

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

April 15, 2013
7:00 p.m.
(517)437-6441
www.cityofhillsdale.org

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

City of Hillsdale
Regular Meeting

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Douglas Moon opened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance.

Roll Call

Motion carried.

Mayor Moon called the meeting to order with the following Council members present: Council member Casey Sullivan and Brian Watkins representing Ward One; Council members Ruth Brown and Sally Kinney representing Ward Two; Council members Scott Sessions and Mary Wolfram representing Ward Three; and Council members William Arnold and Mary Beth Bail representing Ward 4.

Also present were City Manager Linda Brown, Deputy City Clerk Michelle Loren, City Attorney Lew Loren, Rick Rose, Eric Macy, Matt Durr (Hillsdale Daily News), Judy Buzo, Jack Butler, Matt Raffon, Tom Knighton, Keith Richard

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Councilperson Sessions, supported by Councilperson Watkins, to approve the April 15, 2013 Agenda as presented.

All ayes.

Motion carried.

Public Comment

None

Consent Agenda

The items listed in the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by the City Council and the City Manager and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless requested by a Councilmember. In this event, the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and Council action will be taken separately on said item.

- A. Approval of Bills from March 28, 2013: Claims of \$66,483.10; Payroll of \$101,713.09 & April 11, 2013: Claims of \$39,287.36 Payroll of \$86,972.63.
- B. Committee Reports (Pending Approval):
 - 1. Planning Commission Minutes of April 8, 2013
 - 2. Finance Minutes of April 1, 2013
 - 3. BPU Minutes of April 9, 2013
- C. Council Minutes of April 1, 2013

Motion by Councilperson Sessions, supported by Councilperson Brown, to approve the Consent agenda as presented. Roll call: Councilpersons Bail – yes; Brown – yes; Kinney – yes; Sessions – yes; Sullivan – yes; Watkins – yes; Wolfram – yes; Mayor Moon – yes; Arnold – yes.

Approved 9-0.

Motion carried.

Communications

None

Introduction and Adoption of Ordinances/Public Hearings

None

Unfinished Business

- A. Local Streets Maintenance. None
- B. Code Enforcement. City Manager Linda Brown presented and reviewed the March 2013 Code Enforcement Report and the March 2013 Police Department Report. City Manager Brown answered Council questions regarding the status of the various properties. Councilperson Watkins commented on time allowances for compliance. Councilperson Wolfram made note that no commercial properties were mentioned in the report. Discussion followed regarding several buildings and various properties of interest under code violations.

Councilperson commented on the matter of tractor trailers being parked in commercial parking lots.

Old Business

None

New Business

- A. Set Public Hearing for Knox Ventures-Commercial Rehabilitation Exemption. City Manager Brown stated that on March 14, 2013, the City Clerk received an application from Knox Ventures for a Commercial Rehabilitation Exemption pursuant to Act 210 of 2005. City Manager recommended a public hearing date be set for May 6, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

SET
PUBLIC
HEARING

Motion by Councilperson Watkins, supported by Councilperson Sullivan, to set a public hearing for the Knox Ventures-Commercial Rehabilitation Exemption for May 6, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

KNOX
VENTURES
CRE

All ayes.

Motion carried.

- B. Set Public Hearing for Cobra Moto, LLC- Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption. City manager Brown reported that on March 28, 2013 the City Clerk received an application from Cobra Moto, LLC – Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption. City Manager Brown recommended Council set a public hearing date be set for May 6, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

COBRA
MOTO
IFT

Motion by Councilperson Sessions, supported by Councilperson Brown, to set a public hearing on Cobra Moto, LLC – Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption for May 6, 2013.

All ayes.

Motion carried.

- C. Ordinance to Rezone Properties from I-1 to RM-1. City Manager Brown reported that on April 8, 2013 the Planning Commission, acting upon its own recommendation, voted to approve the rezoning of properties located at 42 Union Street, 52 Union Street and 71 Hillsdale Street. A public hearing was held and, following the public hearing, the Planning Commission voted to approve the rezoning. City Manager Brown recommended Council receive the ordinance as a proposed ordinance and order its publication.

ORDINANCE
TO REZONE
I-1 TO RM-1

Motion by Councilperson Watkins, supported by Councilperson Sullivan, to receive the proposed ordinance and order its publication and be placed on the agenda at a later date for consideration of passage as a final ordinance. Roll call: Councilpersons Brown – yes; Kinney – yes; Sessions – yes; Sullivan – yes; Watkins – yes; Wolfram – yes; mayor Moon – yes; Councilpersons Arnold – yes; Bail – yes.

Approved 9-0.

Motion carried.

D. Council Goals for 201-2015 Budget year. City Manager Brown stated that on April 8, 2013 Council met as a Committee of the Whole to discuss its goals for the fiscal year 2014-2015. There was much discussion and consideration regarding the goals, however; no formal action took place to establish the goals. City Manager Brown recommended Council formally prioritize its goals for the City in that staff may then rely upon these goals when preparing the 2014-2015 budget.

COUNCIL GOALS 2014-15

Council once again gave consideration to the establishment of its goals and listed the goals as follows, however; not in order of priority:

- Streets
- Blight
- Jobs
- Communications
- Removing Obstacles and work toward efficiency

Motion by Councilperson Sullivan, supported by Councilperson Watkins, to set the discussed goals as priorities for Council and allow the City Manager to work on them.

All ayes.

Motion carried.

E. CGI Communications, Inc. Proposal. City Manager Brown reported there was recent contact made by a representative from CGI Communications, Inc., a provider of video streaming. The advised City Manager Brown they have entered into a collaborative agreement with the National League of Cities and the US Conference of Mayors to provide services to various municipalities. Two or three cities are chosen each year to highlight. Hillsdale has been chosen to receive the services offered this year. City Manager Brown stated she had forwarded a copy of the Agreement to the City Attorney for review. City Manager Brown explained the services and gave a power point presentation of other municipalities that have used the services.

CGI COMMUNICATIONS PROPOSAL

After Council discussion regarding video streaming, advertising and the ramifications of the City's participation, it was decided to table the matter until Council members have a chance to review the contract. Council agreed to contact City Manager Brown by Friday, April 19 with questions they might have.

F. Budget Amendments. City Manager Brown reported to Council that Finance Director Bonnie Tew has requested her to make recommendation to Council the approval of budget amendments. These amendments are the result of grant funding received by the Fire Department through the Department of Homeland Security to purchase a thermal imaging camera and SCBA air packs. Funds from the grant did not arrive until June 2012. As the receipt of grant funds and expenditure of those same funds was not anticipated in the current fiscal year budget, it is necessary to process budget amendments to prevent the fire department from being over budget.

BUDGET AMENDMENTS

Motion by Councilperson Sullivan, supported by Councilperson Watkins, to approve the budget amendments as presented. Roll call: Councilpersons Kinney – yes; Sessions – yes; Sullivan – yes; Watkins – yes; Wolfram – yes; Mayor Moon – yes; Councilpersons Arnold – yes; Bail – yes; Brown – yes.

Approved 9-0.

Motion carried.

G. BPU Resolution to Amend Customer Service, Electric, Water and Sewer Dept. Rules & Regulations Schedule of Fees & Charges. City Manager Brown stated that, at its April 8, 2013 meeting, the Board of Public Utilities passed a resolution to amend the rules and regulations regarding services offered by it to more closely align the fees charges for those services to the actual cost.

BPU RES #3130 TO AMEND CUSTOMER SERVICE ETC.

Motion by Councilperson Watkins, supported by Councilperson Wolfram, to pass Resolution #3130, as requested by the Board of Public Utilities. Roll call: Councilpersons Sessions – yes; Sullivan – yes; Watkins – yes; Wolfram – yes; Mayor Moon – yes; Councilpersons Arnold – yes; Bail – yes; Brown – yes; Kinney – yes.

Approve 9-0.

ARBOR
DAY
PROCLAMATION

Motion carried.

- H. Arbor Day Proclamation. City Manager Brown stated that Hillsdale has been named a Tree City USA for several consecutive years. The application for recognition requires a proclamation declaring Arbor Day. City Manager Brown recommended Council declare April 26, 2013 Arbor Day in the City of Hillsdale.

Motion by Arnold, supported by Councilperson Sessions, to approve the proclamation as presented.

All ayes.

Motion carried.

Miscellaneous

- A. Appointments - None

Department Reports

None

Public Comment

Judy Buzo of Dial -A - Ride informed Council of a grant offered through the Community Foundation to provide funding for a one time trip to Gleis Orchard.

Motion by Councilperson Arnold, supported by Councilperson Sessions, to allow Judy Buzo of Dial-A-Ride and City Manager Brown to move forward with grant funding offered by the Community Foundation for transportation to Gleis and any possible funding in the future.

All ayes.

Motion carried.

Ted Knighton, 138 Budlong St., provided Council with information regarding Light Trespass and the need for the City to consider an ordinance dealing with the issue.

Council Comment

Councilperson Brown questioned the budget process as it was done this year. Councilperson Brown felt the budget meetings were held much earlier last year giving Council members a better opportunity to participate in the budget process.

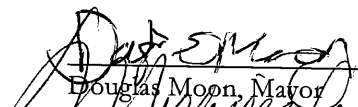
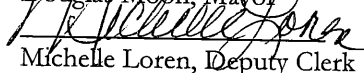
Councilperson Watkins asked Council to consider sponsoring a fishing dock at Lewis Emery Park.

Adjournment

Motion by Councilmember Arnold, seconded by Councilmember Session, to adjourn.

Motion carried.

8:50 p.m.


Douglas Moon, Mayor

Michelle Loren, Deputy Clerk