

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

May 4, 2015  
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 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 Adam Stockford and Brian Watkins representing Ward One; Councilmember Sally Kinney representing Ward Two; Council members Emily Stack-Davis and Bruce Sharp representing Ward Three; and Council members Mary Beth Bail and Patrick Flannery representing Ward Four.

Also present were City Manager Doug Terry, Interim City Clerk Michelle Loren, City Attorney Lewis Loren, Bonnie Tew (Finance), Scott Hephner (HCPD), Mary Wolfram (Economic Development), James Scheibner (Airport), Alexis Kozub, Pam Osmun, Sheila Friedline, Holly Carpenter, Andy Barrand (HDN), Martha Smith, Rich P  w  , Laura Smith, Candy Carter, Casey Sullivan, John Davis Alicia Davis, Eric Leutheuser, Ruth Brown, Mary Ewers, Jeff King, Ted Jansen.

### Approval of Agenda

City Manager Terry requested the addition of *Unfinished Item D. City Manager Search* to the May 4, 2015 Council Agenda.

Motion by Councilperson Watkins, supported by Councilperson Stack-Davis, to approve the May 4, 2015 Council Agenda as amended.

All ayes.

Motion carried.

### Public Comment

Ted Jansen, 104 N. Hillsdale St., read a letter he submitted to Council regarding his objection to the appointment of Clerk and Treasurer positions.

Laura Smith, Hillcrest, addressed Council in support of City Manager Candidate David Mackie for the City Manager position. Ms. Smith thanked Council for allowing her to participate in the City Manager Interview process by way of posing questions from the public to each candidate. Ms. Smith submitted the list of public questions to Council for the record.

### Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of Bills from claims of April 23, 2015: payroll \$84,555.04; claims \$75,539.62.
- B. Committee Reports (Pending Approval)
  1. Planning Commission Minutes of March 17, 2015
  2. Airport Advisory Committee Minutes of December 20, 2014 & March 21, 2015
- C. Council Minutes of April 20, 2015
- D. Quarterly Investment Report

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

Motion carried 8-0.

### Communications and Petitions

A. Mayor Sessions read a thank you note addressed to the Mayor and Council from former City Manager Linda Brown.

### Introduction and Adoption of Ordinances/Public Hearings

- A. Public Hearing: designation of Hillsdale NEZ #2. Mayor Sessions opened the podium to received comment from the public regarding the designation of Hillsdale NEZ #2 in the Blackmar and Beebe's Addition to the Village, now City of Hillsdale. City Assessor Kim

PUBLIC  
HEARING  
DESIGNATION  
OF HILLSDALE  
NEZ # 2.

Thomas reported on the impact.

encouragement of new building replacing as there has not been new builds in a very long time Mary Wolfram, Economic Development, commented that the economic impact would be as well as encouraging renovation of some of the older homes in need of improvement.

Rich Péwé, Hillsdale College, commented that by the College being able to renovate Properties under the NEZ, taxable values of those properties would increase benefiting the City.

- B. Public Hearing: 2015-16 City Budget. City Manager Doug Terry presented the Proposed 2015-2016 City Budget to Council. Councilperson Stack-Davis commented she, and other Councilmembers needed more time to review and “digest” the information before them and asked to table the approval of the budget on May 4, 2015 until June 1, 2015.

Motion by Councilperson Flannery, supported by Councilperson Stack-Davis, to table the Public hearing and approval of the 2015-16 City Budget until the June 1, 2015 meeting.

All ayes.

Motion carried.

- C. Ratification of Order for Public Hearing and Public Hearing on Adoption of proposed Ordinance #2015-8 Definitions.

Motion by Councilperson Watkins, support by Councilperson Kinney, to ratify the order for publication and public hearing to be set for May 4, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. All ayes. Motion carried.

Mayor Sessions opened the public hearing to receive comment from the public. None. Mayor Sessions opened the floor for Council comment. None.

Motion by Councilperson Watkins, supported by Councilperson Sharp to adopt Ordinance #2015- 8 Addition of Definitions. Roll call: Councilpersons Sharp – yes; Stockford – no; Watkins – yes; Mayor Sessions – yes; Councilpersons Bail – yes; Stack-Davis – no; Flannery – yes; Kinney – yes.

Motion carried 6-2.

- D. Ratification of Order for Publication and Public Hearing on Adoption of proposed Ordinance #2015-9 Restrictive Burning.

Motion by Councilperson Watkins, supported by Councilperson Sharp, to ratify the order for Publication and public hearing to be set for May 4, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. All ayes. Motion carried.

Mayor Sessions opened the public hearing to receive comment from the public. None. Mayor Sessions opened the floor for Council comment. None.

Motion by Councilperson Watkins, supported by Councilperson Sharp, to adopt Ordinance #2105-9 Restrictive Burning. Roll call: Councilpersons Stockford – yes; Watkins – yes; Mayor Sessions – yes; Councilpersons Bail – yes; Stack-Davis – yes; Flannery – yes; Kinney – Yes; Sharp – yes.

Motion carried 8-0.

**Unfinished Business**

- A. Local Streets Maintenance:
  - None
- B. Code Enforcement
  - None
- C. Clerk & Treasurer
- D. City Manager Search. City Manager Doug Terry opened the floor for Council comments and discussion regarding the City Manager Interviews held on Saturday, May 2, 2015. Councilmember Watkins stated his initially had concerns with the way the search had taken place and felt it as though the rest of Council had been left uninformed. However; after participating in the interview on May 2<sup>nd</sup>, he was pleased with the two candidates and commended members of O & G for a job well done. . Mayor Sessions firmly stated he was not in favor of either candidate and felt the search should be opened back up so Council could look at the applicant pool. Councilmembers expressed the desire to pursue hiring Mr. David Mackie. Motion by Councilperson Watkins, supported by Councilperson Kinney, to direct City Manager Terry to make contact with Mr. Mackie and share with him the City’s desire to begin negotiations for the

PUBLIC  
BUDGET  
HEARINGS  
2015-16  
BUDGET  
APPROVED

RATIFICATION  
OF ORDER  
PUBLIC  
HEARING  
ORD. 2015-8

RATIFICATION  
OF ORDER  
PUBLIC  
HEARING  
ORD. 2015-9

CITY MANAGER  
SEARCH  
UPDATE  
MR. MACKIE

position of City Manager. Roll call: Mayor Sessions – no; Councilpersons Bail – yes; Stack-Davis – yes; Flannery – yes; Kinney – yes; Sharp – yes; Stockford – yes; Watkins – yes.

Motion carried 7-1.

**Old Business**

A. Council was presented with ballot language to change the position of City Clerk from an elective officer to that is appointed by the Mayor and Council.

COUNCIL APPROVES BALLOT LANGUAGE FOR CLERK TO APPOINTED POSITION

Motion by Councilperson Watkins, supported by Councilperson Flannery, to approve ballot language changing the position of City Clerk from an elective officer to that is appointed by the Mayor and Council to appear on the August 6, 2015 ballot. Roll call: Councilpersons Bail – yes; Stack-Davis – no; Flannery – yes; Kinney – yes; Sharp – no; Stockford – no; Watkins – yes; Mayor Sessions – yes.

Motion carried 5-3.

B. Council was presented with ballot language to change the position of City Treasurer from an elective officer to that is appointed by the Mayor and Council.

COUNCIL APPROVES BALLOT LANGUAGE FOR TREASURER TO APPOINTED POSITION

Motion by Councilperson Watkins, supported by Councilperson Flannery, to approve ballot language changing the position of City Clerk from an elective officer to that is appointed by the Mayor and Council to appear on the August 6, 2015 ballot. Roll call: Councilpersons Stack-Davis – yes; Flannery – yes; Kinney – yes; Sharp – yes; Stockford – no; Watkins – yes; Mayor Sessions – yes; Councilperson Bail – yes.

Motion carried 7-1.

**New Business**

A. Award of Bid: Sale of Police Vehicle.

Motion by Councilperson Stockford, supported by Councilperson Stack-Davis, to award the sale of a police vehicle to Chicago Motors (highest bidder). Roll call: Councilperson Flannery – yes; Kinney – yes; Sharp – yes; Stockford – yes; Watkins – yes; Mayor Sessions – yes; Councilpersons Bail – yes; Stack – Davis – yes.

SALE OF POLICE VEHICLE CHICAGO MOTORS

Motion carried 8-0.

B. Cintas Agreement.

Motion by Councilperson Watkins, supported by Councilperson Flannery, to table the approval of the Cintas Uniform Agreement until comparative pricing is done and reported on.

MOTION TO TABLE CINTAS UNIFORM AGREEMENT

C. Huntington Disease Awareness Month.

Motion by Councilperson Stockford, supported by Councilperson Kinney, to declare the month of May Huntington Disease Awareness Month in the City of Hillsdale.

DECLARATION MAY IS HUNTINGTON DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH.

All ayes.

Motion carried

**City Manager Report**

**Miscellaneous**

A. Reappointment of Marion Griffiths to the Board of Review for a 1 year term expiring April 2016.

REAPPT.

Motion by Councilperson Watkins, supported by Councilperson Stack-Davis, to approve the appointment of Marion Griffiths to the Board of Review for a 1 year term ending April 2016.

All ayes. Motion carried.

**General Public Comment**

Sheila Friedline and the Girl Scouts proposed the installation of *Story Walk* along the Baw Beese Trail. City Manager Doug Terry referred them to DPS in order to implement the program.

Gary Wolfram, HPG, reinforced that the passing of the NEZ will only have a positive impact on the City.

Mary Ewers, 190 Oak St. addressed Council about her concern with the Smart Meter system being installed by the BPU and its negative effects on the general health of the public. Ms. Ewers stated there

are municipalities that offer an opt out plan and encouraged the City to look into one as well. Ms. Ewers presented an informational CD about Smart Meter.

Ted Jansen 104 N. Hillsdale St., addressed Council again in regard to the appointment of Clerk and Treasurer.

State Representative Eric Leutheuser gave an update from Lansing.

**Council Comment**

Councilperson Bruce Sharp replied to a letter the Mayor and Council received from Ted Jansen. Mr. Sharp stated that it takes a lot of work and dedication to be a Council member and that all of the current members take their charge as council members seriously.

Councilperson Emily Stack-Davis thanked City Manager Doug Terry and Human Resource Director Kay Freese for their contribution and work in the City Manager search.

Bruce Sharp thanked Doug Terry for stepping up to the plate as City Manager for the City of Hillsdale.

Councilperson Brian Watkins seconded Mr. Sharp's sentiment.

**Adjournment**

Motion by Councilperson Kinney, supported by Councilperson Stack-Davis, to adjourn.

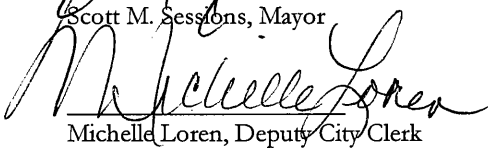
All ayes.

Meeting adjourned.

8:55 p.m.



Scott M. Sessions, Mayor



Michelle Loren, Deputy City Clerk