

The regular meeting of the Clare City Commission was called to order by Mayor Pat Humphrey in the Commission Chambers, at 6:01 p.m., who led the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were: Commissioners Bill Horwood, Jean McConnell, Pat Humphrey, John Koch, and Tom Koch. Absent: None. Also present were Ken Hibl, City Manager; Steve Kingsbury, Treasurer and Finance Director; Lori Schuh, Main Street Manager; Jim Chapman, Fire Chief; and Sarah Schumacher, Deputy City Clerk.

2. CONSENT AGENDA:

Moved by Commissioner Jean McConnell second by Commissioner Bill Horwood to approve the items listed with an asterisk (*) that are considered to be routine by the City Commission (Minutes, Agenda, Communications, Approval of Bills, Second Reading of Ordinance Amendment 2009-006). Roll call vote: Yeas: Commissioners Bill Horwood, Jean McConnell, Pat Humphrey, John Koch, and Tom Koch. Nays: None. Absent: None. *Motion Approved.*

3. *APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Consent Agenda Approval.

4. *APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Consent Agenda Approval.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT: - None.

6. OLD BUSINESS/UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

7. NEW BUSINESS:

A. REVISION OF CHAPTER 8 (ANIMALS) AND CHAPTER 30 (PARKS & RECREATION) OF THE ORDINANCE CODES OF THE CITY OF CLARE; ORDINANCE 2009-006.

*Second reading of proposed Ordinance Revision-Consent Agenda Approval.

Motion by Commissioner Bill Horwood second by Commissioner John Koch to approve adoption of Ordinance 2009-006 by Resolution 2010-001. Roll call vote: Yeas: Commissioners Bill Horwood, Pat Humphrey, Tom Koch, John Koch, and Jean McConnell. Nays: None. Absent: None. *Motion Approved.*

8. TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer's report was received

9. MAIN STREET MANAGER'S REPORT

Main Street Manager's Report was received.

10. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Hall Aesthetic Improvements. City crews have started by removing the old wall paper during that process they had difficulty removing the wall paper paste so we decided to have a drywall person put a skim coat on the walls. He is in the process of that now and should be completed sometime around the 2nd of January. Once this is done DPW crews will continue with painting.

New Water/Wastewater Department Part-Time Employee. Wastewater Superintendent John Holland has made a selection for the advertised part-time wastewater operator position. John Nabbelfele is a Marine Reservist and a water operator for the Marine Corp. He will be working 25 hours per week. Previous employee Kim Parker was at an hourly rate of \$13.87/hr. when she left the City. Mr. Nabbelfele's hiring wage is \$11.80/hr.

Water main break. On Sunday December 27th a water main broke on E. Fifth St. near Tender Care Nursing Home. Water could not be shut off until Tuesday to allow the nursing to make arrangements for us to be able to shut off the water until repaired. The repairs took approximately two hours.

Ice Rink. The ice rink has come together very nicely in the last week and is scheduled to open to the public on December 30th.

Absence. Ken has extended his vacation thru Friday January 1st and will be present for the commission meeting on January 4th.

City Manager, Ken Hibl announced that the City had received notice of a new ISO rating. Mr. Hibl explained that the new rating dropped from six to four, and that the new rating could potentially reduce insurance premiums for local business property owners. Mr. Hibl invited Fire Chief, Jim Chapman to give a brief overview of the ISO rating and the potential impact the new rating will have on the community.

Chief Chapman explained that the last ISO rating was completed in 2005 and provided information on some of the criteria for which the rating is based; the most important being the City's water system. Chief Chapman revealed that upon discussing the new rating with his insurance agent, it was discovered that some local businesses could realize a 6% or greater reduction in insurance premiums and encouraged the publication of this information for the benefit of local businesses.

Chief Chapman announced that a priority for the department is to increase pre-fire planning and inspections, which involves going into local businesses to develop a fire suppression plan. Chief Chapman then offered a verbal request to Treasurer and Finance Director, Steve Kingsbury, for one of the old commissioner laptops, which would enable him to record information for the fire suppression planning and inspection program on site.

11. *COMMUNICATIONS:

Consent Agenda Approval.

*Employment Tax Status - City Assessor. The City received the enclosed opinion letter from the city attorney regarding the employment tax status of the city assessor.

*DOL Bureau of Construction Codes. The City received the enclosed notice of public hearing from the DOL related to proposed amendments to the Michigan Elevator Safety board General Rules and Construction Code-Part 7. Plumbing Code.

*Charter Communications change in contact information. The City received notice that Charter Communications has made a change in management and has provided new technical contact information. Charter is also providing additional resources to monitor complaints and address interference problems with channels 96 and 97.

*MMDC Correspondence. The latest editions of weekly *MMDC Bullets* are attached for the Commission's information.

12. EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT: None

13. COMMISSION DISCUSSION TOPIC: None

14. *APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Consent Agenda Approval.

15. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Commissioner Jean McConnell second by Commissioner Bill Horwood to adjourn. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Absent: None *Motion Approved.*

Meeting adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

Pat Humphrey, Mayor

Diane Schmidt, City Clerk