

Council Chambers  
Hillsdale City Hall  
97 N. Broad St.  
Hillsdale, MI 49242

February 3, 2014  
7:00 p.m.  
(517)437-6441  
[www.cityofhillsdale.org](http://www.cityofhillsdale.org)

## CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

City of Hillsdale  
Regular Meeting

### Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Scott M. Sessions opened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance.

### Roll Call

Mayor Scott Sessions called the meeting to order with the following Council members present: Council members Brian Watkins and Adam Stockford representing Ward One; Council member Sally Kinney representing Ward Two; Council member Emily Stack Davis Ward Three; and Council members Patrick Flannery and Mary Beth Bail representing Ward Four.

Also present were City Manager Linda Brown, City Clerk Robilyn Swisher, City Attorney Lew Loren, Keith Richard, Aimee England, Nate Rusk, Jane Engleheart, State Representative Ken Kurtz, Alan and Julie Beeker, Bruce Sharp, Jaminda Springer, and Allison Hutchinson.

### Approval of Agenda

Motion by Mayor Sessions to approve the February 3, 2014 Agenda.

All ayes.

Motion carried.

### Public Comment

Allison Hutchinson, 21 N. Norwood, addressed the list of options to fund streets. Allison suggested that council not waste any more time on the income tax option for funding streets, and to focus on new ideas.

Jaminda Springer, 89 S. Howell, addressed the income tax option to fund streets. Jaminda stated that she is involved in a political action group against the income tax option, and will continue its work if the issue is brought back up.

### Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of Bills from January 16, 2014: Claims of \$250,506.47 Payroll of \$131,095.30
- B. Committee Reports (Pending Approval):
  - Finance 1-2-14
  - TIFA 11-19-13
  - TIFA Target Development 11-25-13
  - Planning Commission 1-21-14
- C. Council Minutes 1-20-14
- D. December 2013 Financial Reports

Motion by Councilperson Watkins, supported by Councilperson Stockford, to approve the Consent agenda as presented. Roll call: Mayor Sessions – yes; Councilpersons Bail – yes; Stack-Davis – yes; Flannery – yes; Kinney – yes; Stockford – yes; Watkins – yes.

Approved 7-0.

Motion carried.

### Communications and Petitions

State Representative Ken Kurtz stated that he and Scott Wiley had a productive meeting with City Manager Linda Brown regarding the letter received by City Manager Linda Brown, Mayor Sessions, and the Council. State Representative Kurtz state that he has a meeting with the

STATE  
REP  
KEN  
KURTZ  
SCOTT  
WILEY

Transportation Appropriation Committee chair tomorrow and will be taking the letter with him to be reviewed. State Representative Kurtz said that he has told the state that funding for streets should be a top priority throughout the state. State Representative Kurtz also addressed the propane issue and ensured that the Attorney General's office is watching the supply and demand issue. They want to avoid price gouging and avoid people being taken advantage of. Councilperson Stockford asked if the money does go into the transportation fund would each municipality be able to receive an equal amount from the fund? State Representative Kurtz said he is going to push for the street funding money to be evenly distributed to the communities. City Manager Linda Brown stated that she is putting in writing that none of the typical strings be attached, like the small urban boundary, which eliminates the city streets.

City Treasurer Sue Arnold addressed council about appointing Katy Price Deputy Treasurer. Sue stated that she has had a Deputy Treasurer in the past and that Katy would only take payments when she is not present in the office. City Manager Linda Brown recommended council not appoint Katy Price to Deputy Treasurer due to the extensive work load she already has. City Manager Linda Brown stated that she spoke with the city attorney and insurance agency and explored the options to address this issue and discovered that there is a special bond required by law, to receive tax payments and issue receipts for taxes, which Katy does not have. City Manager Brown also stated that we have already been under the microscope with the auditors to make sure our cash is handled in a certain manner as well. City Manager Brown suggested to council that if they decide to appoint Katy that they do so with strict stipulations. Councilperson Stack-Davis expressed her concern with tax payers coming in, during the time city hall is open, to pay their taxes and there not being someone there to take their payment. Mayor Sessions clarifies that Katy has been, up to this point, taking payments that are in the form of a check, and placing them in Treasurer Sue Arnold's mailbox. Councilperson Flannery expressed his concern in the break in chain of custody that would happen if Katy takes a payment and places it in Sue's box without being appointed Deputy Treasurer. Councilperson Flannery expressed the need for this appointment if the Treasurer was sick or hospitalized for some reason also. Mayor Sessions expressed that it be stipulated that the Deputy Treasurer position does not come with any salary.

Motion by Councilperson Stockford, supported by Councilperson Flannery, to appoint Katy Price as Deputy Treasurer with no pay raise, and with the restriction of only receiving and receipting tax payments and only doing so in the absence of the Treasurer. Roll call: Councilperson Watkins – yes; Mayor Sessions – yes; Councilpersons Bail – no; Stack-Davis – yes; Flannery – yes; Kinney – yes; Stockford – yes.

Approved 6-1.

Motion carried.

**Introduction and Adoption of Ordinances/Public Hearings**

None

**Unfinished Business**

- A. Local Streets Maintenance
- B. Code Enforcement.

**Old Business**

None

**New Business**

None

**Miscellaneous**

Appointments:

- Election Commission:
- Ed Swanson – One year term to expire January 2015
- Eldonna Bernath - One year term to expire January 2015
- Shawnae Urban - One year term to expire January 2015

SUSAN ARNOLD TO APPOINT KATY PRICE DEP. TREAS.

APPOINTMENTS

BPU:

Robert Batt – To fill a vacancy – to expire May 2014

IPMC:

David Foulke – Three year term to expire January 2017

Planning Commisiiion:

Bonnie Kyser-Lavelle – For a term to expire November 2015

**General Public Comment**

**Council Comment**

City Manager Linda Brown stated that she received a call from Senator Caswell's office and provided more information to Dave at his office on streets.

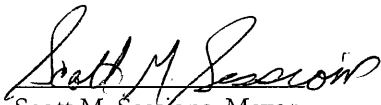
**Adjournment**


Motion by Councilmember Kinney, seconded by Councilmember Watkins, to adjourn.

All ayes

Motion carried.

7:46 p.m.

  
Scott M. Sessions, Mayor

  
Robilyn Swisher, City Clerk