

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

November 4, 2013
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 Douglas G. Moon opened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance.

Roll Call

Mayor Douglas G. Moon called the meeting to order with the following Council members present: Council members Brian Watkins and Casey Sullivan representing Ward One; Council members Ruth Brown and Sally Kinney representing Ward Two; Council members Scott Sessions and Mary Wolfram representing Ward Three; and Council members William Arnold and Mary Beth Bail representing Ward Four.

Also present were City Manager Linda Brown, Deputy City Clerk Michelle Loren, City Attorney Lewis Loren, Bonnie Tew, Rick Rose (BPU), Nate Rusk (BPU), Matt Durr (Hillsdale Daily News), Josh Mercer, Aimee England, Emily Stack Davis, Eric Macy.

Approval of Agenda

City Manager Brown asked for the addition of Consent Item E. Drug & Alcohol Policy – Dial-A-Ride.

Motion by Councilperson Sessions, supported by Councilperson Watkins, to approve the November 4, 2013 Agenda as amended.

All ayes.

Motion carried.

Public Comment

None

Consent Agenda

The items listed in the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by the City Council and the City Manager and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless requested by a Councilmember. In this event, the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and Council action will be taken separately on said item.

- A. Approval of Bills from October 24, 2013: Claims of \$176,788.39 & Payroll of \$90,545.93.
- B. Committee Reports (Pending Approval):
 - 1. Finance Committee Minutes of October 28, 2013
- C. Council Minutes of October 21, 2013
- D. SOAR Agreement
- E. Dial-A-Ride Drug and Alcohol Use Policy

Roll call: Councilpersons Bail – yes; Brown – yes; Kinney – yes; Sessions – yes; Sullivan – yes; Watkins – yes; Wolfram – yes; Mayor Moon – yes; Arnold – yes.

Approved 9-0.

Motion carried.

Communications and Petitions

Introduction and Adoption of Ordinances/Public Hearings

- A. An Ordinance to Amend Section 36-272(3) of Division 7 of Article III, of Chapter 36 of the Code of the City of Hillsdale. City Manager Brown stated that it was recently discovered that the zoning ordinance as written for the B-2 District required patrons to be served only while seated within the building and did not permit any service of a drive-in or open front store. An ordinance was then prepared and received by the Planning Commission as a proposed ordinance at its October 15, 2013 meeting at which time a public hearing was held. The ordinance was published as proposed and is presented to Council for consideration.

Motion by Councilperson Watkins, supported by Councilperson Wolfram, to adopt Ordinance #2013-5 An Ordinance to Amend Section 36-272(3) of Division 7 of Article III, of Chapter 36 of the Code of the City of Hillsdale. Roll Call: Councilpersons Brown – yes; Kinney – yes; Sessions – yes; Sullivan – yes; Watkins – yes; Wolfram – yes; Mayor Moon – yes; Councilpersons Arnold – yes; Bail – yes.

ORDINANCE
2013-5

Approved 9-0

Motion carried.

Unfinished Business

- A. Local Streets Maintenance. City Manager Brown gave a brief update on the Charles St. Reconstruction Project.

- B. Code Enforcement. None

Old Business

None

New Business

- A. Airport Farmland Lease. City Manager Brown reported that Brian Fix is willing to lease the recently acquired property on the north side of the existing airport property under the same terms and conditions as the existing lease with Mr. Fix for other areas of airport property. Mr. Fix is willing to lease for one (1) year and assume taxes on the property. The total tillable acreage is approximately 72 acres for a lease amount of \$11,952.00 payable upon execution of the lease.

AIRPORT
FARMLAND
LEASE
-BRIAN
FIX

Motion by Councilperson Arnold, supported by Councilperson Sullivan, to authorize the Mayor and Deputy Clerk's signatures on the Lease Agreement with Mr. Fix. Roll call: Councilpersons Kinney – yes; Sessions – yes; Sullivan – yes; Watkins – yes; Wolfram – yes; Mayor Moon – yes; Councilpersons Arnold – yes; Bail – yes; Brown – yes.

Approved 9-0

Motion carried.

General Public Comment

None

Council Comment

Council member Sessions shared that the residents at the high rise were very appreciative for the sidewalks and wished everyone good luck at the election.

Councilperson Brown stated the residents on Westwood Drive were very appreciative of the street work done on their street. Ms. Brown stated she had spoken with residents on Charles Street and they are very appreciative of the street reconstruction as well.

Councilperson Watkins shared that he had been at an event in the Detroit area where they were serving cider from Gleis Orchard.

Councilperson Wolfram stated how special it is that the entire downtown in the City of Hillsdale is on the National Register of Historic Places. Councilperson Wolfram went on to say that, as she leaves Council, she hopes the idea of a city income tax does not go by the wayside but perhaps paired with a decrease in property tax for future consideration.

Councilperson Casey Sullivan commented that as his term on council has ended he wanted to say he has thoroughly enjoyed his time of service and has learned a lot. Councilperson Sullivan went on to say he concurred with Councilperson Wolfram's comments regarding a citywide income tax.


Mayor Moon encouraged the new council to be willing to make tough decisions based on the needs of the City and not be swayed by others; to stick to their guns and do what's right.

Adjournment

Motion by Councilmember Sessions, seconded by Councilmember Arnold, to adjourn.

Motion carried.

7:36 p.m.


Douglas G. Moon, Mayor

Michelle Loren, Deputy Clerk