Minutes of the regular meeting of the City Commission held Monday, June 13, 2011, at 7:00 p.m., in the City Commission Room.

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

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

Commissioners Absent: Commissioner Robinette (excused)

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

Proclamations and Presentations

International Relations Council, Mt. Pleasant Area Board Members Paul Preston and Cathy Methner gave a presentation on our Sister City relationships with Okaya, Japan and Valdivia, Chili.

Mayor Kilmer read and presented a proclamation to Patricia Heitman recognizing the Lifetime Achievement Award for her community video production services, her commitment to keeping the citizens of Mt. Pleasant informed and the dedication she has given to her work, to the residents she served, and to her community.

Additions to Agenda

Item #22 “Request to discuss setting a joint meeting with the Zoning Board of Appeals” was added to the agenda.

Received the following petitions and communications:
1. Request from Zoning Board of Appeals for joint meeting
2. Communication from Amy Town regarding Community Action Poverty Simulation
3. Zoning Board of Appeals Minutes (March)
4. Zoning Board of Appeals work session Minutes (April)
5. Mt. Pleasant Housing Commission Minutes (April)
6. Mt. Pleasant CBD TIFA DDA Minutes (April)
7. Mt. Pleasant Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes (April)
8. Mt. Pleasant Planning Commission Minutes (May)

Item #19 “Consider amending month to month lease on agricultural land between the City of Mt. Pleasant and Robert Ervin” was removed from the Consent Calendar.

Moved by Commissioner Holton and supported by Commissioner English to approve the following items on the Consent Calendar:
1. Minutes of the special meeting of the City Commission held May 23, 2011.
2. Minutes of the closed session of the City Commission held May 23, 2011.
3. Minutes of the regular meeting of the City Commission held May 23, 2011.
4. Resolution indicating the City of Mt. Pleasant’s willingness to participate in the crack sealing of the tarmac at the Mt. Pleasant Airport.

WHEREAS, a Cost Agreement, Number 2011-0334, has been submitted by the Michigan Department of Transportation, which requires the City of Mt. Pleasant to adopt a resolution indicating its willingness to participate in the crack sealing of select areas of the tarmac at the Mt. Pleasant Airport as requested by the City of Mt. Pleasant; together with necessary related work, and

WHEREAS, these pavement improvements will improve safety for airport traffic; and

WHEREAS, the Agreement has been approved by the City Manager as to substance.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that proper City officials be authorized to execute said Cost Agreement on behalf of the City of Mt. Pleasant.


6. Set special meeting for Tuesday, July 5, 2011 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Centennial Hall, 306 West Michigan Street, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan.


Motion unanimously adopted.

Moved by Commissioner Holton and supported by Commissioner Tilmann to approve the 2012-2016 Capital Improvement Plan. Discussion ensued.

Moved by Mayor Kilmer and supported by Vice Mayor Ling to amend the above motion by moving new sidewalks to 2013 and adding a page noting wish list items including Mission Creek improvements, downtown ice rink, swimming pool and potential other items to be added at the July 5, 2011 retreat. The motion to amend was unanimously adopted.

The Commission considered the original motion with amendment. Motion unanimously adopted.

Moved by Vice Mayor Ling and supported by Commissioner English to approve the following resolution in support of the Community Access Preservation Act (CAP Act) H.R. 1746.

WHEREAS, public, educational and governmental cable channels and community media centers in Mt. Pleasant provide critical services to local residents, including government meetings, workshops, youth programming and local news and information; and

WHEREAS, on average, a local community media center produces more than 1,100 hours of original local programming each year, with some centers producing upwards of 15,000 hours per year;

WHEREAS, any community media centers provide critical digital literacy training for high school students and adults, and employ thousands of individuals across the country;

WHEREAS, community media does not receive a federal appropriation from Congress as does public broadcasting, but relies on fees paid by cable companies through franchise agreements;

WHEREAS, the Community Access Preservation Act (CAP Act) responds to several immediate threats to community media;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED We recommend that Communications Act be amended by way of the CAP Act so that public, educational and governmental access funding may be used to support basic operational costs, including employee salaries; We recommend that the Communications Act be amended by way of the CAP Act to reaffirm the principles that cable providers should not discriminate, and should community media the same as other local broadcast channels;

We recommend that the Communications act be amended by way of the CAP Act to promote the preservation of public, educational and governmental channels and ongoing funding from cable providers for local programming, digital literacy training, public security and workforce development.

We recommend that all U.S. House and Senate members from the State of Michigan support the CAP Act.

AYES: Commissioners English, Holton, Kilmer, Ling and Tilmann

NAYS: Commissioner Joslin

ABSENT: Commissioner Robinette

Resolution adopted
Moved by Commissioner Holton and supported by Commissioner English to uphold the City Clerk’s partial denial as specified in his letter dated May 27, 2011, and affirm that the FOIA request should not be further processed until proper identification is provided and the required deposit is received. Motion unanimously adopted.

Moved by Commissioner Holton and supported by Commissioner English to amend month to month lease on agricultural land between the City of Mt. Pleasant and Robert Ervin for an additional 21 acres and authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign the necessary documents as prepared by the City Attorney. Motion unanimously adopted.

Moved by Commissioner Tilmann and supported by Vice Mayor Ling to acknowledge communication from Zoning Board of Appeals and set a joint meeting with the ZBA, Planning Commission and City Commission at a yet to be determined date when the most participants are available to attend. Motion unanimously adopted.

Announcements on City-Related Issues and Concerns

Commissioner Tilmann announced that the Isabella County Council of Governments will be meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 15, 2011 at Wise Township Hall. She also indicated that a citizen who lives and pays taxes at 1526 Broomfield Street would like staff to check into why the street is not included on the City map.

Commissioner Joslin announced that he is putting together a group of volunteers for Mardi Gras 2011 planning committee and asks that anyone who is interested in participating please contact him via e-mail at jjoslin@mt-pleasant.org.

Mayor Kilmer stated that last weekend was busy with lots of great things happening, including a little league tournament, Summer Festival and Le Tour de Mont Pleasant.

Mayor Kilmer adjourned the meeting at 7:54 p.m. without objection.

Bruce Kilmer, Mayor
Jeremy Howard, City Clerk