

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

City of Hillsdale

May 2, 2016

7:00 P.M.

Regular Meeting

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Scott Sessions opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Mayor Scott Sessions called the meeting to order.

Councilmembers present:	Scott M. Sessions, Mayor Adam Stockford, Ward 1 Brian Watkins, Ward 1 Timothy Dixon, Ward 2 Bruce Sharp, Ward 3 Matthew Bell, Ward 4 Patrick Flannery, Ward 4
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Councilmembers absent:	None
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Also present were: City Manager David Mackie, City Clerk Stephen M. French, City Attorney John Lovinger, City Attorney Tom Thompson, Kay Freese (HR), Police Chief Scott Hephner (HCPD), Mike Barber (BPU), Jake Hammel (DPS), Mary Wolfram (Economic Development), Michelle Loren (Recreation), Alan Beeker (Zoning), Julie Beeker (Treasurer), Stephanie Kyser, Martha Smith, Dennis Wainwright, Travis Pina, Grace Gambino, Richard Wunsch, Penny Swan, and Joe Poston.

Approval of Agenda

City Manager Mackie requested the agenda be amended to include the appointment of Mr. Chris Sumnar to the Board of Public Utilities.

Council Member Bell, seconded by Council Member Watkins, moved to amend the meeting agenda to include the appointment of Mr. Chris Sumnar to the Board of Public Utilities. By a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Watkins, seconded by Council Member Bell, moved to approve the May 2, 2016 agenda as amended. By a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

No public comments were received.

Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of Bills from claims of April 21, 2016
 - 1. Payroll: \$ 88,477.48
 - 2. Claims: \$ 215,915.21
- B. City Council Meeting Minutes
 - 1. April 18, 2016 Regular Meeting
 - 2. April 25, 2016 Special Meeting
- C. Finance Committee Meeting Minutes
 - 1. March 28, 2016
 - 2. April 11, 2016
 - 3. April 25, 2016
- D. Use of Owens Memorial Park – MSU Wake Boarding Club – May 14, 2016
- E. Superstar Dash – aHUS Awareness 5K Walk/Run – May 14, 2016

Council Member Watkins, seconded by Council Member Stockford, moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Roll call:	Council Member Bell	Aye
	Council Member Stockford	Aye
	Council Member Dixon	Aye
	Council Member Sharp	Aye
	Council Member Watkins	Aye
	Council Member Flannery	Aye
	Mayor Sessions	Aye

Motion passed 7-0.

Communications/Petitions

A. Arbor Day 2016 Proclamation

Mayor Session offered a proclamation honoring Arbor Day 2016 throughout the City of Hillsdale.

Introduction and Adoption of Ordinance/Public Hearing

No ordinances or Public Hearings were introduced.

Unfinished Business

There was no Unfinished Business on the agenda

Old Business

There was no Old Business on the agenda

New Business

A. Resolution 3276: A resolution to approve Contract No. 16-5073 with the Michigan Department of Transportation

Department of Public Services (DPS) Director Hammel provided a brief review of the project, which would include pavement, sidewalk, and storm water control improvements to Wolcott Street near State Street. Mr. Hammel stated the project was funded using federal and state grants, as well as City of Hillsdale and Hillsdale County Road Commission dollars.

Responding to a question from Council Member Bell, Finance Director Tew stated the \$90,000 in city funds had already been designated for the project and were not included within the FY2017 budget.

Responding to a question from Council Member Watkins, DPS Director Hammel stated it had not yet been determined which entity would be responsible for snow removal of the sidewalks near the rearing ponds.

Council Member Watkins, seconded by Council Member Dixon, moved to approve Resolution 3276: A resolution to approve Contract No. 16-5073 with the Michigan Department of Transportation

Roll call:	Council Member Bell	Aye
	Council Member Stockford	Aye
	Council Member Dixon	Aye
	Council Member Sharp	Aye
	Council Member Watkins	Aye
	Council Member Flannery	Aye
	Mayor Sessions	Aye

Motion passed 7-0.

May 2, 2016

Regular Meeting

B. Resolution 3277: A resolution to amend the City of Hillsdale's Capital Improvement Plan

City Zoning Administrator Beeker presented a recommendation from city staff and the Planning Commission to amend the City of Hillsdale's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). Mr. Beeker stated the plan was required as part of Michigan Public Act 33 of 2008, and was a coordinated spending plan that helped the City implement the previously adopted Master Plan.

Council Member Bell inquired if the CIP was duplicating the staff efforts of developing the annual city-wide budget, as both documents seemed to have many similarities. Zoning Administrator Beeker stated that while there was some overlap in the two documents, the CIP was vital to have in place to effectively implement the city's Master Plan. Mr. Beeker also noted the projects within the CIP were not binding and could be removed or amended, if necessary.

Council Member Watkins stated the document was an excellent tool for the public to see which capital projects were prioritized by Council and the anticipated timeline of those improvements.

Responding to a question from Council Member Stockford, Zoning Administrator Beeker stated there was no plans to implement an Administrative Committee that was mentioned within the CIP. Council Member Stockford noted the advantages that could be realized with a committee that would bring together many different administrative staff, Council representation, and members of the Planning Commission.

Council Member Sharp voiced support for the inclusion of funding for sidewalk repairs in future plans.

Council Member Bell discussed the number of different plans presented to Council in recent months and questioned if there were too many competing documents which may devalue the importance of the City Charter. City Manager Mackie responded that the plans that had recently been developed were meant to be used in unison and provide staff with invaluable direction for planning purposes. City Manager Mackie noted the continued development of the city's Strategic Plan included many intangible pieces, including goals of community involvement and government transparency.

Mayor Sessions noted the efforts of many people involved with this plan and thanked everyone for their participation to develop the document.

Council Member Watkins, seconded by Council Member Dixon, moved to approve Resolution 3277: A resolution to amend the City of Hillsdale's Capital Improvement Plan.

Roll call:	Council Member Bell	Aye
	Council Member Stockford	Aye
	Council Member Dixon	Aye
	Council Member Sharp	Aye
	Council Member Watkins	Aye
	Council Member Flannery	Aye
	Mayor Sessions	Aye

Motion passed 7-0.

Miscellaneous

A. Appointments

Council Member Flannery moved, seconded by Council Member Stockford, to appoint:

1. Council Member Watkins to the Community Development Committee
2. Council Member Dixson to the Public Service Committee
3. Mr. Chris Sumnar to the Board of Public Utilities (BPU)

By a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

City Manager's Report

City Manager Mackie had no report for the meeting.

General Public Comment

Mr. Joe Poston, 49 Carriage Park, voiced continued frustration at not being able to obtain transportation via Dial-A-Ride (DART) at certain times during the day. Mr. Poston encouraged DART to reschedule employee schedules to allow constant, transportation availability throughout the day.

Ms. Stephanie Kyser, Osseo, Michigan, candidate for Hillsdale County Treasurer, introduced herself to the audience and requested support in the August primary.

Mr. Dennis Wainscott, 34 Garden Street, stated DART should be made available to all residents in the city, in addition to the school children that utilize the service on a daily basis. Mr. Wainscott also noted the many sidewalks that required maintenance, and stated he had personally paid for sidewalk improvements that had been done in front of his home on Garden Street.

Council Comments

Council Member Sharp congratulated the owners of the Finish Line Restaurant on their 40th anniversary of their business. Council Member Sharp noted he was unable to attend the "Art Around Town" event, although he attempted to attend as many activities as possible representing the City Council.

Council Member Stockford stated conversations continued regarding the DART service and the interruptions of service that caused concern with Mr. Poston and other residents. Council Member Stockford encouraged residents to have patience while city staff investigated various options to enhance service provision.

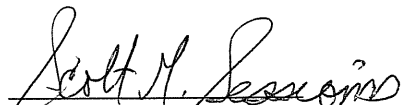
Council Member Flannery thanked all of the department heads and staff that attended the first of two budget work sessions on May 25, 2016. Council Member Flannery stated the meeting was very informative and he looked forward to the final work session scheduled for May 9th.

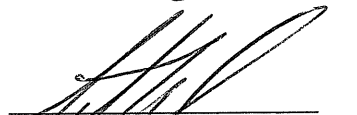
Mayor Sessions echoed Council Member Flannery's approval of the work sessions and thanked staff for their efforts in developing the draft budget. Mayor Sessions stated he had attended "Art Around Town" and commended Mary Wolfram for her leadership of the event.

Adjournment

Council Member Bell moved, seconded by Council Member Watkins, to adjourn the meeting. By a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.


Scott M. Sessions, Mayor


Stephen M. French, City Clerk