Minutes of the regular meeting of the City Commission held Monday, May 23, 2016, 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, Holton, Kulick, Madaj and Verleger (left 8:02)

Commissioners Absent: None

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

Proclamations and Presentations

Mayor Ling displayed the Governor’s State Historic Preservation Award and read and presented proclamations to Central Michigan University and the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe and Ziibiwing Center.

Peter Haefner, Partner with Vredeveld Haefner LLC, gave a presentation on the 2015 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

Discussion ensued.

Public Input on Agenda Items

Tom Moffit, 1101 Watson; Don Nagler, 1360 Tomah Dr; and Jeanne Reese, 1416 Ridge St, spoke in favor of resolution to approve amended language of Article VI, Section 3 of the City Charter and submit for placement on the November ballot.

Receipt of Petitions and Presentations

Received the following petitions and communications:
1. City Manager report on pending items.
3. Receipt of 2015 Component Unit Financial Reports.
5. Communication from the Mt. Pleasant Housing Commission regarding expanding affordable housing.
9. Airport Advisory Board minutes (April).
10. E-mail communications from Carol Anderson; Cil Lorand; Greg and Margaret Travis, 522 N. Fancher; and Rose Kelley, 1330 Watson Rd. in favor of resolution to approve amended language of Article VI, Section 3 of the City Charter and submit for placement on the November ballot.

Item #17, “Receive Brownfield Plan for 1400 W. Pickard (Mt. Pleasant Center) and set a public hearing for June 13, 2016 on same.” was removed from the Consent Calendar.

Moved by Commissioner Kulick and supported by Vice Mayor Lents to approve the following items on the Consent Calendar:
1. Minutes of the regular meeting of the City Commission held May 9, 2016.
3. WHEREAS, the Traffic Engineer of the City of Mt. Pleasant requests that the City Commission issue Traffic Control Order No. 3-2016 (Remove all “No Parking” and “No Parking During School Days” signs on Anna Street, Elizabeth Street, Taylor Street and Brown Street between Gaylord Street and Bellows Street.) Said traffic control order was presented to the City Commission on May
23, 2016, for review and after reviewing said control order and being fully advised in the premises,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Commission approves Traffic Control Order No. 3-2016 as a permanent Traffic Control Order.

4. Amendment to contract with Spicer Group for Air Monitoring Services Related to the Mt. Pleasant Center Property in the amount of $97,500.

5. Payroll dated May 6, 2016 and warrants dated May 3, 4 and 12, 2016 all totaling $677,386.38.

Motion unanimously adopted.

A public hearing was held on the proposed Capital Improvement Plan 2017-2021. There being no public comment or communications, the Mayor closed the public hearing. No action required by the Commission at this time.

A public hearing was held on the proposed Amendment to Chapter 54, Section 54.09(D) of the Mt. Pleasant Code of Ordinances to correct the current language referencing a maximum pipe size to reference a minimum pipe size. There being no public comment or communications, the Mayor closed the public hearing.

Moved by Commissioner Kulick and supported by Commissioner Madaj that Ordinance 1010, an Ordinance to amend Chapter 54, Section 54.09(D) of the Mt. Pleasant Code of Ordinances to correct the current language referencing a maximum pipe size to reference a minimum pipe size having been introduced and read, now be passed, ordained and ordered published.

AYES: Commissioners Gillis, Holton, Kulick, Lents, Ling, Madaj and Verleger
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
Motion unanimously adopted.

Moved by Commissioner Holton and supported by Commissioner Madaj to receive the Brownfield Plan for 1400 W. Pickard (Mt. Pleasant Center) and set a public hearing for Monday, June 13, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. on same. Motion unanimously adopted.

Moved by Commissioner Madaj and supported by Vice Mayor Lents to approve the following resolution to approve amended language of Article VI, Section 3 of the City Charter and Submit for Placement on the November ballot.

WHEREAS, Act No. 279 of the Public Acts of 1909, as amended ("Act 279"), provides that a home rule city may amend its charter in accordance with the provisions of Act 279; and
WHEREAS, the City Commission believes that it is in the best interests of the City to amend the City Charter to revise the requirement that initiative and referendum petitions must be signed by qualified, registered electors of the City equal to not fewer than 18% of the number of votes cast for candidates for the office of governor at the last preceding general election in the City; and
WHEREAS, it is necessary for the qualified electors of the City to vote on the proposed amendment to City Charter Article VI, Section 3; and
WHEREAS, Section 21 of Act 279 requires that the form in which proposed amendments to the City Charter shall be submitted on the ballot shall be determined by resolution of the City Commission.

NOW THEREFORE it is resolved that:

1. The City Commission, by a 3/5 vote of its members, proposes that Article VI, Section 3 of the City Charter be amended to read as follows:

Article VI Initiative and Referendum
Sec. 3. Petition - Signatures Required, Form, Filing Time.
  (A) Initiative and referendum petitions must be signed by qualified, registered electors of the City equal to not fewer than 10% of the number of
votes cast for candidates for the office of governor at the last preceding
general election in the City, but in no case fewer than 600.

(B) All papers of a petition shall be uniform in size and style and
shall be executed in ink or indelible pencil, followed by the address of the
person signing. Throughout their circulation, the petitions shall contain or
have attached the full text of the ordinance proposed or sought to be
reconsidered.

(C) Each paper of a petition shall have attached, when filed, an
affidavit executed by the circulator thereof stating that the circulator
personally circulated the paper, the number of signatures thereon, that all
the were affixed in the circulator’s presence, that the circulator believes them
to be the genuine signatures of the persons whose names they purport to be,
and that each signer had an opportunity before signing to read the full text of
the ordinance proposed or sought to be reconsidered.

(D) Referendum petitions must be filed within thirty (30) days after
the Commission adopts the ordinance sought to be reconsidered. Initiative
petitions must be filed within one hundred and eighty (180) days after filing
of the affidavit of the petitioner’s committee.

2. The proposed Charter amendment referenced in this Resolution shall be
placed on the ballot in the following form, with a provision for voting “yes” or “no”
for its adoption:

MOUNT PLEASANT CITY CHARTER AMENDMENT TO REVISE
THE NUMBER OF ELECTORS NEEDED TO SIGN PETITIONS FOR INITIATIVE AND
REFERENDUM

Shall Article VI, Section 3 of the City Charter be amended to reduce the
number of qualified, registered electors of the City who must sign petitions
for initiative and referendum, from 18% down to 10% of the number of votes
cast for candidates for the office of governor at the last preceding general
election in the City, but in no case fewer than 600?

3. The foregoing ballot language and proposed Charter Amendment referenced
in this Resolution shall be submitted to the electors, the Governor of the State of
Michigan and the Attorney General of the State of Michigan as required by law.

4. A certified copy of this resolution shall be submitted to the Governor of the
State of Michigan for his approval or disapproval of this amendment, and to the
Attorney General, for his review of the proposed ballot language.

5. The foregoing Charter amendment shall be submitted to the electors for their
adoption or rejection at an election to be held on November 8, 2016, or such date to
which this election may be rescheduled.

6. The City Clerk shall give notice of such election as required by law. The
notice shall include the proposed amendment to the City Charter in full with the
existing Charter provisions which would be altered or abrogated. The clerk shall
also post the amendment as required by law.

7. The City Manager, City Clerk, and City attorneys are authorized and
directed to take any and all actions needed to seek voter approval of this Charter
amendment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect upon passage by
the City Commission.

AYES: Commissioners Gillis, Lents, Ling and Madaj
NAYS: Commissioners Holton, Verleger, Kulick
ABSENT: None
Motion failed.
Announcements on City-Related Issues and New Business

Commissioner Kulick reminded citizens of the fireworks ordinance in effect in the City with the Memorial Day holiday right around the corner.

Commissioner Gillis reminded residents that board and commission applications are still available. She asked if staff could set up a way for citizens to send an email that would go out to the entire Commission at once.

Mayor Ling thanked staff for arranging “picture day” at the Mt. Pleasant Center.

The Commission recessed at 8:02 p.m. and went into a work session at 8:12 p.m.

WORK SESSION – Capital Improvement Plan 2017-2021

Discussion ensued.

Mayor Ling adjourned the meeting at 9:50 p.m. without objection.

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Kathleen Ling, Mayor     Jeremy Howard, City Clerk