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Quick Hits

Mayor kicks former mayor off DDA

By Charles Sercombe

The bad blood between former Mayor Karen Majewski and current Mayor Amer Ghalib continues to boil.

In the latest development, at last night's city council meeting, Ghalib asked for the council to fire Majewski from her position on the city's Downtown Development Authority.

Ghalib appointed her to the DDA Board of Directors when he took office in 2022, but since then their relationship has increasingly become strained as Majewski criticized a number of decisions he and the city council have made during the past several months.

Of particular concern – and maybe the breaking point – for Majewski was the mayor's and council's decision to ban the display of pride flags on city property – namely city flagpoles.

When the city council was about to consider a resolution to prohibit pride flags in the name of remaining "neutral" in the issue, Majewski posted on her Facebook page this comment:

"I hope our governor's new LGBTQ Task Force will take a look at this, and take it into consideration as the State of Michigan makes decisions about grants and other funding."

Below that comment was a copy of the council's resolution to ban the display of pride flags, as well

Continued on page 6

— HAMTRAMCK'S NEWSPAPER OF RECORD —

Street repaving continues to roll on for this year and next

By Charles Sercombe

As residents on Caniff, between Conant and Buffalo, already know, the street is now open for traffic.

After a whole summer of tearing out the old pavement and installing new water lines, this portion of Caniff sports a pristine white concrete.

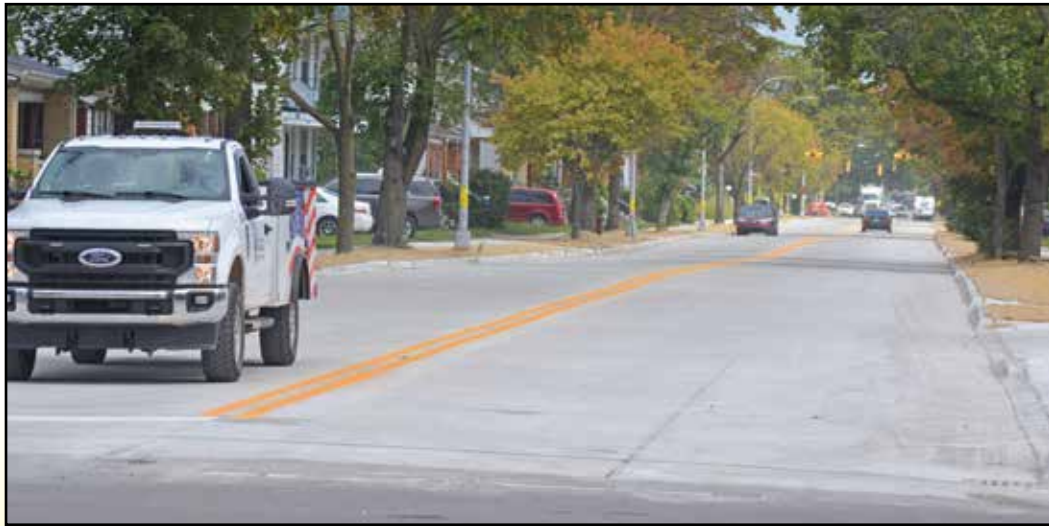
Enjoy that new street smell while it lasts, folks.

There was one false start to the re-opening. A couple of weeks before work on the street was completed, some residents took matters into their own hands and removed barricades so they could drive on it, and in some cases park on the street.

Those cars were promptly ticketed.

The repaving project, estimated to cost a little over \$1 million, is part of a three-prong approach where the street will eventually be entirely repaved.

The work began a few years ago with repaving Caniff from the I-75 service drive up to Jos. Campau.



Caniff, from Conant to Buffalo, is now reopened to traffic and parking, much to the relief of residents. The street had been closed for the past several months so it could be torn out and paved with concrete. Next year, the last stage of repaving Caniff, from Jos. Campau to Conant, will start.

pau.

And then this year, from Conant to Buffalo.

Guess what's coming next year?

Yes, the portion of Caniff from Jos. Campau to Conant. Oh, won't that be fun for residents and businesses along this busy strip?

Conant repaving is just one part of other street and alley repavings happening right now.

The following streets are now being milled and

getting ready for repaving:

- Fleming from Caniff to Casmere
- Lumpkin from Carpenter to Commor
- Yemans from Joseph Campau to Gallagher
- Evaline from Joseph Campau to Gallagher
- Yemans from Lumpkin to Dequindre
- Oliver from Conant to City Limits
- Pulaski from Fleming to McKay (to be done in 2024)

As for alleys, the fol-

lowing were repaved this year:

- Alley East of Moran from Commor to Casmere
- Alley East of Joseph Campau from Goodson to Dead End
- Alley West of Joseph Campau from Carpenter to Neibel
- Alley North of Holbrook from Charest to Gallagher
- Alley North of Holbrook from Gallagher to Conant
- Alley East of Conant from Oliver to Dorothy

Continued on page 2

Speak up or wait until later

By Charles Sercombe

If you want to speak to the city council during public comment, you better get there a little early.

The council recently adopted a new rule about the length of time the public can speak at their meetings.

Each speaker is limited to three minutes tops, and the public comment section is now limited to 30 minutes at the beginning of the meeting, and 15 minutes at the end.

That means, if people ahead of you talk all the way to the 30-minute mark and you haven't had a chance to step up to the lectern, you are out of luck until the end of the meeting.

And if there are still people ahead of you who eat up the allotted 15 minute maximum, you'll have to come back to the next meeting.

Council meetings have lately run two or more hours long, and at one meeting, the public comment portion – including the reading of emails and letters – ran for three hours just by itself.

The new rule was proposed by Mayor Pro Tem Mohammed Hassan, who is up for re-election this November.

At the August council meeting, Hassan said that the new policy is needed because some people abuse the right to address the council, and waste the council's time.

"Maybe they don't have a job," Hassan said.

There has been blowback from residents, and even from the ACLU (American Civil Liberties Union).

The group sent the city administration a letter saying that the new policy violates the state's Open Meetings Act in a ruling made in 1978 by then-

Continued on page 5

Hamtramck Historical Museum uncovers a new sign of life

By Greg Kowalski

Special to The Review

A sign of Hamtramck's past came to view in the bright morning sunlight Tuesday (Sept. 5), after decades of obscurity.

As part of the Hamtramck's Historical Museum's continuing renovations, the decrepit metal sign that ran the length of the building above the front door was removed.

No one is sure how long the sign had been in place,

but the years had taken a toll. A coat of paint that had been applied several years ago was crumbling so badly that the city took note and warned the museum that it had to be fixed.

That gave a needed nudge to long-standing plans to renovate the building's facade, and the Aver Sign Co., of Ferndale, was hired to remove the mammoth, 40-foot long sign.

Continued on page 2



Workers remove the old sign from the façade of the Hamtramck Historical Museum.

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Street repaving continues to roll on for this year and next

Continued from front page

•Alley East of Joseph Campau from Dan to Council

After this year, next year promises more, said John DeAngelis, the Director of Public Services.

“Next year, there will be quite a bit more,” he said. It’s all part of \$45 million grant allotted to the city through a federal program that the city has been tapping into.

As the streets are being repaved, speed humps are also being installed to slow down traffic in the neighborhoods, something residents have long complained about.

Street repaving isn’t the only thing happening to

make the street safer. The city recently installed additional stop signs on side-streets throughout the city to slow down traffic.

Those new locations include:

- Gallagher at the intersection of Lehman
- Gallagher at the intersection of Jacob
- Ellery at the intersection of Yemans
- Ellery at the intersection of Belmont
- Ellery at the intersection of Trowbridge
- Mackay at the intersection of Pulaski

All of this is part of an ongoing rebuilding of the city’s Public Works Department that had been prac-

tically eliminated by former emergency financial managers who decided that privatizing services were the way to go to save money.

DeAngelis has been here for nine months, and he said he would bring back full services.

Since he’s been here the city has purchased two street sweeping trucks, and other equipment, and now the department is also performing tree trimming.

Both of those services had been contracted out with varying degrees of success.

DeAngelis said his department is also focusing

on cleaning out catch basins, which has produced the elimination of tons of dirt that had been clogging the waste water lines from street runoffs.

In one instance, workers filled up a dumpster with so much dirt it ended up weighing 50 tons – well above the normal five tons.

DeAngelis said that was one of many reasons why rain water had plugged sewer lines and led to basement flooding.

The cause of that problem involves a number of facets, but this one elimination is “part of a combination of a lot of things that can make a difference,” DeAngelis said.

Hamtramck Historical Museum uncovers a new sign of life

Continued from front page

What it revealed was surprising. The area beneath was in better shape than what had been expected.

“It will be cleaned up and

restored,” said Joe Kochut, chairman of the board of directors of the Friends of Historical Hamtramck, the non-profit organization that owns and operates the museum. “It will look beautiful.”

The building, at 9525 Jos. Campau, had been built in about 1925 as the Wisper & Schwartz Department Store. Over the years, it was transformed into a furniture store, and from 1961 to 1986 it served as the Professional Barber School. Most people likely remember it from that period.

Later, it was a dollar

store, and then was vacant until the Fink and Iden families donated the building to the Friends in 2012. The museum opened in the building to its new purpose on Labor Day weekend, 2013.

The removal of the sign revealed three arches that had once stood over three doorways. The arches have been temporarily covered by tarps, but will be restored and re-exposed.

“This was all made possible by the support we received from people who have donated to the Friends of Historical Hamtramck,” said Tom Cerve-

nak, a museum volunteer who directs construction and repair projects for the museum. He said it is a tribute to all who have supported the city and the museum.

Plans call for the restoration of the second floor windows, and removal of the steel grates on the building’s facade. And new, appropriate signage will be added. To move the project forward, the museum is holding a special fundraiser.

For details, see the museum’s Facebook page, or visit the museum website - www.hamtramckhistory.org.

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Review: Opinion Page

In Our Opinion

City council should clean up its own act

Recently, the city council agreed to limit the time allotted for public comment at council meetings.

The new rule allows for only 30 minutes, total, for the public to have their say at the beginning of the meetings. Before this, there was no time limit.

Critics, including the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), are crying foul because it could disenfranchise members of the public from addressing their concerns.

Whatever you think of this new restriction, this limit is not unheard of in other communities.


While council wants to trim the length of their meetings, a good starting point might be in following their own rule on how long each councilmember can talk about an agenda item.

That rule limits them to a maximum of five minutes each.

Too bad that's never enforced. The real culprit for lengthy council meetings is that councilmembers can't stop yammering on and on about this or that resolution.

It would help if councilmembers actually did research on agenda items and made inquiries before the meeting, instead of wasting the public's time, and the time of the administration.

To each councilmember, we say, police yourself before going about policing others.



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 Aug. 22, and all councilmembers, except for Nayeem Choudhury and Muhith Mahmood, were in attendance.

Youths who participated in a summer employment program with the city made a presentation. They presented an illustration for an anti-littering campaign the city could adopt.

The sign said:
“Be a good neighbor
Don’t litter!”

Moving on, the council removed several items on the agenda and made several additions.

During public comment, the city clerk read a letter submitted by resident Jeff Miller. He took issue with a proposed city ordinance that would make it a misdemeanor for anyone who is guilty of:

“... Minority or ethnic intimidation if that person maliciously, and with specific intent to intimidate or harass another person because of that person's race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, or national origin, does any of the following:

(a) Causes physical contact with another person.

(b) Damages, destroys, or defaces any real or personal property of another person.

(i) This can include the placing of any objects upon the vehicle of another of any kind when done as a means of intimidation or with intent to harass.

(c) Threatens, by word or act, to do an act described in subdivision (a) or (b), if there is reasonable cause to believe that an act described in subdivision (a) or (b) will occur.

(2) Minority or Ethnic intimidation is a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more

than 90 days in jail, or by a fine of not more than \$500.00, or both.

(3) This offense shall be considered a separate offense from other crimes against persons or property under the laws of the City of Hamtramck and may be charged as an additional offense to such offense”

Miller said the resolution is an attempt to appease those in the LGBTQ community over their opposition to the city council banning the flying of pride flags on city-owned property.

Miller also said that the proposed ordinance is redundant since there is already a state law that addresses this issue.

Josh Hansknecht, of the Hamtramck Queer Alliance, also objected to the ordinance, saying it doesn't “adequately address the actual needs of this community.”

Hansknecht said that adding more criminal punishments won't reduce the wave of vandalism of pride flags being flown at residences and businesses.

The council later approved the first step in adopting the ordinance.

Mayor Amer Ghalib said the ordinance is meant to address vandalism of pride flags on private property, and to protect the placing of offensive items on cars and private property.

(Ghalib recently objected on his Facebook page about someone placing an unpeeled pride flag sticker on his car's windshield.)

City Attorney Odey Meroueh said that despite a previous comment made that the ordinance is redundant, this ordinance gives the city “some control.”

The next step in adopting the ordinance is a

public hearing at the city council meeting on Sept. 12.

Continuing on in public comment, Lynn Blasey, who is a candidate for council in the upcoming November election, took issue with a proposal to limit public comment at the beginning of meetings to 30 minutes, and 15 minutes at the end of meetings regardless of who didn't get to speak.

Blasey said this will restrict the public's ability to address issues with the council.

The council later adopted the new policy. Council Mayor Pro Tem Mohammed Hassan said that the new policy is needed because some people abuse the right to address the council and waste the council's time.

“Maybe they don't have a job,” Hassan said.

(Hassan is up for re-election this November.)

Blasey also took issue with the city council eliminating and adding agenda items at the last minute. She said this does not allow the public time to research proposed agenda items and address the council about their input on them.

Bill Meyer said that in order to bridge culturally divisive issues, people on opposing sides must give and take.

Meyer also credited City Clerk Rana Faraj for correctly pronouncing the names of people addressing the council. He said that shows respect.

As for the ethnic intimidation ordinance, Meyer said Muslims are the ones who are mostly targeted.

(Editor's note: According to FBI hate crime statistics, of which the agency recorded over 8,000 in the nation, the people

Continued on page 5

Odds & Ends

Looking for love...

There's an uninvited guest in many homes these days.

And they generally give folks the creeps.

We're talking spiders, and it's male spiders looking for love in all the wrong places – like our homes.

Yes, it's mating season, and the males are on the prowl.

But there's also more going on.

Baby, it's cold outside, and spiders, like humans, seek warm places to snuggle up.

And, houses offer happy hunting grounds, which is one constructive thing spiders contribute to our well-being: eating other creepy-crawlies.

All kidding aside, spiders like every living thing, serve a purpose in life, and at the rate humans are going, they are likely to survive long after we're gone.

In the meantime, if their presence is getting to you, follow these tips to reduce their numbers:

- Vacuum up spiders

and nests when you see them in the corners of your home.

- Tear down cobwebs throughout your house.
- Vacuum your home often, and pay special attention to dark corners, hidden spaces, and anywhere else bugs and spiders can hide.
- Move yard debris, garbage, mulch, and woodpiles away from your home's exterior.
- Seal cracks, crevices, and holes around your home.
- Inspect and repair/replace damaged window screens.

Anyone say banana?...

Summer may be coming to a fast close, but festival season still continues.

Our friends over at St. Hyacinth are holding a Banana Festival on the weekend of Sept. 30-Oct. 1.

There will be the usual Polish dinners, and all sorts of baked banana goods and even banana drinks.

Of course, there will be

beer and more beer.

St. Hyacinth is located at 3151 Farnsworth in Detroit.

9/11 remembrance...

We were remiss last week by not noting that this past Monday marked the 22nd year since that fatal event in 2001.

Some 3,000 people, including hundreds of New York City firefighters and police officers, died on that awful day.

The Pew Research Center, a non-partisan think tank, has this observation of that day and its place in many of our memories:

“The enduring power of the Sept. 11 attacks is clear: An overwhelming share of Americans who are old enough to recall the day remember where they were and what they were doing when they heard the news. Yet an ever-growing number of Americans have no personal memory of that day, either because they were too young or not yet born.”

City gets another infusion of money to plug basement flooding

By Charles Sercombe

Hamtramck is one step closer to solving its ongoing problem of basement flooding.

And it's all about the city's sewer system.

Hamtramck was recently awarded \$9.3 million to help address the issue, as part of a federal FEMA program called Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC).

In total, the BRIC program is awarding \$1.8 billion in infrastructure repairs across the nation.

Hamtramck is located in a flood-prone area of Detroit, and when heavy rains fall, many households experience flooding – often causing thousands of dollars in repairs for homeowners.

Detroit's Jefferson-Chalmers neighborhood is also receiving \$11.28 million, which

is also experiencing the same problem.

Residents here are still reeling from a 2021 flood that happened during an exceptionally heavy rainfall.

Almost 30,000 damage claims were filed that year with the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department.

Dozens of Hamtramck homeowners successfully sued the city to force sewer repairs.

The city has since received various federal grants to begin the work, which is estimated to total \$50 million to complete.

While this upgrade is welcomed locally, it's not funding the most needed improvement: hooking up the city's sewer system with a main system running along Conant.

City Manager Max Gar-

barino said that “This hopefully will relieve the southern half of the city, and will be a complete tear out of Goodson. The next phase is tying directly into Conant. This is a big deal though.”

The BRIC program is part of President Biden's federal infrastructure funding, which has a \$3 billion budget this year.

“President Biden's Investing in America agenda provides the largest investment in the resilience of physical and natural systems in American history,” said Mitch Landrieu, senior advisor to the president and White House infrastructure coordinator, in a statement.

“These projects will be a lifeline for many communities as we build a stronger, more resilient America.”

The Hamtramck Review

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Local events, Library programs,
Interviews, Council meeting highlights,
Event announcements,
Evenings with authors, and more.....

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By Charles Sercombe

This week's Crime Log covers Sept. 5-11.

Tuesday, Sept. 5

- At 3:30 a.m., a complaint about noise was made in the 12000 block of Grand Haven.
- A theft was reported on Neibel St.
- A suspicious incident was reported on Florian. Another suspicious incident was reported on McDougall.
- Officers attempted to pull over a driver in a stolen vehicle, but the driver sped off. The vehicle was later recovered by Detroit police.

Wednesday, Sept. 6

- A complaint was made about noise in the 12000 block of St. Aubin.
- An assault was reported on Moran.
- A theft was reported on Jos. Campau.
- Neighborhood trouble was reported on Zinow.
- An attempted auto theft was reported on Grayling.
- A break-in was reported on McDougall.
- An assault was reported on Belmont.

Thursday, Sept. 7

- An incident of fraud was reported on Lehman.
- A hit-and-run accident was reported on Conant.
- A neighbor dispute was reported on Edwin. A neighbor dispute was also reported on Caniff.
- A harassment complaint was made on Caniff.

Friday, Sept. 8

- At 2 a.m., family trouble was reported in the 3800 block of Doremus.
- A Pulaski St. resident reported an incident of fraud.
- A disorderly person was reported on Commor.
- A reckless driver was reported in the area of Jos. Campau and Caniff.
- A complaint was made about a male, in the 3000 block of Carpenter, who was doing drugs.

Saturday, Sept. 9

- At 12:30 a.m., a complaint was made about a disorderly person at

Conant and Caniff.

- A hit-and-run accident happened in the area of Conant and Commor.
- A theft was reported in the 2400 block of Botsford.
- A theft from a vehicle was reported in the 2200 block of Wyandotte.
- A road rage incident was reported in the area of Jos. Campau and Holbrook.
- A complaint was made about a juvenile in the 11600 block of Lumpkin.
- A theft was reported in the 9400 block of Jos. Campau.
- A reckless driver was reported in the area of Lumpkin and Poland.

Sunday, Sept. 10

- Property damage was reported in the 12000 block of Oklahoma.
- A domestic assault was reported in the 12000 block of Nagel.
- Customer trouble was reported at a business in the 12100 block of Conant.
- A car theft was reported on Dequindre.
- Following a traffic stop, a person was arrested for being wanted on multiple Hamtramck misdemeanor warrants.
- A disorderly customer was reported at a business on Conant.
- A break-in was reported on Dyar.
- An assault was reported on Roosevelt.
- A hit-and-run happened on Roosevelt.

Monday, Sept. 11

- A business in the 2000 block of Caniff reported that suspects were assaulting customers. When officers arrived the suspects were driving away in an older model Nissan Pathfinder with an improper license plate.
- A break-in was reported on Holbrook.
- An assault was reported on Holbrook.
- Officers assisted another police agency on Doremus.
- A hit-and-run accident occurred on Florian. Another hit-and-run was reported on Brombach.

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Speak up or wait until later

Continued from front page

State Attorney General Frank Kelly.

“Since a provision which limits the period of time at a public meeting during which citizens may address the public body to 1/2 hour may result in certain members of the public being denied the opportunity to address the body, it is my opinion that, if the rule limiting the period of citizen participation to 1/2 hour is applied in a manner which completely denies a person the right to address the public body, it will constitute a violation of the act,” Kelly said.

An attorney for the ACLU, Ramos J. Wadood, further said, in his letter to the city:

“While listening to public

comments from all concerned individuals at an evening meeting may be burdensome for elected officials, doing exactly that is the most fundamental requirement of the job. Public comment is one of the most essential features of local democracy and one of the best ways to promote civic engagement.”

City Manager Max Garbarino said he and the city attorney are reviewing the matter.

Hamtramck is not the only city to have a similar limit on public comment. The Ferndale City Council also limits its public comment section to 30 minutes at the beginning of their meetings, and allows anyone who did not

get a chance to speak to wait until the council finishes its agenda items.

Curt Guyette of the ACLU was not impressed.

“Just because someone else is doing it doesn't make it legal. In our letter and attachments, we make it clear that what the Hamtramck City Council has voted to do clearly violates the Open Meetings Act,” Guyette told The Review.

Former Mayor Karen Majewski sided with the ACLU in the matter in her Facebook page.

“Hamtramck elected officials get smack down from ACLU. Read it and weep, boys!” she said, referring to the all-male city council.

Council candidate Nasr

Hussain said that, if he is elected, he will propose to eliminate it.

“I am with the ACLU on this issue. City should rescind this restrictive resolution,” Hussain said. “If I get elected I will make sure such resolutions limiting public discourse are never passed.”

Council candidate Lynn Blasey has also spoken against the new limit.

Mayor Amer Ghalib also weighed in on a discussion about the new rule on the Facebook page Hamtramck Square.

“I don't have a problem with unlimited time of public comments. I enjoy listening to people's concerns. I don't mind staying at the meeting until midnight despite of my busy schedule but I devote enough time for my city job even if I have to leave my paying job for that,” Ghalib said.

“With that being said, I still support unlimited and unrestricted time of public comments.

“The reason some council members came up with these rules was the abuse of some people for this privilege, where one person would write 10 emails or drop 15 paper comments written by the same person just to address a single issue, repeating the same words over and over.”

The council also has a rule limiting the amount of time each councilmember can speak on a resolution. That limit is set at five minutes, but this rule has yet to be enforced, and some resolution discussions go on for 30 minutes or more.

As for the new time limit for public comment, it was put to the test at Tuesday's council meeting. That's when a number of people

showed up to speak.

During the second round of public comment, that's when things took an interesting turn. Two people got up to the lectern and said ... nothing for their full three minutes in what appeared as a way to eat up the clock and ensure that someone would be denied their right to address the council.

Sure enough, at the end of 15 minutes, a few people spoke out, saying they had not been able to speak to the council.

Mayor Ghalib immediately suspended the new time limit rule and allowed them to speak.



Continued from page 4

most likely singled out are for race, ethnicity and ancestry. As for religion, most hate crimes are directed at those of the Jewish faith.)

Meyer also questioned why the council adopted a proclamation recognizing Ukraine Independence. He said he hopes other ethnic groups receive the same attention.

Konrad Maziarz, speaking on behalf of the Hamtramck Parks Conservancy, said the new playscape in Veterans Park is attracting many kids.

In new business, the council approved the purchase of a vehicle, a 2023 Chevy Silverado, for the police department. The cost is almost \$52,000. The vehicle will be used for narcotic investigations and investigations in general.

Funding will come from the department's drug forfeiture fund.

The council also agreed to have more stop signs installed in various locations in the city.

Those new locations include:

- Gallagher at the intersection of Lehman
- Gallagher at the intersection of Jacob
- Ellery at the intersection of Yemans
- Ellery at the intersection of Belmont
- Ellery at the intersection of Trowbridge
- Mackay at the inter-

section of Pulaski

Police Chief Anne Moise said this will help slow down traffic. She also noted that there had been only on stop sign on MacKay between Caniff and Carpenter.

The council then agreed to allow the purchase of a safe for the city's treasury department.

City Manager Max Garbarino said this will eliminate the need for city employees going to the bank every day to make deposits.

The cost of the safe and installation will total almost \$16,000.

City Manager Garbarino said the city, per the council's request, will add seven more alleys to be resurfaced this year, and several more next year.

In all, the city will be spending over \$1 million for current and future alley resurfacing.

During the second public comment period, Bill Meyer took issue with Councilmember Hassan saying that some who address the council have nothing to say other than “blah, blah, blah.”

Meyer said he is “deeply offended” by that comment. He said that the comment showed a “flagrant disregard for the democratic embrace of the public.”

Meyer said Hassan showed his “true personality” with his comments.

September 15, 2023

This week at the Library . . .

National Day of Doodles: September 15th is not only Doodle Day, but also of people named Malcolm. Get reacquainted with books by or about folks lucky enough to share this name. Might we suggest the works of Malcolm Gladwell? But please, no doodling on our materials.

Hoopla: Are you using Hoopla, the massive compendium of digital media that you have access to with your library card? We are just reminding you that it is there and you can find a link to it on our website (www.hamtramck.lib.mi.us) under the eResources tab. However, you should also know that hoopla is hosting an online Q&A session with author Lucy Gilmore. Her latest fan-favorite novel, “The Lonely Hearts Book Club”, is a quirky tale of how a small town librarian and an acid tongued curmudgeon bring together the scattered, closed off lives of those around them through people’s love of good stories. Take part in the chat on Thursday, September 21st at 7 pm. Visit <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84561234567>

Story Time: Get you kids together and drop in on our Wednesday afternoon Story Time at 12 noon. Presented by guest readers from Hamtramck Federation of Teachers.

Game Night: Join us for Game Night at the library. We are serving up something fun each Friday at 4 pm. Stop by and let us know that you have

come to play. Everyone is cordially invited.

Exercise Classes: You don’t have to wait much longer to get your Adaptive Yoga and Tai Chi fix. The Tai Chi classes are coming back on September 22nd at 10 am and adoptive yoga classes begin on September 19th 2:30 pm. As always, these group workout sessions are presented by the RIM Foundation and are open to the public. Check in the next weeks library column for starting time.

Phil Hale Quartet: Our next music concert is scheduled for Wednesday, September 20th at 5:30 pm. Everyone is invited, free admission.

MyHeritage Library Edition: The newest ZOOM presentation hosted by the Library of Michigan is MyHeritage Library Edition, a family history database that you can access through the Michigan eLibrary. Catch this event on Thursday, October 5th at 6:30 pm. To register you need to visit www.michigan.gov/lmpublicprograms where you will find more information.

James Fenimore Cooper: This author was born on September 15, 1789 in Burlington, New Jersey. He was best known for his book, “The Last of the Mohicans”.

Agatha Christie: This author was born on September 15, 1890 in Torquay, England. She wrote nearly a hundred books. Her works included mysteries, dramas, poetry and nonfiction.

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

PROPERTY AUCTION

The City of Hamtramck is conducting a public silent auction to sell four properties. Applicants are invited to submit bids September 15th through October 2nd at 10:00am. Bids will be opened publicly on October 2nd at 10:00am in the City Council Chambers of Hamtramck City Hall. Late bids will **NOT** be accepted.

Application can be downloaded online at <https://hamtramck.us/property-for-sale/> or picked up in person at City Hall in the Clerk’s Office or Community and Economic Development Office.

Bidders will have two weeks to submit a complete auction bid application in a sealed envelope. Bids will be required to be at or above a minimum price listed in the application. A \$50 fee is due upon submission of the sealed bid in cash, certified check or money order (fee must not be in the sealed bid, but separate). Sealed bids must be delivered in person at the Clerk’s Office in Hamtramck City Hall – 3401 Evaline Street, Hamtramck.

PROPERTY ADDRESS AND MINIMUM BIDS

Address	Description	Minimum Bid
2303 Alice	Lot	\$2,001.70
2314 Holmes	House	\$ 4,937.65
2400 Zinow	House	\$ 11,325.13
3907 Trowbridge	Lot w/garage	\$1,421.23

All bidders must meet several qualifications listed in the application. The city will award sales to the highest qualifying bids. The City reserves the right to disqualify bid applications that are not complete.

City is auctioning off five properties for development

By Charles Sercombe

Can’t find a house to purchase in Hamtramck? Have you considered ditching the search and building your own, or rehabbing one needing repairs? Hamtramck may have a deal for you.

The city is auctioning the following properties that were forfeited for delinquent property taxes:

- 2303 Alice, a lot, with a starting bid at \$2,001.70
- 2314 Holmes, a house, with a starting bid of \$4,937.65
- 2400 Zinow, a house, with a starting bid of \$11,325.13
- 3907 Trowbridge, a lot with a garage, with a starting bid of \$1,421.23
- 11332 Dyar, a lot, with a starting bid of \$2,137.95.

The city is holding a silent auction that is ongoing, which ends on Oct. 2.

There are some requirements in making the purchases:

- Buyers must repair the property up to code, or construct a new unit, with-

in two years of purchase.

- Buyers must confirm that the planned development will be owner-occupied.
- Buyers must have the ability to close the sale within 48 hours of the auction ending date.
- There is a fee of \$50 for each bid submitted.

There are also rules on what kind of housing can be built:

- Single-family, detached, owner occupied.
- Multi-family, owner occupied.
- Home expansion (neighboring lot owner-occupant purchases lot with a plan for home expansion, such as the addition of new floor space or additional bedrooms).

There is an application form that you can get by going to the city's webpage, or by going to city hall.

Bids must be sealed and turned in to the City Clerk’s Office by no later than 10 a.m., Oct. 2.

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Project:

Hamtramck Public Schools

Description:

HVAC Improvements Phase 4 – Kosciuszko MS

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-s6fe4f83fae9b4419abf6ef92ecedc927>
Bid documents will be available on or after September 14, 2023

Non-Mandatory Prebid Walk-Through:

10:00 a.m., Thursday, September 21, 2023 - Meet at Kosciuszko Middel School, 2361 Burger, Hamtramck, Michigan 48212. Parking is limited so plan to arrive early. Meet at the plaza at the front entrance on Burger Street.

Bid Due Date:

2:00 p.m., Thursday, September 28, 2023
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: Ricard 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, September 28, 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:

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.



A reminder about school threats

Students in charter and public schools, here's a warning about making threats to commit violence at school. Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy says that even prank calls will result in very serious consequences – namely, jail (potentially for both students and parents). In an open letter to parents and students, she said: “In many of these cases, the student who made the threat tells investigators that they were ‘just joking’ and seem genuinely shocked by how serious the consequences are for making the threat. “Often they make the threat thinking that it is not a big deal as long as they did not plan to actually carry it out. Michigan law, however, makes it a crime to make a threat, even if the person making the threat did not have the intent or the capability of actually carrying it out.”

Worthy is urging parents to have a talk with their students about making threats. “Help them understand that their words can have lifelong consequences. Students can be charged with crimes such as False Threat of Terrorism or Threat of Terrorism. A new law enacted last year also makes it a crime to Threaten to Commit Violence Against Students or Employees on School Property,” Worthy said.

College funding

The Michigan Department of Treasury is reminding folks that September is National College Savings Month. To find out more about a state prepaid education savings plan that parents can take advantage of, go online to: www.michigan.gov/setwithmet To encourage more households to take advantage of the program, the usual \$25 enrollment fee will be temporarily waived, until Sept. 30.

Quick Hits

Cont. from front page

as other flags other than the U.S., state, city and POW flags. Ghalib said that her encouraging the state to cut funding was “crazy.” He also said that he removed Majewski because she is “being a divisive member of the community.” Ghalib also said that her ongoing criticism of him has taken a toll.

“How can I get along with people who work against me?” he said. Ghalib makes the appointments to the DDA board, and it is his right, with council permission, to remove an appointee. Asked to comment on her removal, Majewski told The Review: “The choice to remove me from the DDA board had nothing to do with the quality of my service in that organization.”

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Wayne County Treasurer Eric R. Sabree

MSHDA

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Call (313) 874-2100

Coming Events

SATURDAY, Sept. 30, 4-6 p.m. – Drive-thru Take-out Polish Dinner at Holy Cross P.N.C. Church, 2311 Pulaski at Fleming. \$13 Adult/\$6 Child 12 & under. Menu: pork chop, kielbasa, pierogi/sour cream, stewed cabbage (Bigos), mashed potatoes/gravy, dessert. Cars will be staged in parking lot for delivery in front of church.

Hamtramck Moose Lodge 1670

Polish Dinner \$14

• Stuffed Cabbage

• Sauerkraut & Kielbasa

• Potato Pancakes

Friday, September 22 4pm-8pm

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