

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

August 4, 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 Sessions opened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance.

### **Roll Call**

Motion by Councilperson Watkins, supported by Councilperson Stack Davis, to excuse the absence of Councilperson Watkins from the August 4, 2014 meeting.

All ayes.

Motion carried.

Mayor Scott Sessions called the meeting to order with the following Council members present: Council member Adam Stockford representing Ward One; Council members Sally Kinney and Timothy Wells representing Ward Two; Council members Emily Stack-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 Linda Brown, City Attorney Lewis Loren, Deputy Clerk Michelle Loren, Kay Freese (HR), Alan Beeker (Planning/Zoning), Bonnie Tew (Finance), Keith Richard (DPS), Julie Beeker, Jeff King, Scott Hephner (HCPD), Jane Englehart, Corey Dow (HCPD), Shelby Rathbun, Eldonna Bernath, Casey Sullivan, Roy & Felicia Finch, Richard Smith, Andy Barrand (Hillsdale Daily News), Barry Hill, Kevin Pauken (HCFD), Tony Ginolfi, Maxine Enochs, Mary Wolfram, Mike Parney, Jeff King, Aimee England.

### **Approval of Agenda**

City Manager Linda Brown requested *New Business Item E., Discussion of Assistant City Manager Position* be added to the August 4, 2014 Agenda. Mayor Sessions requested *Miscellaneous Item A., Appointments* be added to the August 4, 2014 Agenda.

Motion by Councilperson Stack Davis, supported by Councilperson Flannery, to approve the agenda of the August 4, 2014 Council Meeting with the requested changes.

All ayes.

Motion carried.

### **Public Comment**

Jeff King, Cambria Township, addressed Council encouraging the creation of an Airport Committee.

Mary Wolfram, HPG/Economic Consultant, addressed Council regarding the zoning issues recessed from the July 7, 2014 for discussion at the July 21, 2014. Ms. Wolfram encouraged Council to extend the RM-1 multiple family ordinance amendments to the B2 district.

### **Consent Agenda**

- A. Approval of Bills from claims of July 17, 2014; Claims of \$99,211.09; Payroll of \$95,618.68.
- B. Committee Reports:
  - 1. O & G Minutes of July 17, 2014
  - 2. EDC Minutes of April 17, 2014 and May 26, 2014
  - 3. Election Commission Minutes of July 15, 2014 and July 25, 2014.
- C. Council Minutes of July 21, 2014

Motion by Councilperson Stack Davis, supported by Councilperson Flannery, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Roll call: Councilpersons Stack-Stack Davis – yes; Flannery – yes; Kinney – yes; Sharp – yes; Stockford – yes; Wells – yes; Mayor Sessions – yes; Bail – yes.

Approved 8-0.

Motion carried.

Communications and Petitions

None

Introduction and Adoption of Ordinances/Public Hearings

None

Unfinished Business

- A. Local Streets Maintenance: None
- B. Code Enforcement.

22 Morry Street - A report from Kimberly Thomas, Assessor/Code Enforcement Administrator state that, after squatters, a visit from police, a visit from code enforcement, a letter to correct and issuance of a Municipal Civil Infraction Citation, she is waiting to hear from the Courts before moving forward.

UPDATE  
22 MORRY  
ST.

55 S. Broad Street - A memo from Assessor/Code Enforcement Administrator outlined the deadlines for conditions placed on the lifting of the order to demolish set by Council at the July 21, 2014 meeting. Since that time, it was reported that no effort toward the payment of taxes had been made, construction plans had not been submitted, no proof of financing had been submitted and no permits had been pulled. Owner Maxine Enochs came from her home in North Carolina to attend the meeting and address Council regarding a continuance on the lifting of the demolition order. Ms. Enochs gave explanation as to why none of the aforementioned items had been completed; mainly financial. Ms. Enochs stated she had hired and lawn maintenance person in order to address the tall grass situation and had three properties up for sale in order to stabilize her financial situation. Outside of that, Ms. Enochs stated little to nothing had been done to make improvements. Ms. Enochs stated she planned to take care of the siding, roof, sidewalk and porch. Ms. Enochs assured Council, that, if given 6 months, considerable improvement would be made.

55 S.  
BROAD ST.  
GIVE  
2 WEEK  
EXTENSION  
APPROVED

After discussion between Council and Ms. Enochs, Councilperson Flannery moved to extend the extension 2 weeks until the August 18, 2014 meeting. Motion supported by Councilperson Stack Davis. Roll call: Councilpersons Flannery - yes; Kinney - no; Sharp - yes; Stockford - yes; Wells - yes; Mayor Sessions - yes; Councilpersons Bail - no; Stack Davis - yes.

Approved 8-0.

Motion carried.

Old Business

- A. Millpond Sediment Testing. City Manager Brown stated that after discussion in regard to determining whether or not the millpond dam could or should be removed, at Council's request she had since obtained a proposal to have sediment testing performed. Ms. Brown stated that, after several meetings, with DEQ and DNR, she learned that DEQ would like to see the dam removed and DNR would like the stream to return to its natural course. Seventeen species of aquatic life have been identified which they believe to be benefited by returning the stream to a smaller natural course. City Manager Brown presented Council with a proposal by the Environmental section of Fleis & Vanderbrink in the amount of \$3800.00. City Manager Brown also shared that the DEQ/DNR are very interested in this project and might find funding for future projects involving the millpond.

MILLPOND  
SEDIMENT  
TESTING  
PROPOSAL  
APPROVED

Motion by Councilperson Kinney, supported by Councilperson Stockford, to authorize the City Manager's signature on the Fleis & Vanderbrink Sediment Testing proposal. Roll call: Councilpersons Kinney - yes; Sharp - yes; Stockford - yes; Wells - yes; Mayor Session - yes; Councilpersons Bail - yes; Stack Davis - yes; Flannery - yes.

Approved 8-0.

Motion carried.

New Business

- A. Redevelopment Ready Community Resolution & Kick-off. A memo from Zoning Administrator Alan Beeker stated that on March 20, 2014, the Coty was accepted into the Redevelopment Ready community Program (RRC), a voluntary, no cost program, sponsored by the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC).

RES# :  
3184  
APPROVED

MEDC representatives gave a short presentation to Council outlining key components and benefits of the program as well as the responsibilities of both parties.

Motion by Councilperson Flannery, supported by Councilperson Stack Davis, to adopt Resolution # 3184 and authorize the Mayor's signature on the Joint Memorandum of Understanding. Roll call: Councilpersons Sharp – yes; Stockford – yes; Wells – no; Mayor Sessions – yes; Councilpersons Bail – yes; Stack Davis – yes; Flannery – yes; Kinney – yes.

Approved 7-1.

Motion carried.

- B. Weather Observation and Data Dissemination. City Manager Linda Brown reported to Council that, periodically MDOT updates the contract covering the Weather Observation and Data Dissemination Equipment at the airport (AWOS). City Manager Brown presented Council with the updated contract for approval.

MDOT WEATHER OBSERVATION APPROVED

Motion by Councilperson Flannery, supported by Councilperson Kinney, to authorize the Mayor and Deputy Clerk's signatures. Roll call: Councilpersons Stockford – yes; Wells – yes; Mayor Sessions – yes; Councilpersons Bail – yes; Stack Davis – yes; Flannery – yes; Kinney – yes; - Sharp – yes.

Approved 8-0.

Motion carried

- C. Hillsdale College Requests for Street Closure and Noise Variance.

Motion by Councilperson Stack Davis, supported by Councilperson Sharp, to approve a request by Hillsdale College for street closure based on recommendations of DPS Director Keith Richard. Roll call: Councilperson Wells – yes; Mayor Sessions, - yes; Councilpersons Bail – yes; Stack Davis – yes; Flannery – yes; Kinney – yes; Sharp – yes; Stockford – yes.

HILLSDALE COLLEGE STREET CLOSURE & NOISE VARIANCE APPROVED

Approved 8-0.

Motion carried.

Motion by Councilperson Flannery, supported by Councilperson Kinney, to approve the requested noise variance. Roll call: Mayor Sessions – yes; Councilpersons Bail – yes; Stack Davis – yes; Flannery – yes; Kinney – yes; Sharp – no; Stockford – yes; Wells – yes.

Approved 7-1.

Motion carried.

- D. New Microbrewers License. City Manager Brown reported that a request had been received for a recommendation from Council to fulfill the requirements of the Michigan Liquor Control Commission, Form-1305 for a new Micro Brewer License and a new Small Wine Maker License on behalf of Happy Pants LLC, dba Hillsdale Brewing Company. City Manager Brown pointed out this is recommendation for *consideration for approval* only.

MICRO-BREWERS CONSIDERATION FOR APPROVAL ONLY APPROVED

Motion by Councilperson Stockford, supported by Councilperson Stack Davis, to recommend consideration for approval by the Liquor Commission. Roll call: Councilpersons Bail – yes; Stack Davis – yes; Flannery – yes; Kinney – yes; Sharp – yes; Stockford – yes; Wells – yes; Mayor Sessions – yes.

Approved 8-0.

Motion carried.

- E. Discussion of Assistant City Manager Position. Councilperson Stack Davis gave an overview of the July 31, 2014 meeting of the Operations and Governance Committee in regard to a possible assistant city manager position Ms. Stack Davis stated they discussed creating an assistant city manager position from the salary that remained from the vacant Public Safety Officer position. This position could help in succession planning or in delegating responsibilities and duties during a CM's absence. This position would be appointed by Council. Councilperson Stack Davis gave a brief disruption of what the interview process might look like. This topic bled into discussion revolving around police staffing issues and such.

DISCUSSION OF ASSIST. CITY MANAGER

Discussion followed and it was agreed that O&G would meet again and extended an invitation to members of the Police and Fire Departments to attend in order to gain more information.

Miscellaneous

A. Appointments. In light of the resignation of Ward II Councilperson Timothy Wells, Mayor Sessions recommended the appointment of Councilperson Flannery fill Councilperson Wells' seat on the Operations and Governance Committee.

APPTS.

Motion by Councilperson Stockford, supported by Councilperson Sharp, to appoint Councilperson Flannery to fill a vacancy on the Operations and Governance Committee.

All ayes.

Motion carried.

General Public Comment

Richard Smith, 63 S. Broad Street, expressed his disappointment in the handling of 55 S. Broad Street.

RICHARD SMITH

Kevin Pauken, Deputy Fire Chief, HCFD, recommended Scott Hephner be considered to fill the Public Safety Director position.

KEVIN PAUKEN

Aimee England, 100 S. West St., addressed Council about the need for additional signage

AIMEE ENGLAND

Corey Dow, HCPD, commented that, rather than the creation of an assistant city manager position, Council needs to look at the safety factor of police overtime and consider filling the vacant police officer position first before considering creating another position.

COREY DOW

Jeff King commented once again addressed Council regarding the creation of an airport committee. Mr. King suggested Council set a goal in doing so.

JEFF KING

Council Comment

Councilperson Sharp stated a Community Development Committee meeting would be set soon.

Councilperson Stack Davis clarified that when discussing the assistant city manager position, they were not creating a new position, but combing the ACM with Public Safety; Stack Davis also clarified she was not weighing in on either position and again invited police and fire attendance.

Councilperson Stockford reminded everyone to vote.

Councilperson Stack Davis also asked for Dial-A-Ride information from Public Services Committee members.


Adjournment

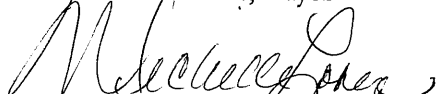
Motion by Councilperson Stockford, supported by Councilperson Kinney, to adjourn.

All ayes.

Meeting adjourned.

9:49 p.m.

  
Scott M. Sessions, Mayor

  
Michelle Loren, Deputy City Clerk