

Minutes of the regular meeting of the City Commission held Monday, May 22, 2017, at 7:00 p.m., in the City Commission Room.

Mayor Ling called the meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Commissioners Present: Mayor Ling and Vice Mayor Lents; Commissioners Gillis, Kulick, Madaj and Verleger

Commissioners Absent: Commissioner Holton

Others Present: City Manager Ridley, City Clerk Howard and City Attorney Smith

Proclamations and Presentations

Mayor Ling and the Historic District Commission presented 2016 Historic Preservation Improvement Awards to:

Art Reach of Mid-Michigan, 111 E. Broadway St. - for the rehabilitation of their lower front façade including festively colored tile work and new projecting sign.

Rubble's Bar, 212 W. Michigan St. - for the rehabilitation of the entire front façade including new windows, paint, doors and signage.

Mayor Ling read and presented a Proclamation to Angela Martin, Special Olympics Michigan, in support of Special Olympics Michigan Week (May 28 - 3, 2017).

Peter Haefner, Partner with Vredeveld Haefner LLC, gave a presentation on the 2016 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

Discussion ensued.

Public Input on Agenda Items

Charlie Kinzel, 1020 Glen Ave., spoke in support of the City considering a blight ordinance.

Anne Swift, 316 S. Arnold; Matt Mertz, 1540 S. Bamber; and Jim Moreno, 316 S. Arnold, spoke in support of on-street barrier free parking spaces.

Receipt of Petitions and Communications

Received the following petitions and communications:

1. City Manager report on pending items.
2. 2016 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.
3. Planning Commission Minutes (April).
4. Mt. Pleasant Airport Advisory Board Minutes (April).
5. Resignation of Mike Pung from the Brownfield Redevelopment Authority and Local Development Finance Authority (Mt. Pleasant Public School Representative) and appointment of Jennifer Verleger effective June 30, 2017.
6. Notice of Temporary Traffic Control Order #5-2017.
7. Correspondence regarding on-street barrier free parking.
8. Letter at dias from Wendy Hovey regarding on-street barrier free parking.
9. Letter at dias from Karen Rau, 545 E. Jordan Rd., regarding on-street barrier free parking.

Moved by Commissioner Madaj and supported by Commissioner Kulick to approve the following items on the Consent Calendar:

1. Minutes of the regular meeting of the City Commission held May 8, 2017.
2. Minutes of the special meeting of the City Commission held May 15, 2017.
3. Agreement with USA Softball of Michigan for Junior Olympics State Softball Tournament at an amount not-to-exceed \$40,000.

4. Payrolls dated May 5, 2017 and warrants dated May 3, 8 and 11, 2017 all totaling \$833,055.57.

Motion unanimously adopted.

A public hearing was held on the proposed 2018-2022 Capital Improvement Plan. Petro Tolas, 306 E. Broadway St., spoke in opposition to the fire safety grant portion of the CIP. There being no additional public comment or communications, the Mayor closed the public hearing. No action required by the Commission at this time.

Moved by Commissioner Kulick and supported by Commissioner Verleger to postpone action on the Mission/Pickard Downtown Development Authority Plan extension until the next meeting.

AYES: Commissioners Kulick, Lents, Madaj and Verleger

NAYS: Commissioners Gillis and Ling

ABSENT: Commissioner Holton

Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Gillis and supported by Commissioner Madaj to approve a budget amendment in the Major Street Fund for \$3,040 for the conversion of two angled spaces at Broadway and University into one barrier free parking space. Budget amendment in the Major Street Fund for \$7,570 for the conversion of a parallel parking space at the corner of Illinois and Main Street into a barrier free parking space. Move to approve both amendments outlined above at a total amount of \$10,600.

AYES: Commissioners Gillis, Kulick, Ling, Madaj and Verleger

NAYS: Commissioner Lents

ABSENT: Commissioner Holton

Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Gillis and supported by Commissioner Madaj to deny the request of The Coffee Room for an exception to the fee structure for Outdoor Dining.

Moved by Commissioner Kulick and supported by Commissioner Verleger to postpone decision on the request of The Coffee Room for an exception to the cost of parking spaces until after the Principal Shopping District can meet again for further discussion on the policy. Motion unanimously adopted.

Moved by Commissioner Kulick and supported by Commissioner Madaj to postpone decision on approval that the tables and chairs on the sidewalk will provide ADA accessibility and therefore the patio proposed by The Coffee Room is not required to be constructed to be ADA compliant until further information on legal requirements can be gathered. Motion unanimously adopted.

Moved by Commissioner Madaj and supported by Vice Mayor Lents to approve the resolution for open burning permit fees as presented.

WHEREAS, Section 93.03(F) of the City Code authorizes the City Commission to set open-burning permit fees;

WHEREAS, the City Commission wishes to set new open-burning permit fees based on a recent staff review of the costs incurred by the City in administering such permits.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

A. Based upon City staff's analysis of costs incurred, the City Commission establishes the following fees for open-burning permits:

Base permit fee \$65.00

Stand-by fire personnel (if required) \$145.00 per hour

B. The base permit fee includes an initial site inspection.

C. The fire code official may require stand-by fire department assistance (one fire engine and two fire personnel) as a condition of issuing a permit, upon determining that stand-by assistance is reasonably necessary to protect the public health, safety, and welfare.

D. All resolutions and parts of resolutions, to the extent of any conflict with this resolution, are rescinded.

Motion unanimously adopted.

Moved by Vice Mayor Lents and supported by Commissioner Kulick to conduct a closed session pursuant to subsection 8(c) of the Open Meetings Act for strategy and negotiation session connected with negotiation of a collective bargaining agreement.

AYES: Commissioners Gillis, Kulick, Lents, Ling, Madaj and Verleger

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Commissioner Holton

Motion unanimously adopted.

Moved by Commissioner Kulick and supported by Commissioner Verleger to conduct a closed session pursuant to subsection 8(h) of the Open Meetings Act for material exempt from discussion or disclosure by state or federal statute.

AYES: Commissioners Gillis, Kulick, Lents, Ling, Madaj and Verleger

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Commissioner Holton

Motion unanimously adopted.

Announcements on City-Related Issues and New Business

Commissioner Gillis invited citizens to apply for board and commission vacancies.

Commissioner Madaj announced that the MMMFLA will be meeting Wednesday, June 7, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall Commission Chamber.

Mayor Ling announced that Timber Town 2.0 build was very successful and thanked staff and volunteers for all their work.

Public Comment on Agenda and Non-Agenda Items

Anne Swift, 316 S. Arnold, thanked the Commission for approving the barrier free parking spots downtown and shared concerns on Mission/Pickard Downtown Development Authority Plan.

Petro Tolas, 306 E. Broadway St., shared concerns regarding recent bike rack purchase and placement downtown; length building permits are allowed to be valid; parking spaces downtown not being uniform and standard; and potential loss of tax revenue on Pickard St. with regard to McGuirk property.

The Commission recessed at 8:20 and went into closed session at 8:25 p.m. The Commission went back into open session at 8:51 p.m. A separate set of minutes was taken for the closed session.

Moved by Commissioner Kulick and supported by Vice Mayor Lents to approve the labor agreement with the employees represented by Technical, Professional and Office Workers to expire on December 31, 2020 as recommended by staff and authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign all necessary updated plans. Motion unanimously adopted.

The Commission recessed at 8:53 p.m. and went into a work session at 8:57 p.m.

WORK SESSION

2018-2019 Principal Shopping District Special Assessment discussion

City Manager Ridley and Mayor Ling lead a discussion on 2018-2019 Principal Shopping District Special Assessment.

Discussion ensued.

Recommendation will be on an upcoming agenda.

Blight Ordinance discussion

City Manager Ridley and Mayor Ling lead a discussion on potential Blight Ordinance.

Discussion ensued.

Staff will prepare a draft ordinance and bring it back to the Commission for review.

Mayor Ling adjourned the meeting at 9:52 p.m. without objection.

Kathleen Ling, Mayor

Jeremy Howard, City Clerk