gerald L Davis his father preceded Jerry in death.

CONCERNED WOMEN OF HAMTRAMCK AND HAMTRAMCK PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT PRESENTS

REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.


26th ANNUAL PRAYER BREAKFAST

Monday, January 15, 2024

9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Hamtramck Community Center

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Moose Member Reunion Dinner

Friday, January 19 4-8pm

City Chicken Dinner \$15
Mashed potato and gravy, vegetable and soup

RSVP by January 12, 2024
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Blood Sausage/Kiszka	Smoked Kielbasa (5 Types)	Fresh Polish Kielbasa/
Smoked Bacon/Boczek	Crepes/Nalesniki	Biala Kielbasa

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Hamtramck 2024 Inaugural Ceremony

Sunday, January 7, 2024 at 2 pm

1:00 pm - Registration, refreshments and social hour
2:00 pm - Oath of Office Ceremony
3:00 pm - Photo Opportunities, refreshments and light snacks

At Hamtramck Public Library

As the church bells ring proclaiming the birth of Christ we at

Our Lady Queen of Apostles Parish

wish you a Merry Christmas and for the coming New Year - health, happiness and prosperity.

Christmas Season 2023
3851 Prescott, Hamtramck, MI 48212
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Sunday, December 24 Christmas Eve Vigil
Family Mass.....4pm (English)
Solemn Midnight Mass12:00 am (Polish & English)
(Preceded by the singing of Christmas Carols (koledy) at 11:30pm)

Monday, December 25 Christmas Day
Mass in Polish & English9:30am

Monday, January 1, 2024New Year's Day
No Masses, Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
(Not a Holy Day of obligation this year)


Sunday, January 6, 2024 Epiphany of the Lord
Mass 8:00am (English) and 9:30am (Polish)
Blessed chalk and incense available



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Email or call the Parish at
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City Hall Insider ...

What is our City Council up to these days?
We have the highlights of the latest council meeting.

By Charles Sercombe

The city council met on Nov. 28, and all councilmembers, except for Mohammed Hassan, were in attendance.

Karolynn Faulkner, the city's Director of Community and Economic Development, gave an overview of a state program that communities can join to help speed up development issues and which will offer grants.

The program is called Redevelopment Ready Program and, so far, a handful of communities have complied with the requirements, for example Ferndale and Novi.

Faulkner said the city has to follow six "Best Practices," which include the areas of:

- Planning and engagement
- Zoning
- Development review
- Boards and commissions
- Economic development
- Priority redevelopment sites.

Faulkner said the city is about 75 percent in compliance so far.

During public comment, Bill Meyer complimented City Manager Max Garbarino for doing a good job.

"He's a person who can work with everybody," Meyer said.

Nasr Hussain said the city's development process takes too long, and requires constant changes to projects.

He said it's better to just have the city hall staff OK development proposals instead of waiting for the Plan Commission to schedule a meeting.

Hussain also complained that the city's Downtown Development Authority needs to clean up Jos. Campau.

Moving on, the council agreed to temporary street closures for the Feb. 10 Paczki Run.

After some discussion, the council OK'd the purchase of a lot at 2963 Council. That area is being developed as the future home of the city's Public Works Department.

The city is paying \$50,000 for the lot.

The council had discussed waiting until two more adjoining lots could be purchased, but decided to go ahead with this purchase separately.

Police Chief Anne Moise was asked to provide information about a shooting that took place on Caniff. Almost 30 shots were fired in the incident, but no one was injured.

Moise said that the incident is still being investigated, so there was not much she could disclose.

She stressed that, had the council previously OK'd the purchase of license plate reading cameras, investigators would have been better able to identify a car that was involved in the shooting.

Regarding crime in general, Moise said she believes the city is safe.

The chief urged residents to call the department when they see suspicious things, or have information about a crime.

Councilmember Khalil Refai said the city needs to install more stop signs because there are too many drivers who speed.

He provided a list of locations where stop signs should be placed.

SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESS

Coming Events

SATURDAY, Jan. 13, 2-4 p.m. – Take-out only Soup Kitchen at Holy Cross P.N.C. Church, 2311 Pulaski at Fleming. Everyone is welcome!

WAYNE COUNTY TREASURER'S OFFICE

Eric R. Sabree - Wayne County Treasurer



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