Minutes of the work session of the City Commission held Monday, March 11, 2013, at 5:48 p.m., at Mt. Pleasant City Hall, Conference Room A.

Commissioners Present: Mayor Ling and Vice Mayor Tilmann; Commissioners English, Holton, Joslin, Rautanen and Sous (arrived 5:56 pm)

Commissioners Absent: None

Others Present: City Manager Grinzinger, City Clerk Howard, Directors Feldhauser, Mrdeza, Ridley, Rousse, City Planner Gray and City Attorneys Smith and Weber

A work session was held on the Redevelopment of Housing in the M-2 Zoning District.

City Manager Grinzinger began a discussion on Redevelopment of Housing in the M-2 Zoning District.

Discussion ensued.

The Mayor adjourned the meeting without objection at 6:54 p.m.

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Kathleen Ling, Mayor    Jeremy Howard, City Clerk

Minutes of the regular meeting of the City Commission held Monday, March 11, 2013 at 7:02 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 Tilmann; Commissioners English, Holton, Joslin, Rautanen and Sous

Commissioners Absent: None

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

Proclamations and Presentations

Mayor Ling read a proclamation in support of “Peacemaking Day” March 25, 2013 and presented it to Kevin Wiltshire, Assistant Principal, Mt. Pleasant West Intermediate School.

Mayor Ling read a proclamation in support of “Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week” March 11-17, 2013.

Public Safety Director Glenn Feldhauser gave a presentation on Community Safety and Law Enforcement’s Response to Crime.

Received the following petitions and communications:
1. Mt. Pleasant Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes (January)
2. Mt. Pleasant Historic District Commission draft Minutes (March)
3. Letter from Michigan Municipal Treasurers Association announcing Mary Ann Kornexl as President-Elect.

Moved by Commissioner Holton and supported by Commissioner English to approve the following items on the Consent Calendar:
1. Minutes of the regular meeting of the City Commission held February 25, 2013.
2. Minutes of the closed session of the City Commission held February 25, 2013.
3. Bid of Northern Pump & Well Company of Lansing, Michigan for High Service Pump 2 Rehabilitation in the amount of $14,948.00 and approve related expenditures for additional parts as required up to, but not to exceed, $30,000.

4. Contract with Mead & Hunt, Inc. of Lansing, Michigan for the engineering design services associated with Runway 9 PAPI/REIL and rehabilitation of the MITL lead-in taxi-way lighting at a cost of $20,976.63 subject to approval of funding from the FAA and MDOT.

5. Bid of Robbin Harsh Excavating, Inc. of Clare, Michigan in the amount of $479,241.75 for the extensive reconstruction and improvement of Parking Lot #2 (Jockey Alley).


7. Extend contract with Fleis and Vanderbrink Engineering, Inc. of Midland, Michigan to include the engineering oversight for Parking Lot #2 (Jockey Alley) construction in an amount not to exceed $36,930.

8. Contract with Charter Communications to relocate their facilities as part of the reconstruction and improvement of Parking Lot #2 (Jockey Alley) in the amount of $14,325.00.

9. Contract with Consumers Energy for relocation of their facilities as part of the reconstruction and improvement of Parking Lot #2 (Jockey Alley) in the amount of $146,771.00.


A public hearing was held to gather input on possibility of income tax vs. millage increase.

Mike Kostrzewa, 1211 E. Chippewa, representing 41 CPA’s; Michael Fisher, 1736 Stockman; Bob Graham, 613 N. Pine River, Ithaca; Kurt Feight, 3213 Brittany; Rudy Kler, 5833 Lindy Ln, Weidman; Wallace Weiss, 1326 Tomah Dr.; Tom Weirich, 255 W. Bluegrass; Heather Knewtson, 1002 S. Fancher; Jeffrey Ellis, 213 N. Fancher; Angela Riedel, 812 N. Fancher; Danielle Ismirle, 500 N. Arnold; Pete Tolas, 405 W. Grand; Jeff Walker, 6611 S. Winn Rd.; Rick Swindlehurst, 700 N. Isabella all spoke in opposition to a City Income Tax.

Jim Moreno, 610 E. Wisconsin, spoke in favor of a City Income Tax.

Shawn Holmes, 1010 Chippewa St. and Anthony Feiq, 1518 Linwood had questions regarding the City Income Tax.

There being no further public comment or communications the Mayor closed the public hearing. No action was taken at this time.

Moved by Commissioner Holton and supported by Commissioner Rautanen to approve a contract with Quinn Evans Architects of Ann Arbor, Michigan in an amount not to exceed $22,700 to complete an application to create a National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) District in Mt. Pleasant’s central downtown business district. Motion unanimously adopted.

Received the City’s requests for Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe two percent allocations. City Manager Grinzinger asked that the Commission prioritize their top five projects for the March 25th meeting.

Moved by Commissioner Rautanen and supported by Vice Mayor Tilmann to approve the following Community Vision Statements for 2014 and Beyond:

We Will Work Together Toward Being a Community……
1. With stable funding from a diverse tax base.
2. Where services and opportunities are optimized by communicating, coordinating and cooperating with other entities and our citizens.
3. Where shopping, dining and entertainment options thrive.
4. Where economic opportunity for businesses offering competitive wages is readily available.
5. With varied recreational and cultural opportunities.
6. With a reliable and sustainable infrastructure.
7. That is safe, clean, healthy and environmentally conscious.
8. With well maintained, livable and desirable neighborhoods.
Motion unanimously adopted.

Moved by Vice Mayor Tilmann and supported by Commissioner Sous to agree to pay Isabella County $1.00 in return for a perpetual easement for a portion of property, as described, but known as the northern part of Parking Lot #2. Motion unanimously adopted.

Moved by Commissioner English and supported by Commissioner Rautanen to set a public hearing on submission of the Recreation Passport Grant application to repair Millpond Park weirs for March 25, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Commission Chambers, City Hall, 320 West Broadway Street. Motion unanimously adopted.

Moved by Commissioner English and supported by Commissioner Rautanen to set a special joint meeting with Planning Commission to receive Planning Commission’s annual report and to receive Highest and Best Use Study from CBRE on Mt. Pleasant Center Property for April 15, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. in the City Commission Chambers, City Hall, 320 West Broadway Street. Motion unanimously adopted.

Moved by Commissioner Holton and supported by Commissioner Rautanen to approve settlement of Yorkshire vs. City of Mt. Pleasant lawsuit based on the recommendation of the City Attorney.

AYES: Commissioners English, Holton, Ling, Rautanen and Sous
NAYS: Commissioners Joslin and Tilmann
ABSENT: None
Motion carried.

Announcements on City-Related Issues and Concerns

Vice Mayor Tilmann announced the Isabella County Council of Governments will be meeting March 20, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

Commissioner Holton thanked the public for taking time to comment on the income tax issue.

Public Comment on Agenda and Non-Agenda Items

Kurt Feight, 3213 Brittany Dr., asked for support for the Paint the M-20 Bridge Project.

Harrison Coleman, 1005 S. Main St., announced the Greek Blood Drive being held April 17, 2013 and asked the public to plan on participating. He also gave a report on the Greek’s Clean the Streets program and wanted to let people know they are now a RSO on campus and have recently applied for a Dow Grant for support for the program. The next two clean-ups are scheduled for 3/24/13 and 4/14/13.

Jacob Szetela, CMU Graduate Student, spoke in opposition of the City Income Tax and is concerned with the effect of an income tax on CMU staff and students.

Jeff Ellis, 213 N. Fancher, commented that 207 N. Fancher has been vacant since before 1990 and would like to see the City do something to see that it is taken down.
Mike Kostrzewa, 1211 E. Chippewa, commented that he would like the City to stick with real property tax instead of City Income Tax.

Wallace Weiss, 1326 Tomah Dr., would like to see City generate more revenue instead of adding taxes.

Heather Knewtson, 1002 S. Fancher, asked how much the Municipal Analytics study cost and if the City got a discount because they used the City name on their website.

The Mayor adjourned the meeting without objection at 9:04 p.m.

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Kathleen Ling, Mayor     Jeremy Howard, City Clerk