Minutes of the work session of the City Commission held Monday, April 12, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. in the City Commission Room.

Mayor Holton called the meeting to order.

Commissioners Present: Mayor Holton and Vice Mayor Kilmer; Commissioners Joslin, Ling, McGuire, Palmer and Tilmann

Commissioners Absent: None

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

Work Session – Discuss Draft Ethics Policy

City Attorney Smith gave a presentation on the current draft Mt. Pleasant Ethics Policy. Discussion ensued.

James Holton, Mayor    Jeremy Howard, City Clerk

Minutes of the regular meeting of the City Commission held Monday, April 12, 2010 at 7:01 p.m. in the City Commission Room.

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

Commissioners Present: Mayor Holton and Vice Mayor Kilmer; Commissioners Joslin, Ling, McGuire, Palmer and Tilmann

Commissioners Absent: None

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

Proclamations and Presentations

City Manager gave an overview of the status of the Main and Washington Street Redesign Project. Directors Ellis, Gomez, Morrison and Ridley gave details on the options. Discussion ensued.

Item No. 20 “Consider possible revocation of the OPRA for the Borden Building” was removed from the agenda.

Public Input on Agenda Items

Allison Quast, 314 E. Cherry St., spoke in favor of Option 1 of the Downtown/Campus Connection Project.

Steve Berkshire, 602 S. Main St., spoke in favor of Option 2 of the Downtown/Campus Connection Project.

David Stairs, 109 W. Locust, spoke in favor of Option 2 of the Downtown/Campus Connection Project.

Scott Webber, 610 S. Main St., spoke in favor of keeping one-way traffic and potentially putting bike lanes on University St.

Received the following petitions and communications:
1. Mt. Pleasant Housing Commission Minutes (January)
2. Mt. Pleasant Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes (March)
3. Mt. Pleasant Planning Commission Minutes (March)
4. Mt. Pleasant Planning Commission Special Meeting Minutes (March)
5. Mt. Pleasant Zoning Board of Appeals Minutes (February)
6. Correspondence from Dr. Ireta Ekstrom and correspondence from Mr. Steven Berkshire regarding Main & Washington Streets Proposal
7. Copy of article Why They Serve (Parade July 5, 2009) submitted by Mr. Richard Wood.

Removed item 12b “Bids and Quotations: Tree Trimming and Removal” from the Consent Calendar.

Removed item 25 “Consider approval of Traffic Control Order #03-2010” from the Consent Calendar.

Moved by Commissioner Joslin and supported by Commissioner Ling to approve the following items on the Consent Calendar:

1. Minutes of the joint meeting of the Planning Commission and City Commission held March 8, 2010.
2. Minutes of the regular meeting of the City Commission held March 22, 2010.
4. Bid of Isabella Corporation of Mt. Pleasant, Michigan in the amount of $237,215.00 for the 2010 Local Street Reconstruction Project.
6. WHEREAS, the Mt. Pleasant City Commission and Downtown Development Board desire to continue their efforts in assertively reenergize the Central Business District as an Associate member of the Michigan Main Street program; and
   WHEREAS, such a designation would bring important professional and technical expertise to assist Mt. Pleasant’s downtown revitalization initiatives through the National Main Street Center and the State of Michigan; and
   WHEREAS, the City Commission has established the revitalization of Downtown as priority in its adopted Master Plan in recognition of the importance of the Downtown in creating a vibrant community and strengthening the City’s economic outlook;
   NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Commission supports the Downtown Development Boards request for remaining as an Associate member community in the Michigan Main Street Program; and
   FURTHER, the City Commission commits to the staff support and training necessary to assist the Mt. Pleasant Downtown Development Board with program implementation and committee participation; and
   FURTHER, the City Commission authorizes the Mayor and City Clerk to sign all related application materials, subject to review and approval by the City Attorney.

Motion unanimously adopted.

Moved by Commissioner Joslin and supported by Commissioner Ling to award the contract for Tree Trimming and Removal to Asplundh Tree Service of Mt. Pleasant, Michigan in the amount of $26,538.60 and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign said contract. Motion unanimously adopted.

Moved by Vice Mayor Kilmer and supported by Commissioner Tilmann to direct staff to move forward on the following design elements of the Downtown/Campus Connection:
- Add additional pedestrian scale lighting on east side of sidewalk utilizing Energy Grant funds in the amount of $100,000.00;
- Create 8’ sidewalk (allowing for existing trees) on east side of Main Street utilizing $65,000 designated for sidewalk option;
- Insert art work or colored sections in walk to increase “signature”;
- Mandate snow removal.
Further study street design including traffic direction, parking and bike lanes and bring back further options with two-way traffic, slowing traffic and accommodating bikes.

AYES: Commissioners Joslin, Kilmer, Ling, McGuire and Tilmann
NAYS: Commissioners Holton and Palmer
ABSENT: None
Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner McGuire and supported by Commissioner Tilmann to accept the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant from the Michigan Department of Energy, Labor and Economic Growth in the amount of $114,261.00 to assist in creating a well-lit energy efficient walking route along Main Street.

AYES: Commissioners Holton, Joslin, Kilmer, Ling, McGuire and Tilmann
NAYS: Commissioner Palmer
ABSENT: None
Motion carried.

Moved by Vice Mayor Kilmer and supported by Commissioner Tilmann to enter into a contract with AKT Peerless Environmental and Energy Services of Saginaw, Michigan in the amount of $13,000 for the administration and reporting requirements of the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant for the Main Street pathway lighting project and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign said contract.

AYES: Commissioners Holton, Kilmer, Ling, McGuire and Tilmann
NAYS: Commissioners Joslin and Palmer
ABSENT: None
Motion carried.

Mayor called for a recess at 8:36 p.m. The Commission went back into open session at 8:42 p.m.

Moved by Commissioner Ling and supported by Commissioner Tilmann to postpone action on the proposed ethics policy for further review by the ethics committee with revised policy to be brought back to the Commission at a later date. Motion unanimously adopted.

Moved by Commissioner Ling and supported by Commissioner Tilmann to receive request from P&A Development, LLC to create an Industrial Facilities Tax Abatement District, and set a public hearing on same to be held Monday, April 26, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Commission Chambers, City of Mt. Pleasant City Hall, 320 W. Broadway St.

AYES: Commissioners Holton, Kilmer, Ling, McGuire, Palmer and Tilmann
NAYS: Commissioner Joslin
ABSENT: None
Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Joslin and supported by Commissioner Tilmann to schedule a work session to be held on Thursday, April 29, 2010 at 5:30 p.m. in Conference Rm. A, City of Mt. Pleasant City Hall, 320 W. Broadway St., to discuss the proposed 2011 Operating Budget. Motion unanimously adopted.

Moved by Commissioner Joslin and supported by Commissioner McGuire to set a public hearing on 2010 Millage rate to be held Monday, May 10, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Commission Chambers, City of Mt. Pleasant City Hall, 320 W. Broadway St. Motion unanimously adopted.

Moved by Commissioner Tilmann and supported by Commissioner Ling to receive 2011-2015 proposed Capital Improvement Plan and set a public hearing for same to be
Motion unanimously adopted.

Moved by Commissioner Joslin and supported by Commissioner McGuire to adopt the following resolution making Temporary Traffic Control Order #03-2010 permanent.

WHEREAS, under the date of December 8, 2009, the Traffic Engineer of the City of Mt. Pleasant issued temporary traffic control order No. 3-2010 (“No Parking 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. School Days” signs on the west side of Highland from Stockman to Crescent). Said temporary traffic control order was presented to the City Commission on April 12, 2010, for review and after reviewing said temporary control order and being fully advised in the premises,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Commission approves making temporary traffic control order No. 3-2010 a permanent traffic control order.

AYES: Commissioners Holton, Joslin, Ling, McGuire and Palmer
NAYS: Commissioners Kilmer and Tilmann
ABSENT: None
Resolution adopted.

Commissioner Joslin requested that the Traffic Control Committee look at Highland from Crescent to Preston for no parking.

Announcements on City Related Issues and Concerns

Commissioner Tilmann invited everyone to attend “Take Back the Night Event” on Friday, April 23, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. She also asked if the issue of the ability to put letters on Greek houses could be followed up on.

Mayor Holton adjourned the meeting without objection at 9:22 p.m.

James Holton, Mayor
Jeremy Howard, City Clerk