

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

August 18, 2014
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

Motion by Councilperson Watkins, supported by Councilperson Kinney, so accept the formal resignation of Ward II Councilperson Timothy Wells.

RESIGNATION
OF WII
COUNCIL
PERSON
WELLS

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-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), Jeff Pugh (Fleis & Vandenbrink), Randy Kriscunas (Fleis & Vandenbrink), Rick Rose (BPU), Nate Rusk (BPU), Jane Englehart, Scott Hephner (HCPD), Shirley Van Arsdalen, Mark Hawkins (HCFD), Aimee England, Richard Smith, Andy Barrant (HDN), Kevin Pauken (HCFD), Ted Jansen.

Approval of Agenda

City Manager Linda Brown requested a letter from Gary Lieninger be added to the agenda as *Miscellaneous Item A*.

Councilperson Stack Davis asked that the minutes of the August 13, 2014 Operations & Governance meeting be removed from the Consent Agenda Committee Reports for further editing. Ms. Davis also requested that O & G Discussion be added to the agenda as *Old Business Item B*.

Motion by Councilperson Watkins, supported by Councilperson Stockford, to approve the August 18, 2014 Agenda as amended.

All ayes.

Motion carried.

Public Comment

None

Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of Bills from July 31, 2014; Claims of \$77,006.47; Payroll of \$110,992.28. And Bills from August 14, 2014; Claims of \$138,900.35; Payroll of \$92,299.73.
- B. Committee Reports:
 - 1. TIFA Façade Grant Committee Minutes of May 19, 2014
 - 2. TIFA Targeted Development Minutes of May 19, 2014
 - 3. TIFA Minutes of May 20, 2014
 - 4. TIFA Targeted Development Minutes of 6-23-2014
 - 5. Operations & Governance Minutes of July 31, 2014
- C. Council Minutes of August 4, 2014
- D. Mrs. Stock's Park Use Agreement – Alpha Omega Women's Center Fun Run
- E. Mrs. Stock's Park Use Agreement – Miller Ceremony/Reception

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

Roll call: Councilpersons Stack-Stack Davis – yes; Flannery – yes; Kinney – yes; Sharp – yes; Stockford – yes; Watkins – 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.

1. 55 Barry Street – A nuisance property update was presented regarding the progress on the property located at 55 Barry St. City Manager Brown stated that Mary Taylor at the County Inspectors had received a phone call from the owner inquiring about the procedure of pulling permits, but had heard nothing back from her. Nothing has been started. The property has been listed for sale. The owner has notified Alan Beeker that a small payment toward taxes was in the mail to the County. City Manager Brown also stated that Alan Beeker has concerns with the structural integrity of the house; cracks in foundation roof and exterior walls sagging, and extensive roof damage. After speaking with the owner, Mr. Beeker learned that she has no intention of making interior repairs, only exterior.

CODE
ENFORCE-
MENT
55
BARRY
ST

Councilperson Watkins expressed his concerns with the continual extensions being given and the precedence it sets to continue to do so.

After much discussion, it was again decided to stay the demolition order while the City seeks permission to inspect the interior of the structure and obtain an estimation of the cost of repairs as well as the overall safety and integrity of the structure.

Motion by Councilperson Stack Davis, supported by Councilperson Flannery, to request an internal inspection be done at 55 S. Broad. If permission is not granted by the owner, a court order for inspection will be pursued. Roll call: Councilperson Flannery – yes; Kinney – yes; Sharp – yes; Stockford – yes; Watkins – yes; Mayor Sessions – yes; Councilpersons Bail – yes; Stack Davis – yes.

55 S.
BROAD
ST.

Approved 8-0.

Motion carried.

Old Business

- A. Charter Amendment Ballot Language AG Approval. City Manager Linda Brown reported the City had received final approval of the charter amendment ballot language from the Attorney General. The approved ballot language has been filed with the County Clerk for the November 4, 2014 election.
- B. Operations and Governance Discussion Regarding August 13, 2014 Meeting Recommendations. Councilperson/O & G Chair Emily Stack Davis made the following recommendations on behalf of the Operations and Governance Committee.
 1. O & G recommended referring the matter of Public Safety Director/Assistant City Manager position to the Public Safety Committee.
 2. O & G working on an Acting City Manager contract with Doug Terry.
 3. O & G recommended not to renew the city manager contract with City Manager Linda Brown and begin a new city manager search immediately.

Motion by Councilperson Davis, supported by Councilperson Watkins, to refer the matter of Public Safety Director/Assistant City Manager position/s to the Public Services Committee. Roll call: Councilpersons Kinney – yes; Sharp – yes; Stockford – yes; Watkins – yes; Mayor Sessions – yes; Councilpersons Bail – yes; Stack Davis – yes; Flannery – yes.

Approved 8-0.

Motion carried.

Motion by Councilperson Davis to not renew the city manager's contract on May 15, 2015 and authorize the O & G to begin the search for a new city manager in the fall. Councilperson Kinney felt the discussion in the O & G meeting did not include deciding not to renew City Manager Linda Brown's contract. O & G members Kinney, Stack Davis, and Flannery reviewed their discussion and its intent. Councilperson Kinney did not recall deciding to not renew Linda Brown's contract so early into her current one year contract. Councilmembers Stack Davis and Flannery explained the decision to not renew was to

enable Council to have enough time to do a proper search without getting caught up in a last minute situation. Councilperson Watkins stated he did not feel comfortable voting on whether or not to renew a contract they were only three months into.

Motion by Councilperson Flannery, supported by Councilperson Davis, to authorize Operations and Governance only to begin a city manager search as of this meeting date with the intent of a new city manager to start May 16 , 2015 Roll call: Councilpersons Sharp – yes; Stockford – yes; Watkins – yes; Mayor Sessions – yes; Councilpersons Bail – yes; Stack Davis – yes; Flannery – yes; Kinney – yes.

CITY MANAGER SEARCH

Approved 8-0.

Motion carried.

New Business

A. IFT Revocation.

Motion by Councilperson Flannery, supported by Councilperson Sharp, to adopt Resolution No. 3185 and revoke IFT Certificate #2006-284, Southern Michigan Too & Machine. Roll call: Councilpersons Stockford – yes; Watkins – yes; Mayor Sessions – yes; Councilpersons Bail – yes; Stack Davis – yes; Flannery – yes; Kinney – yes; Sharp – yes.

IFT REVOCATION RES. 3185

Approved 8-0.

Motion carried.

B. MDOT Trunkline Maintenance Contract Renewal.

Motion by Councilperson Watkins, supported by Councilperson Flannery, to adopt Resolution #3186 and authorize the Mayor and Deputy Clerk's signatures on the MDOT Trunkline Maintenance Contract Renewal (Contract #2014-0335). Roll call: Councilperson Watkins – yes; Mayor Sessions – yes; Councilpersons Bail – yes; Stack Davis – yes; Flannery – yes; Kinney – yes; Sharp – yes; Stockford – yes.

MDOT TRUNKLINE MAINTENANCE CONTRACT RENEWAL RES. 3186

Approved 8-0.

Motion carried.

C. BPU – IBEW Settlement.

Motion by Councilperson Watkins, supported by Councilperson Stockford, to approve the BPU recommended contract provisions. Roll call: Mayor Sessions – yes; Councilpersons Bail – yes; Stack Davis – yes; Flannery – yes; Kinney – yes; Sharp – yes; Stockford – yes; Watkins – yes.

BPU IBEW SETTLEMENT

Approved 8-0.

Motion carried.

D. BPU – Water and Sewer Rates.

Motion by Councilperson Flannery, supported by Councilperson Watkins, to adopt Resolution #3187 to amend the Hillsdale Board of Public Utilities Schedule of Water Rates. Roll call: Councilpersons Bail – yes; Stack Davis – yes; Flannery – yes; Kinney – yes; Sharp – yes; Stockford – yes; Watkins – yes; Mayor Sessions – yes.

BPU - WATER & SEWER RATES RES. 3187

Approved 8-0.

Motion carried.

Motion by Councilperson Flannery, supported by Councilperson Watkins, to adopt Resolution #3188 to amend the Hillsdale Board of Public Utilities Schedule of Sewer Rates. Roll call: Councilpersons Stack Davis – yes; Flannery – yes; Kinney – yes; Sharp – yes; Stockford – yes; Watkins – yes; Mayor Sessions – yes; Councilperson Bail – yes.

RES. 3188 BPU SCHEDULE OF SEWER RATES

Miscellaneous

None

General Public Comment

Kevin Pauken, HCFD, addressed Council regarding 55 S. Broad St. and the position of assistant city manager.

Council Comment

Councilperson Sharp called for the scheduling of a Public Safety Committee meeting.

Motion by Councilperson Stockford, supported by Councilperson Stack Davis to move Airport matters from Economic Development to the Public Services Committee.

Adjournment

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

All ayes.

Meeting adjourned.

8:42 p.m.



Scott M. Sessions, Mayor



Michelle Loren, Deputy City Clerk