Minutes of the work session of the City Commission held Monday, August 26, 2013 at 6:16 p.m. at City Hall in the City Commission Chambers.

Mayor Ling called the meeting to order.

Commissioners Present: Mayor Ling and Vice Mayor Tilmann; Commissioners English, Holton, Joslin, Rautanen and Sous (6:29pm)

Commissioners Absent: None

Others Present: City Manager Grinzinger and City Clerk Howard

Work Session – Presentation on proposed Dog Park

Steve Clark, Rowe Professional Services Company and Chris Bundy, Director of Parks & Public Spaces gave a presentation on the study for the proposed Dog Park. Discussion ensued.

Chris Bundy, Director of Parks & Public Spaces also presented a design of Yost Field improvements for 2013.

Mayor Ling adjourned the meeting without objection at 6:59 p.m.

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Kathleen Ling, Mayor    Jeremy Howard, City Clerk

Minutes of the regular meeting of the City Commission held Monday, August 26, 2013 at 7:01 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

Proclamations and Presentations

George Ross, Central Michigan University President, gave an update on current and future endeavors at Central Michigan University. Discussion ensued.

Heather Smith, City of Mt. Pleasant Community Information Director, gave a presentation on the City’s student engagement strategies. Discussion ensued.

Mayor Ling read and presented a proclamation to Tom Olver, President/CEO of United Way of Isabella County, in support of “United Way Week – September 8 thru 14, 2013”.

Public Input on Agenda Items

John Dinse, 1206 E. High St., Friends of the Dog Park President, spoke in support of the proposed Dog Park.

Received the following petitions and communications:
1. Mt. Pleasant Airport Advisory Board Minutes (May)
2. Principal Shopping District Board Minutes (April)
Moved by Commissioner English and supported by Commissioner Rautanen to approve the following items on the Consent Calendar:

1. Minutes of the work session of the City Commission held August 12, 2013.
2. Minutes of the regular meeting of the City Commission held August 12, 2013.
3. Minutes of the closed session of the City Commission held August 12, 2013.
4. Contract for resurfacing the Department of Public Safety’s wash bay floor to Great Lakes Restoration of Prudenville, Michigan in the amount of $11,895.
5. Appointment of Mayor Kathleen Ling as primary delegate and City Manager Kathie Grinzinger as the alternate for the Michigan Municipal League (MML) Annual Meeting on September 18, 2013.

Motion unanimously adopted.

The following Revised Resolution No. 3 for Special Assessment District No. 1-13 was offered by Commissioner Rautanen and supported by Commissioner English as follows:

WHEREAS, the City Commission, after due and legal notice, met on June 24, 2013 and heard all interested persons to be affected by the proposed installation of pedestrian street lighting on Washington Street.

WHEREAS, the City Commission deemed it advisable and necessary to proceed with Special Assessment No. 1-13;

WHEREAS, the City Commission, after due and legal notice, met on July 8th and heard interested persons based on the proposed assessment roll for the district;

WHEREAS, after reviewing the original petition for said project some Commissioners noted that three of the four property owners in the 800 block of the proposed district had not signed the petition;

WHEREAS, the City Commission action on July 8th reduced the size of the district to only the 900 and 1000 blocks of South Washington and directed that the roll be re-spread;

WHEREAS, on July 22nd the City Commission rescinded the action taken on July 8th which reduced the size of the district after discussing the public benefit of the entire project and scheduled a work session to allow more time for discussion of the project;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The City Commission hereby determines to install pedestrian street lights on the west side of South Washington Street from West Bellows St on the south to West High St on the north in the City (all three blocks as originally proposed), Special Assessment District No. 1-13.

2. The plans, profiles and specifications previously prepared by the City Manager are hereby approved.

3. The Commission hereby approves the detailed estimates of cost and determines that of said total estimated cost based on preliminary design of $128,900. $90,240 shall be paid by special assessments upon the properties specially benefited, and that $38,670 shall be the obligation of the city-at-large because of the benefit to the city-at-large.

4. The City Assessor is directed to prepare a special assessment roll in accordance with the Commission’s determination.
5. When the Assessor has completed the assessment roll he shall file the roll with the City Clerk for presentation to the Commission.

6. All resolutions and parts of resolutions conflicting with the provisions of this resolution be and the same hereby are rescinded.

Resolution unanimously adopted.

The following Revised Resolution No. 4 for Special Assessment District No. 1-13 was offered by Commissioner Rautanen and supported by Commissioner English as follows:

WHEREAS, the Assessor has prepared the revised special assessment roll for Special Assessment District No. 1-13 to special assess that portion of the cost of the public improvements to the properties specially benefited by said public improvements, and the same has been presented to the City Commission by the City Clerk.

WHEREAS, the district is described as: install pedestrian street lights on the west side of South Washington Street from West Bellows St on the south to West High St on the north.

WHEREAS, the roll reflects the updated estimates for the project based on preliminary design;

WHEREAS, the roll also includes a City contribution toward the project of 30% of the cost due to the benefit to the city-at-large;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. Said revised special assessment roll is accepted and will be on file in the office of the City Clerk for public examination.

2. The City Commission shall meet at City Hall, 320 W. Broadway Street, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan, at 7:00 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, on September 9, 2013, to hear all persons interested in reviewing the revised special assessment roll, and shall be afforded an opportunity to be heard, and the City Clerk is directed to publish and mail, in accordance with applicable statutory and ordinance provisions, the notice of hearing.

3. All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this resolution be and the same hereby are rescinded.

Resolution unanimously adopted.

Moved by Vice Mayor Tilmann and supported by Commissioner Rautanen to endorse the establishment of a Recycling Task Force consistent with the description included in the May, 2013 City/County Liaison Committee Minutes and that Commissioner Sous and Michael Fisher be named as regular members and Commissioner Holton as an alternate. Further move that the Union Township Board of Trustees and the Isabella County Board of Commissioners be sent a letter informing them of this action. Motion unanimously adopted.

Moved by Commissioner Holton and supported by Commissioner Rautanen to accept a grant from the Michigan Land Bank Fast Track Authority in the amount of $800,000 for demolition activities at the Mt. Pleasant Center and authorize the City Manager to sign necessary documents. Motion unanimously adopted.

Announcements on City-Related Issues and Concerns

Vice Mayor Tilmann thanked public safety for their time, effort and commitment this past weekend for CMU Welcome Weekend.
Commissioner Joslin thanked public safety for their time, effort and commitment this past weekend for CMU Welcome Weekend; welcomed CMU students back to the community and announced the upcoming downtown Zombie Run, September 13, 2013 – information is available on the City’s website at www.mt-pleasant.org.

Mayor Ling commented that the bridge on High Street looks great and thanked all those involved in completing the project.

Commissioner Sous thanked City staff for taking care of dead trees so quickly around Potter Park.

The Commission recessed at 8:09 p.m. and went into a work session at 8:15 in City Hall, Conference Room A.

Work Session – Drainage

Assistant City Manager/Director of Finance Ridley and Interim Director of Public Works/Wastewater Treatment Supervisor Hein, led a discussion on drainage issues. Discussion ensued.

The Mayor adjourned the meeting without objection at 9:16 p.m.

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Kathleen Ling, Mayor                Jeremy Howard, City Clerk