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Quick Hits

Snowfest is postponed because of freeze

By Charles Sercombe

Well, get this.

The Hamtramck Recreation Department has canceled its annual "Snowfest" this Saturday, Jan. 24.

Why, you ask?

Ironically, because an act of winter has happened. We jest because yes, it is winter, but this Saturday the temperature will go down to about 9 degrees, which makes it unsafe to go out and about.

The event is rescheduled for, apparently, a less wintry date of Saturday, Feb. 28.

Moving on in our wintery tale, two weeks from now, on Jan. 31, the Hamtramck Historical Museum will begin their once-a-month free tours. The best part is, no pre-registration is necessary.

The Jan. 31 tour goes from 1-2 p.m. Just show up, and be prepared to be bathed in local history.

The tours will follow on the last Saturday of each month, at that same time of 1-2 p.m.

The museum is located at 9525 Jos. Campau Ave., between Norwalk and Poland on the west side of the street.

Get out there, folks, and explore the city – just bundle up.



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January 23, 2026

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The Review

Hamtramck

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Court puts a halt to state grant payouts

By Charles Sercombe

For a moment, it looked like Hamtramck would be off the hook for funding a new fire truck and other items amounting to about \$5 million.

But the Republican-led state legislature canceled \$645 million worth of community projects that, in many cities, were already underway.

That decision was halted by state Attorney General Dana Nessel.

So, Hamtramck was able to breathe easy again.

That is, until state Republicans went to court and successfully sought a reversal. A Michigan Court judge did just that, and ordered a halt to making good on paying those millions of dollars.

According to media reports, Republicans may very likely get their wish.

At stake for Hamtramck are the following projects:

- \$2 million for a new DPW building
- \$2 million for the parking lots/road in Veterans Park for the Historical stadium project
- \$800,000 for a new fire truck

The Veterans Park project and the fire truck construction are each already underway.

At this point, Hamtramck has already received a portion of the promised grants.

Recently, Michigan Court of Claims Judge Michael Gadola sided with state Republicans, but ruled that past payments will not be affected. The matter, however, remains unresolved.

Interim City Manager Alex Lagrou said that, at this point, "We have to wait and see where it goes. ... We need that money more than anything. We were relying on it."

Lagrou said he's concerned that, in the future, this could impact low-income communities like Hamtramck.

"It's going to hurt these communities," he said.

A financial bonanza was realized, in Hamtramck, when it came to federal and state grants for the city. In total, the city received \$22 million from those multiple grants.

To put that in perspective, the city's entire yearly budget is usually around \$22 million.

Going forward, Lagrou said the city has to be more aggressive in seeking grants.

Continued on page 2



— HAMTRAMCK'S NEWSPAPER OF RECORD —

TOAST of the TOWN

Celebrating a mover and shaker and honoring MLK

By Charles Sercombe

Winter's icy, bitter cold couldn't keep Hamtramck home this past Sunday and Monday.

On Sunday, Toast bundled up and braved Hamtramck's slippery sidewalks and alleys to very carefully walk over to the Hamtramck Historical Museum.

That's where, oh, about 100 or more people jammed inside to honor museum director Greg Kowalski.

Greg, who is in his 70s and in failing health, is credited with spearheading the establishment of the museum, and for the past 25 years has been the chairman of the Hamtramck Historical Commission.

Greg is a longtime journalist, now retired, who has also written about a dozen books on the colorful history of Hamtramck. To say that there are many tales to be told about this historic town is an understatement.

Toast even gets a brief mention in Greg's book about the city's bars. Thanks for the infamy!

The gathering was an outpouring of love for Greg, and it was also to present him with a replica of an honorific street sign in his name that is just like the one the city installed on the street where he lives, Wyandotte Street.

On a personal note, Toast owes an immense amount of gratitude to Greg for showing a cub reporter the ropes, and how to navigate Hamtramck's tricky political and cultural scenes. Those were life lessons, indeed.

Thank you, Greg, for your generosity – and for your encouraging advice when the going got tough.

As you can guess, Greg

is phasing out of the museum – given his declining health – but, of course, there is no rush.

The praise was overflowing Sunday afternoon. Former City Councilmember Phill Kwik credited Greg with kickstarting a passion for Hamtramck's history, and the need to preserve all sorts of artifacts.

"It is that hard work, dedication, and love of Hamtramck that ultimately led to this beautiful museum that we gather in today. This was exactly what the council of 1998 envisioned when we created the Hamtramck Historical Commission," Kwik said.

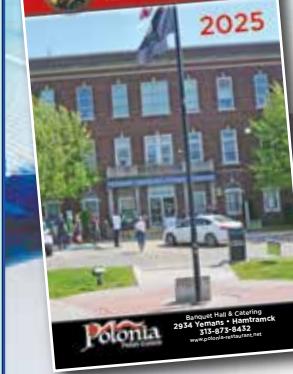
Event organizer Lynn Blasey said that Greg has helped many folks realize their connections to the community. In asking folks to recount their interactions with him, she said, "a recurring theme was that, for the first time, Greg helped them understand and frame the context of their own family's place in this city's history. Greg helped us feel we belong here."

Blasey continued: "Greg's work touched people across generations and cultures. You haven't just documented Hamtramck's history; you helped build its future."

Greg was also honored by the city council, which passed a resolution of thanks, saying:

"Through his many published books, public talks, and community engagement efforts, Mr. Kowalski has brought Hamtramck's story to audiences throughout Michigan and beyond, ensuring that the city's proud legacy of diversity, resilience, and hard work continues to inspire futu-

Continued on page 2



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Continued on page 2



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03

10

26

Auction End Date: 04/01/26



Full list of available properties, bidding requirements, & application will be posted in late February @ <https://hamtramckcity.gov/community/property-for-sale/>

This week at the Library . . .

January 23, 2026

Questions about Medicare:

Wednesday, January 28, at 12 noon, you will be able to get helpful information about Medicare coverage. A representative from Priority Health will explain your options and provide information about various plans that fit your requirements and budget.

Thomas Paine: This common Sense author was born on January 29, 1737 in Thetford, England. His pamphlet, published in 1776, provided inspiration to undecided Americans that a new nation, independent from Britain, might eventually become "... An asylum for mankind!". He served in the Continental Army and observed the hardships of American troops fighting the world's most powerful army. He then published "The Crisis" series pamphlets which began by stating, "These are the times that try men's souls." He refused to accept the profits from his writings and wound up destitute after the Revolution.

Story Time: These programs conducted by the library staff are scheduled for Wednesdays afternoon at 4:00 pm. All children are invited.

Andrew Jackson: This president survived the first assassination attempt on January 30, 1835. While leaving the House of Representatives Chamber, an insane would be assassin fired two pistol shots, however both pistols misfired and president was unharmed.

Phil Hale Jazz Concert: This popular jazz group will play a concert at

the library on Friday, February 27, 2026. Everyone is invited, free to the Public.

Exercise at the Library: The RIM Foundation was begun exercise classes again this fall. On Tuesdays, its back to Yoga at 2:30 pm. and on Fridays, it is Tai Chi at 10:00 am. To register for the program, stop by the library circulation desk.

Preservation of Jazz: Continuing into the autumn and winter season, the Jazz Masterclass program will take place on Thursday evenings from 5 to 7 pm. Participants will cultivate a deeper understanding of this elegant artform through guided discussions, curated listening experiences, documentary screenings, and more. For more information about the program, call Sky Covington (248) 383-3385..

ESL Classes: These classes are held Monday to Thursday at 9 am and 12 noon. To participate, you must register with the Horizon School.

OverDrive: What more can your library card get you? How about OverDrive's enormous collection of digital materials. Whether searching overdrive.com or using their Libby Ap, you will have quite the selection of ebooks, online periodicals and audio books to pick from. Plus, Kanopy, with its smorgasbord of foreign and classic films, documentaries, and educational series, is now under the OverDrive umbrella. Find links to both of these media repositories on our website www.hamtramck.lib.mi.us.

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

Celebrating a mover and shaker and honoring MLK

Continued from front page

re generations."

Greg, in a hushed tone, got the last word in.

"I cannot express to you how that touched me, and how much that affected me," he said. "I mean, it's just overwhelming to have such an honor."

Greg said he never looked at his involvement in the museum, and the effort to make it grow, as work.

"Not one minute of it was all work," he said. "Every minute of it was a joy doing it. I love doing this for the museum. It's part of my life. It has been ever since we started it. And I love all of you for coming here, and especially those who are involved in this process."

The applause was

deafening. And in a way, sad – sad that an important part of Hamtramck's history is fading away. Life is unfair. The legacy, however, will live on.

Thank you, Greg. Hamtramck will be forever indebted to you and your dedication; to making us all realize just how very important Hamtramck has been, through the decades, to us all.

Take a moment. A deep breath. Time and history move on. Maybe too quick.

On Monday, Toast headed over to the Hamtramck High School Community Center for the annual celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

This was the 28th year that the Concerned Women of Hamtramck hosted the civil rights program.

This year's theme was "Faith, Courage, and the Dream."

About 200, or so, people braved the bone-chilling cold and were treated, as usual, to a hearty breakfast, followed by a talent show featuring public schools students.

This year, the talent mostly zeroed in on dance and poetry. One student sang English singer-songwriter Kate Bush's "Running Up That Hill" a cappella, which is pretty gutsy. And, as for the choice of song,

shows pretty sophisticated taste.

Toast left the meeting thinking about the nature and state of the country, and this MLK quote came to mind – given these politically troubled times:

"In the end, we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends."

When it comes to good food and great times, Hamtramck has plenty to offer. In this column, we'll talk about what's happening at our bars, restaurants and at other events throughout the city.

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Court puts a halt to state grant payouts

Continued from front page

"You just have to know how to do it," he said. that its yearly budget was dealt a \$1 billion setback

Finding and getting grants may prove more challenging this year.

The state recently said

in projected income – meaning there will be less money to share with local communities.

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How to Register

There is no online registration at this time. Please choose one of the following options:



Pick up a registration form in the lobby and return it to the lobby window.



Email your request to: MDHHS-FH-Wayne@michigan.gov.

Include:

- Include your name
- Phone number
- Preferred appointment time

Important Information

- Appointments are limited!
- They are scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis.
- You will receive confirmation once your appointment is scheduled.



FREE PUBLIC TOUR

OF THE HAMTRAMCK HISTORICAL MUSEUM

The Hamtramck Historical Museum is now offering free public tours of the museum the last Saturday of EVERY month.

No need to preregister.

01|31|2026

1:00pm to 2:00 p.m.



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Review: Opinion Page

In Our Opinion

Hamtramck has no need to honor foreign politicians

It's a new political era, but what we saw at the last city council meeting left us wondering if this young council is already in a state of dysfunction.

Specifically, veteran Councilmember Mohammed Hassan was out of order – and out of control.

And it was all over something that Hassan has, of late, been weirdly fixated on: giving streets the honorary

names of some obscure and controversial Bangladeshi politicians – including one who has been characterized as a murderous dictator.

What in the world do these politicians have to do with Hamtramck anyway, besides being from Bangladesh?

Mayor Adam Alharbi was right to call a halt to naming any more streets in honor of public figures who have little to no connection to

Hamtramck – let alone, politicians who were murderous dictators.

Stop this nonsense.

Hamtramck already has enough streets with honorific names. Given the many issues facing Hamtramck, why is any councilmember so focused on such irrelevant issues?

If they can't focus on Hamtramck, why are they even on city council at all?

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 Jan. 6, and all council-members were in attendance.

This was the yearly organizational meeting, held at the beginning of the year to approve the meeting schedule for the next 12 months, and to appoint a councilmember as mayor pro tem.

Up first was public comment.

Former mayor Amer Ghalib spoke, and he congratulated the newly elected mayor and

councilmembers.

He also said that "It was an honor to serve as the mayor of the City of Hamtramck. It was a difficult journey. It wasn't easy to be the first, you know, as the media keeps saying, the first Muslim mayor for the city.

"It was not easy. Identity politics was always brought to every decision we take, and I'm sure you will face some of the difficulties as well. As elected officials, you will never be able to please everybody. That's hard. So do your

best, be who you are, and the way to success is do the right thing to prioritize the interest of the people, and to be who you are and stick to your values.

"I think that's the road to success as an elected official. There would be people who wish you failure, and it doesn't make them look successful even if their wishes come true, but that's how they are. They will try to undermine your confidence as an elected official. ... You will be under attack

Continued on page 5

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Odds & Ends

Sinkhole update ...

A number of people are complaining about a sinkhole that appeared on Conant, at Jacob, that has lingered for a couple months and counting.

Obviously, folks are asking when this inconvenience will be taken care of. Unfortunately, there is a complication in the matter: the road is owned and maintained by Wayne County, which means Hamtramck is at the mercy of county officials to repair it.

You'd think that would still be easy to arrange. Unfortunately, the sinkhole is the result of a broken water line, and repairs are therefore more complicated.

Mayor Adam Alharbi recently gave this update on his Facebook page:

"We are meeting with Wayne County this Tuesday to ensure this is repaired as quickly as possible and that the county takes full responsibility for the costs."

And, for those complaining about the city's ability to clear our streets of snow, Alharbi has this to say:

"Our DPW team has been doing a great job keeping the roads clear. According to City Manager Alex Lagrou, the streets are typically cleared twice per day, though the frequency increases depending on the amount of snowfall, and crews are salting the roads with every pass."

"While our labor force is naturally smaller over the weekend, a full crew will be out tomorrow (Monday, Jan. 19) to ensure the city is fully cleared and salted. Thank you for your patience as we work to keep our city safe and functional!"

County health agency ... The Detroit Wayne Integrated Health Network (DWIHN) will be showcasing a special television show about mental health recovery.

Here's what the agency has to say:

"This Sunday on Ask the Messengers, we present 'Voices of Hope' – a special episode in our DWIHN Partnership Series, featuring recovery stories shared throughout the show.

"This episode centers on real voices, lived

experiences, and the power of hope through recovery. Each segment reflects the importance of support, connection, and access to care – reminding us that recovery is possible and no one has to walk this journey alone.

"Through the DWIHN Partnership Series, Ask the Messengers continues to uplift stories that educate, encourage, and inspire individuals and families impacted by substance use and mental health challenges.

"Watch Sunday at 8 a.m. on WMYD TV20 Detroit, or stream anytime on YouTube and Facebook – where Detroit's stories come to life."

"Ask The Messengers" is a nonprofit. Your support helps us share more stories of recovery and hope. Give today: www.askthemessengers.org. If you (or someone you know) is struggling, call the Detroit Wayne Integrated Health Network 24/7 Crisis Helpline: (800) 241-4949.

On ICE ... State Senator Stephanie Chang (D-Detroit), whose district includes Hamtramck, has teamed up with two other state senators to offer legislation to protect the safety of Michiganders, immigrant and non-immigrant alike, from the dangerous immigration enforcement tactics used by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and U.S. Customs and Border Patrol (CBP).

"Everyone, regardless of immigration status, deserves to feel safe and welcome in their own homes, dropping their kids off at school, at courthouses, and getting help as a victim of a crime," said Sen. Chang

in a press release.

"We must do better to protect the safety and rights of every Michigander. No one deserves to have their privacy rights violated or to be ripped away from their family because of out-of-control ICE and CBP tactics.

"More and more Americans and Michiganders are calling on leaders to put a stop to these actions as soon as possible and I will continue to make this commonsense legislation a top priority in 2026."

Senate Bills 508-510 and Senate Resolution 86 would:

- Ensure the safety and dignity of Michigan residents by designating schools, places of worship, hospitals, courthouses, and organizations providing services to pregnant women, victims of crime, or disabled individuals as protected spaces from immigration enforcement, unless there is imminent public danger or a judicial warrant;

- Protect the privacy of personal information by prohibiting government entities from giving personal identifying information to others for the purposes of immigration enforcement without a judicial warrant;

- Prevent law enforcement officers from wearing masks to conceal their identities unless they are conducting an undercover operation or (during) other permittable instances;

- Urge Congress to pass legislation at the federal level regarding the wearing of face-covering masks by ICE agents, and to protect sensitive locations (from ICE intrusion).

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Deadline for classifieds for next week is Thursday at Noon
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2/13

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

What's on this coming week?

Greg Kowalski street naming ceremony in Museum, Street Naming Controversy at Jan. 13 Council Meeting Inauguration Ceremonies for 2026 held in the Library Final City Council meeting of the year 2025, Holiday music on Fridays in December at the library Interview with Mayor about past 4 years and the future and more

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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, or Live

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 upload video files go to (bit.ly/hamtramcktv)

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January 23, 2026

By Charles Sercombe

This week's Crime Log covered Jan. 13-19.

Tuesday, Jan. 13

An auto accident, involving a pedestrian, was reported on Caniff.

A suspicious incident was reported on Yemans.

A hit-and-run accident was reported at Caniff and Ellery. Officers located the driver, who was then ticketed.

A fight was reported in the 2600 block of Florian.

A complaint was made about an animal in the 12000 block of Selfridge.

Wednesday, Jan. 14

A vehicle was reported stolen in the 2200 block of Denton.

A complaint was made about an animal at Lumpkin and Casmere.

A loose dog was reported on Dequindre.

A hit-and-run accident was reported on Jos. Campau. A hit-and-run accident was also reported on Commor.

Family trouble was reported in the 2600 block of Trowbridge.

A theft from a vehicle was reported in the 3800 block of Evaline.

Family trouble was reported in the 3800 block of Norwalk.

A business in the 3300 block of Holbrook reported having an issue with a customer.

A hit-and-run accident was reported in the 2000 block of Caniff.

Thursday, Jan. 15

An assault was reported in the 5000 block of Yemans. Officers took a person to a crisis center.

A loose dog was reported on Jos. Campau.

Officers assisted motorists on Dequindre near Yemans.

A business in the 9000 block of Jos. Campau reported an incident of fraud.

A theft was reported in the 9000 block of Jos. Campau.

A loose dog was captured on Evaline and taken to the Michigan Humane Society.

A hit-and-run accident was reported in the 2600 block of Belmont.

Friday, Jan. 16

Officers assisted the fire department in the 2400 block of Zinow.

A hit-and-run accident was reported at Caniff

Board of Education

The Hamtramck Schools Board of Education started off the new year as it usually does: selecting who will be the officers.

Once again, the Board's president is Abdulmalik Alghaibah.

The following officers were appointed:

and Nagel.

A complaint was made about a juvenile in the 11800 block of Dequindre.

Officers, responding to a call about a domestic assault in the 3900 block of Edwin, arrested a female suspect.

A disorderly female was reported in the 10300 block of Conant.

Saturday, Jan. 17

A business in the 11600 block of Jos. Campau reported trouble with a customer.

An incident of retail fraud was reported in the 2300 block of Commor.

A stolen vehicle was recovered in the 12000 block of Selfridge.

A domestic assault was reported in the 12000 block of Dyar.

A break-in was reported in the 2200 block of Florian.

Officers, responding to a call about family trouble in the 12000 block of Dyar, arrested a male suspect.

Sunday, Jan. 18

A complaint was made about unwanted people at a residence in the 2200 block of Danforth.

At 2:30 a.m., a man and a woman were seen checking out vehicles in the Jos. Campau alley at Evaline.

A complaint was made about a vehicle blocking a driveway in the 3200 block of Hanley.

A complaint was made about an animal in the 8700 block of Jos. Campau.

A business in the 11800 block of Dequindre reported trouble with a customer.

A complaint was made about an animal in the 2600 block of Commor.

Monday, Jan. 19

Property damage was reported on Caniff, and also on Jos. Campau.

A loose dog was captured on Evaline and taken to the Michigan Humane Society.

A hit-and-run accident was reported in the 2600 block of Belmont.

School Bell

Moortadha Obaid, Vice-President

Linda Wolyniec, Secretary

Mohamed Alghaibah, Treasurer

Victor Farris, Trustee

Daz'Shavon Hall Trustee

Regan Watson, Trustee

Coming Events

SATURDAY, Feb. 7, 2-4 p.m. – Take-out only Soup Kitchen at Holy Cross P.N.C. Church, 2311 Pulaski at Fleming. Everyone is welcome! (Please come in person to pick up your meal.) Note that Soup Kitchen is a week earlier this month only.

City Hall Insider ...

Continued from page 3

by the media for no reason. That's OK. Don't be distracted. Focus on your goals. Do the right thing.

"Put the interest of the people first and you will succeed. I think we have come a long way from 2021."

Ghalib added that, when he came to office, the city had a budget deficit, but it was then turned around into a surplus— thanks, in large part, to an increase in income tax collection.

Ibrahim Aljahim said the mayor and council "have to work together – especially the next few years. It's going to be hard for everyone, as you guys can see what's going on in the world and the state."

Aljahim also complained about a sinkhole that erupted on Conant and Jacob a few months ago. The sinkhole has not yet been repaired. He said it has prevented anyone from going down Jacob.

"Yes, it's a county road, but (did) you guys contact... Wayne County?" Aljahim said. "Are you guys going to do something about it?"

Bill Meyer talked about the motives of some who seek elective office in Hamtramck.

"I hope these people who run for office didn't do it for self-interest or status or for pay, but to serve the people of Ham-

tramck," he said.

Meyer continued on qualifications to hold office. "First of all, they have to know how to run a meeting," he said. "You have to know the rules of Robert's Rules (of Order). You have to know council rules. You have to know the city charter. ... Secondly, you have to be able to communicate well in English to people who don't know any other language. ..."

He accused the council of having already "broken many" of the rules in Robert's Rules of Order.

Meyer said that those chairing council meetings must not "dislike the audience, or bang the gavel or anything like that. You have to be a leader – someone who wants to bring people together."

Shaker Sadeak urged the council to appoint Councilmember Mohammed Hassan as mayor pro tem.

"He would be an excellent choice for this position," he said.

Madelyn Porter invited the mayor and council to the annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Day celebration at the Hamtramck High School Community Center.

She also said she "senses" political strife among the council.

"We don't need to see that," she said. "I want to see Hamtramck grow into

a world-class city."

A lengthy discussion then followed over who would be voted mayor pro tem. Councilmember Hassan was initially voted into the position, but then other councilmembers were offered a chance to be appointed despite Hassan already being voted into the position.

That led to heated discussions and confusion over who was being considered for the position, and who was actually the mayor pro tem.

Hassan then threatened a lawsuit if someone else was appointed to the position.

Another round of votes was held for Hassan, who eventually did become mayor pro tem.

Moving on, Mayor Adam Alharbi said that, as the city's new mayor, "I look forward to moving our city forward, and to addressing the concerns of our residents – making sure that the residents' concerns are my number one priority."

Alharbi said the city has "been in the news too long for negative things. It's time to move on to a positive image for the City of Hamtramck and improve the lives of its residents."

Councilmember Nayeem Choudhury echoed that sentiment, saying: "We can make this city like Birmingham. We can make this city better than you can imagine."

Councilmember Abu Musa said he's in office

to "serve the community with the dignity and respect, and I'm really humble and honored to work with the man of the community (sic)."

Musa also credited former mayor Ghalib for raising Hamtramck's national profile.

"Because of you, Hamtramck is known by the White House," he said. "Because of you, Hamtramck is known by the president and all the higher officials. You are really, really our hero."

Councilmember Hassan then motioned to suspend the council's rules and add another item to the agenda for consideration. He proposed giving Carpenter, from Jos. Campau to Conant, the honorific street name of a former prime minister of Bangladesh.

Councilmember Musa accused Hassan of proposing this "for political gain and personal interest."

Mayor Alharbi reminded the council that the meeting was called solely for organizational purposes, and that councilmembers can't keep adding items onto the agenda.

Councilmember Mohammed Alsomiri said that, if council keeps adopting honorific street names for various individuals, the city will run out of streets to receive any more honorific names.

He said honorific street names should be reserved only for people "who live inside the city."

Councilmember Yousef Saed said there are people "who sacrificed all over the world." He said the council should focus on Hamtramck.

The council eventually agreed to give that portion of Carpenter the honorific name of former Bangladesh Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia,

who was the first female to hold that position.

Councilmember Hassan then proposed adding another item to the agenda, this time to give Miller St. the honorific name of a local community activist.

After a discussion, Hassan agreed to withdraw his motion.

During the second round of public comment, former mayor Ghalib again spoke, saying: "It was an honor to work with you for the past four years. Just like everybody else, we worked as a good team. We never had any problems with anyone, never had any fights, like in the past."

"They used to punch each other here. I used to see council meetings and I used to hear some people using the 'F' word here. That didn't happen during our leadership. We disagreed about so many things but we never took it personally. We prioritized the interest of the people."

Ghalib continued: "I will never... ask the state to defund Hamtramck so you can fail, like the former mayor did. I'm sorry to mention that but was a big thing for me. I mean, to wish failure for your opponent is not going to make you look successful."

Ghalib said he is still

waiting to hear back from President Trump's administration about a job.

"It looks like I will take a position – a big position," he said. "But I will be back and forth so that's a good thing, to stay in touch with the community, to support the community in any capacity."

Madelyn Porter spoke again, saying "I don't want to see Hamtramck City Council run as a dictatorship. ... That's not what this country is all about."

Porter said that, instead of designating honorific street names, the council needs to "concentrate on other issues – infrastructure, schools, books and arts and culture."

Bill Meyer also spoke again, saying that "This meeting was chaos. This was an embarrassment to the rest of the country. I'm afraid the way you held yourselves during that mayor pro tem debate was horrible. It showed easily that none of you know Robert's Rules."

Meyer continued: "You have to stop these surprise items on agendas, resolutions on a council meeting. This all has to be public – so the public knows ahead of time what you're going to put on a meetings; and these last-minute resolutions, it looks self-serving."

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ADVERTORIAL

Detroit Based Tech Firms Mark Dual Milestone with Healthcare Innovation and Downtown Expansion

Detroit, MI — SoftFlames Ventures LLC closed the year with two significant milestones that underscore its growing influence in healthcare technology and its long term commitment to Michigan's innovation ecosystem. The company formally signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Medicure Innovations LLC to design and develop next generation healthcare technology solutions, while simultaneously opening its new office at the iconic GM Renaissance Center in Downtown Detroit.

Under the leadership of Nowshad Ahmed, CEO of SoftFlames Ventures LLC, the company has positioned itself as a mission-driven technology organization focused on building scalable, ethical, and high-impact digital platforms.

Arafat Chowdhury, CEO of Medicure Innovations LLC, described the collaboration as a defining step in transforming a long held vision into reality.

A central contributor to the initiative is Md Junaeid Alam, a senior technology leader at SoftFlames Ven-

tures, whose work spans healthcare system architecture, full stack development, cloud deployment, and secure API driven platforms. Alam has played a key role in translating healthcare and regulatory requirements into scalable, compliant technology frameworks with potential for broader national adoption.

"This work goes beyond a single engagement," Alam noted. "Our focus is on building healthcare technology foundations that can support efficiency, accessibility, and quality of care at scale. I am proud to be part of a journey that aligns advanced engineering with public benefit."

The opening of SoftFlames Ventures' new office at the GM Renaissance Center fur-



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Sudoku

The rules to play Sudoku are quite simple. Fill in the blanks so that each row, each column, and each of the nine 3x3 grids contain one instance of each of the numbers 1 through 9.

			1	6				
4	1	7	3					
		9			7			
5	2		3	8				
	8	4	6					
1	3		8	9		6		
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	9		2					
9	3			4				

2			5					
7				5	3			
9		6	1					
	4			8				
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4	7	8	1	3	5			

9	2	3	1	6	5	7	4	8
8	1	7	9	3	4	2	6	5
8	4	5	8	2	7	9	3	1
6	5	9	8	4	1	2	3	7
1	3	4	2	5	6	1	2	3
7	9	8	7	5	2	9	6	4
5	6	2	7	1	3	8	9	4
5	6	3	5	7	9	1	4	1
3	7	9	5	4	1	6	8	3

9	6	3	2	4	8	5	7	1
5	7	2	4	3	8	6	9	1
5	9	1	2	4	3	8	7	6
4	7	2	8	5	2	8	3	7
9	1	4	6	5	2	8	6	9
3	5	9	4	1	5	2	7	6
1	3	4	2	5	6	1	2	3
7	9	8	7	5	2	9	6	4
5	6	2	7	1	3	8	9	4

From the Office of Wayne County Treasurer
Eric R. Sabree



PROBATE ASSISTANCE

If you are facing foreclosure and need assistance in starting a Wayne County Probate Court Case because a property is in the name of a deceased family member, please contact one of the following community partners for assistance:

Michigan Legal Services: 313-774-1527 | 313-725-4890

United Community Housing Coalition: 313-405-7726

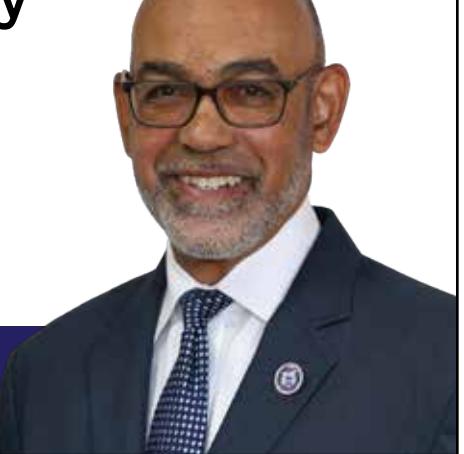
Legal Aid & Defender: 313-967-5800

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