

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

May 18, 2015
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 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, City Clerk Michelle Loren, City Attorney Lewis Loren, Bonnie Tew (Finance), Scott Hephner (HCPD), Mary Wolfram (Economic Development), Ralph Tillotson, Judy Buzo (Dial-A-Ride), Linda Brown, Duke Anderson, Steve Schauer, Richard Smith, Kevin Pauken, Ted Jansen, Glynda Hubbard, Alan & Julie Beeker, Tony Ginolfi, Nate Rusk, Heather Tritchka, Mark Hawkins, Julie Games.

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Councilperson Watkins, supported by Councilperson Stack-Davis, to approve the May 18, 2015 Council Agenda as presented.

All ayes.

Motion carried.

Public Comment

Ted Jansen, 104 N. Hillsdale St., expressed his support of Board of Public Utilities Director Rick Rose and the renewal of his contract. Mr. Jansen requested Council provide him with quantification of alleged complaints received in regard to Mr. Rose, how far back they go and in what regard they were submitted.

Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of Bills from claims of May 7, 2015: payroll \$86,322.85; claims \$92,801.18.
- B. Committee Reports (Pending Approval)
 - 1. Board of Review Minutes of March 3, 2015
- C. Council Minutes of May 4, 2015
- D. April 2015 Financial Report

Motion by Councilperson Watkins, supported by Councilperson Kinney, 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

Julie Games of the Great American Parade Committee gave an overview of the 2015 Great American Parade to be held on July 3, 2015.

Motion by Councilperson Watkins, supported by Councilperson Davis, to approve the 2015 Great American Parade on July 3rd, 2015.

Mary Wolfram, Economic Development Consultant (HPG) informed Council of the details of the City Wide Garage Sales to be held in conjunction with the Chamber's 2015 Summerfest.

Introduction and Adoption of Ordinances/Public Hearings

- A. None

Unfinished Business

- A. Local Streets Maintenance:

2015
GREAT
AMERICAN
PARADE
JULIE
GAMES

- B. Code Enforcement
Council was provided with a memo outlining status of various residences by Assessor/Code Official Kimberly Thomas.
- C. Clerk & Treasurer
None

Old Business

- A. 2015-16 Proposed City Budget. Finance Director Bonnie Tew presented Council with the 2015-16 Proposed City Budget for review.

New Business

- A. Redevelopment Ready Communities (RRC) Certification Program.

Motion by Councilperson Stack-Davis, supported by Councilperson Bail, to adopt Resolution No. 3215 stating the City's intent in remaining in the RRC Program. Roll call: Councilperson Stack-Davis – yes; Flannery – yes; Kinney – yes; Sharp – yes; Stockford – yes; Watkins – yes; Mayor Sessions – yes; Councilperson Bail – yes.

Motion carried 8-0.

- B. Set Public Hearing for OPRA Tax Abatement: 42 Union St.

Motion by Councilperson Watkins, supported by Councilperson Stack-Davis, to set a public hearing regarding an OPRA Tax Abatement for 42 Union St. for June 1, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

All ayes.

Motion carried.

- C. MEDC Grant Third Party Administrator Contract. A letter of Interest was received from MEDC indicating interest in funding the project for the acquisition and reuse of Stock's Mill. Funding will be in the form of a Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) which will allow funds for the City to hire and pay for a third party administrator.

Motion by Councilperson Stack-Davis, supported by Councilperson Kinney, to adopt Resolution No. 3216 authorizing Mayor Sessions to sign a contract with Hager Consulting LLC for Third Party administration of the CDBG grant to acquire and partially renovate Stock's Mill. Roll call: Councilpersons Flannery – yes; Kinney – yes; Sharp – yes; Stockford – Yes; Watkins – yes; Mayor Sessions – yes; Councilpersons Bail – yes; Stack-Davis – yes.

Motion carried. 8-0

- D. Third Party Administrator Contract for 42 Union St. CDBG Blight Elimination Grant. A Letter of Interest from the MEDC was received by the project for Blight Elimination at 42 Union Street indicating interest on the part of MEDC to provide funding. Funding will be in the form of a Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) which will allow) for the City to hire and pay for a third party administrator.

Motion by Councilperson Watkins, supported by Councilperson Stockford, to adopt Resolution No. 3217 authorizing Mayor Sessions to sign a contract with Hager Consulting LLC for Third Party administrative services of the CDBG Blight Elimination Grant at 42 Union Street. Roll call: Councilpersons Kinney – yes; Sharp – yes; Stockford – yes; Watkins – Yes; Mayor Sessions – yes; Councilpersons Bail – yes; Stack-Davis – yes; Flannery – yes.

Motion carried 8-0.

- E. St Anthony's Church Event; Gaming License Resolution. A request for approval of a Charitable Gaming License by St. Anthony's Catholic Church was received in the Clerk's Office to hold their annual church raffle.

Motion by Councilperson Stockford, supported by Councilperson Watkins, to adopt Resolution No. 3218 granting the City's approval for a charitable gaming license to be issued by the State. Roll call: Councilpersons Sharp – yes; Stockford – yes; Watkins – yes; Mayor Sessions – yes; Councilpersons Bail – yes; Stack-Davis – yes; Flannery – yes; Kinney – yes.

Motion carried 8-0.

- F. CASA Event; Gaming License Resolution. A request for approval of a Charitable Gaming License by CASA of Hillsdale was received in the Clerk's Office to hold a fundraising raffle

Motion by Councilperson Stack-Davis, supported by Councilperson Stockford, to adopt Resolution

REDEVELOP-
MENT
READY
COMMUNITIES
CERTIFICATION
PROGRAM
RES.
3215

MEDC
GRANT THIRD
PARTY
ADM.
CONTRACT

RES.
3216
STOCKS MILL

THIRD
PARTY
ADMIN.
CONTRACT
42 UNION
RES. 3217

ST.
ANTHONY
CHURCH
GAMING
LICENSE
RES. 3218

CASA
GAMING
LICENSE
RES. 3219

No. 3219 granting the City's approval for a Charitable Gaming License to be issued by the State for the purpose of holding a charitable raffle. 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.

G. Airport Parallel Taxiway Resolution.

Motion by Councilperson Watkins, supported by Councilperson Stockford, to adopt Resolution No. 3214 authorizing the Mayor and Clerk's signatures on all contracts/documents regarding MDOT Aeronautics Contract No. 2015-0207. Roll call: Councilpersons Watkins – yes; Mayor Sessions – yes; Councilpersons Bail – yes; Stack-Davis – yes; Flannery – yes; Kinney – yes; Sharp – yes; Stockford – yes.

AIRPORT
PARALLEL
TAXIWAY
RES. 3214
CONTRACT
2015-0207

Motion carried 8-0.

H. City Manager Position Approval. Officers Compensation Chair Emily Stack-Davis presented Council with an outline of the new City Manager Contract terms. After council discussion concerning the different contract terms, the following items were agreed upon to be presented for consideration:

CITY MANAGER
POSITION
APPROVAL
PASSES

1. 3-year contract with mandatory annual review and evaluation.
2. Base pay \$95,000.00. (Mayor Sessions strongly disagreed with this dollar amount while the majority agreed.)
3. Life Insurance \$20,000.00
4. ICMA 7% for first year and consideration of 10% subject to vote of confidence from Council thereafter.
5. MERS B-3 plan
6. 3 Month Severance
7. Holidays: 10 ½ days, Funeral: 3 days
8. Vacation Days: 20 days eligible upon date of hire
9. Sick days: 8 days
10. Professional Development: Per Budget
11. Motor Vehicle Requirements: No vehicle provided. Mileage reimbursement outside City limits based on IRS rate.
12. Cell Phone: \$40/month
13. Moving Expenses: Reimbursement of expenses based on receipts not to \$5,000.00
14. Evaluation Frequency: Regular evaluations at the pleasure of Council

Motion by Councilperson Stack Davis, supported by Councilperson Watkins, to present the contract terms to Mr. Mackie for consideration. 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.

I. 911 Dispatch Center: Sale of Property.

Motion by Councilperson Watkins, supported by Councilperson Sharp, to direct the city administration and City Attorney to prepare and execute a purchase agreement for the sale of property at Lot 53 at Hillsdale Industrial Park #4 to Hillsdale County Central Dispatch in the amount of \$26,000.00 for the proposed Hillsdale County Central Dispatch building and authorize signatures by the Mayor and Clerk. Roll call: Councilpersons Bail – yes; Stack – Davis – yes; Flannery – yes; Kinney – yes; Sharp – yes; Stockford – yes; Watkins – yes; Mayor Sessions – no.

SALE OF
PROPERTY
911 DISPATCH
CENTER

Motion carried 7-1.

J. Smart Meter Discussion.

Motion by Councilperson Watkins, supported by Councilperson Kinney, to defer discussions pertaining to BPU Smart Meter installation to the Board of Public Utilities Board.

All ayes.

Motion carried.

SMART
METER
DISCUSSION

K. BPU Director's Contract. City Manager Doug Terry addressed Council in regard to the renewal of BPU Director Rick Rose's employment contract. Mr. Terry stated the Board of Public Utilities board members renewed the contract unanimously and he recommended Council proceed with renewal as well. Mr. Terry went on to explain that, with the onset of the almost \$8,000,000.00 Waste Water Treatment Plant Reconstruction Project approaching, the need for Mr. Rose's expertise is of utmost importance.

BPU
DIRECTOR'S
CONTRACT
R. ROSE

Councilperson Watkins and Mayor Sessions both expressed their support of the renewal of the contract. Both stated they had great confidence in Mr. Rose's past and present performance. Both expressed that in addition to the loss of Mr. Rose's expertise would come with the possibility of having to pay a new director a considerable amount more. Councilperson Stack-Davis offered that she was not in favor of

renewing the contract. When asked what job performance issues Ms. Stack-Davis stated she questioned the depleted Sewer Fund, the environmental issues surrounding the waste water treatment plant and overall quality of leadership. Councilmembers Flannery, Stockford and Sharp stated they would not be voting in favor of the renewal as well but, offered no explanation.

Motion by Councilperson Watkins, supported by Councilperson Kinney, to renew the BPU Directors Contract. Roll call: Councilpersons Kinney – yes; Sharp –no; Stockford – no; Watkins – yes; Mayor Sessions – yes; Councilpersons Bail – yes; Stack-Davis – no; Flannery – no.

Motion failed 4-4.

City Manager Terry recommended a joint meeting be held between Council and the Board of Public Utilities to discuss what the future holds for leadership at the BPU whether that be retaining Mr. Rose or how the City wants to proceed.

Motion by Councilperson Watkins, supported by Councilperson Stack-Davis, to hold a joint meeting of Council and the Board of Public Utilities on May 28, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

All ayes.

Motion carried.

City Manager Report

City Manager Doug Terry asked Council for guidance as to when his time with the City will terminate so he can report to the City of Litchfield as he has obligations at his position with the City of Litchfield as well. After discussion, it was decided to “play it by ear” once the new City Manager arrives and settles in.

Miscellaneous

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

RE-APPT

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

Doug Sanford thanked Council, City Manager Doug Terry and former City Manager Linda Brown for moving forward with the sale and purchase of the Industrial Park property for a new 9-1-1 Dispatch building.

Linda Brown thanked several people for their support during her illness and support during her recovery. Ms. Brown also expressed her support for Rick Rose and his performance as director at the BPU.

LINDA
BROWN
THANKED
FOR
SUPPORT
OF ILLNESS

Council Comment

Councilperson Watkins reported on the recent Public Safety Committee meeting stating the main points of discussion were the purchase of a new fire truck and the possibility of a mileage to fund both the Police and Fire Departments.

Mayor Sessions recognized and thank City Manager Doug Terry for a job well done. Mayor Sessions also thanked Council and staff for jobs well done.

Councilperson Watkins stated his disappointment in the non-renewal of the BPU Director's contract.


Adjournment

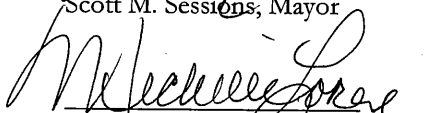
Motion by Councilperson Kinney, supported by Councilperson Watkins, to adjourn.

All ayes.

Meeting adjourned.

9:04 p.m.


Scott M. Sessions, Mayor


Michelle Loren, Deputy City Clerk