

The regular meeting of the Clare City Commission was called to order by Mayor Pat Humphrey in the Commission Chambers, at 6:00 p.m., who led the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were: Commissioners Bill Horwood, Pat Humphrey, John Koch, Tom Koch and Jean McConnell. Absent: None. Also present were Ken Hibl, City Manager; Steve Kingsbury, Treasurer and Finance Director; Dwayne Miedzianowski, Chief of Police; Lori Schuh, Main Street Manager; and Diane Schmidt, City Clerk.

2. CONSENT AGENDA:

Moved by Commissioner Jean McConnell second by Commissioner Bill Horwood to approve the items listed with an asterisk (*) (Minutes, Agenda, Communications, Department Reports, Approval of Bills) that are considered to be routine by the City Commission. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Absent: None. *Motion Carried.*

3. *APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Consent Agenda Approval.

4. *APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Consent Agenda Approved.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT: - None

6. OLD BUSINESS/UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT – BROADBAND SERVICES

Jerry Burger, Executive Director from the Clare County Enterprise Community (CCEC), made a request to the City Commission to approve purchase of the equipment from the CCEC that will allow hookup for broadband services between Clare County and the municipalities of Clare, Farwell, and Harrison. Mr. Burger introduced Mr. Rod Williams, CCEC's new president, and provided the CCEC's website www.clarecountyenterprise.org for those interested in making donations to the foundation.

Motion by Commissioner John Koch second by Commissioner Jean McConnell to set aside a proposed intergovernmental agreement for broadband services between Clare County and the municipalities of Clare, Farwell, and Harrison until a later date and to approve the deed for the purchase of the fiber and equipment at a cost of \$1.00 (one dollar) by adoption of Resolution 2010-017. Roll call vote: Yeas: Commissioners Bill Horwood, Pat Humphrey, John Koch, Tom Koch, and Jean McConnell. Nays: None. Absent: None. *Motion Approved.*

B. BOARD & COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT (CLARE MAIN STREET BOARD MR. ROGER WILLIAMS)

At the scheduled City Commission of February 15, 2010, the Commission was asked to consider appointing Mr. Roger Williams to the City's Main Street Board. The matter was set aside based on a motion made and adopted by the City Commission at its January 18th meeting to hold all board and committee appointments in abeyance until such time the Commission had an opportunity to review the process and procedures for all board and committee appointments and discuss and determine whether it desired to make any changes to those processes and procedures.

The City Commission unanimously voted to lift the self-imposed restriction of board and committee appointments at its March 1st meeting. Therefore, the Commission is asked to again consider the appointment of Mr. Roger Williams to serve as a member of the Clare Main Street Board.

Motion by Commissioner Jean McConnell second by Commissioner John Koch to appoint Mr. Roger Williams to serve as member of the City of Clare Main Street Board, by adoption of Resolution 2010-011. Roll call vote: Yeas: Commissioners Bill Horwood, Pat Humphrey, John Koch, Tom Koch, and Jean McConnell. Nays: None. Absent: None. *Motion Approved.*

7. NEW BUSINESS:A. RECOGNITION – MR. DAVE MAXWELL

Motion by Commissioner Jean McConnell second by Commissioner Bill Horwood to recognize Dave Maxwell for his outstanding and faithful service to the residents of the City of Clare as a concurrent member of the City of Clare Main Street Board, the City's Downtown Development Authority and the Clare Brownfield Redevelopment Authority since 2006, by adoption of Resolution 2010-018. Roll call vote: Yeas: Commissioners Bill Horwood, Pat Humphrey, John Koch, Tom Koch, and Jean McConnell. Nays: None. Absent: None. *Motion Approved.*

B. RECOGNITION – MR. RICK MOSER

Motion by Commissioner Jean McConnell second by Commissioner Bill Horwood to recognize Rick Moser for his outstanding and faithful service to the residents of the City of Clare as a concurrent member of the City of Clare Main Street Board, the City's Downtown Development Authority and the Clare Brownfield Redevelopment Authority since 2006, by adoption of Resolution 2010-019. Roll call vote: Yeas: Commissioners Bill Horwood, Pat Humphrey, John Koch, Tom Koch, and Jean McConnell. Nays: None. Absent: None. *Motion Approved.*

C. WATER TOWER LEASE – ISP MANAGEMENT

Motion by Commissioner Bill Horwood second by Commissioner Jean McConnell to approve approving a proposed contractual agreement which has been reviewed by our City Attorney, between the City and ISP Management by adoption of Resolution 2010-020. The proposed agreement will provide the City's Water Fund a minimum of \$1,200 in annual revenues, up to a maximum of \$1,800 annually when the four "trade" accounts are eliminated, for the term of the contract. Roll call vote: Yeas: Commissioners Bill Horwood, Pat Humphrey, John Koch, Tom Koch, and Jean McConnell. Nays: None. Absent: None. *Motion Approved.*

D. AMENDMENT TO RENTAL REHAB GRANT PROGRAM GUIDELINES

The City received a \$200K rental rehabilitation grant from the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA) in 2008 to provide downtown business owners an opportunity to rehabilitate existing downtown second-story residential space or convert unused or underutilized second-story space to residential use. Mr. Gary Todd recently applied to use this grant opportunity to rehabilitate an existing residential space at 202 North McEwan Street.

When we received the application from Mr. Todd, our grant administrator, the Gladwin Housing Commission, noted that our Program Guidelines, which were approved in May 2008, needed amendment to comply with MSHDA program revisions implemented since we received the grant. The needed revisions include a date change; an annotation listing the maximum dollar amounts of the grant; and a statement regarding property owner labor and work, are on the first three pages of the Program Guidelines; the remainder of the Guidelines adopted in 2008 remain valid.

The Main Street Board reviewed and considered the needed changes at its meeting on March 5th and unanimously recommended approval.

Motion by Commissioner John Koch second by Commissioner Bill Horwood to approve the proposed amendment to the Rental Rehabilitation Program Guidelines by adoption of Resolution 2010-021. Roll call vote: Yeas: Commissioners Bill Horwood, Pat Humphrey, John Koch, Tom Koch, and Jean McConnell. Nays: None. Absent: None. *Motion Approved.*

8. TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer's report was received.

9. MAIN STREET MANAGER REPORT

Main Street Manager's Report was received.

10. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

- Depot Steering Committee Meeting. We held our second steering committee meeting March 10th, 2010. We've added two new committee members (Tammy Miller, representing Chemical Bank, and Kim Gray, an artist with the Clare County Arts Council) since our last meeting. We continue to make progress on this project, and as a committee we remain totally optimistic we can make this project a reality. Our current greatest challenges include property acquisition (former CarQuest property) and funding the project. But as a committee, we do not believe that either of these challenges are "show-stoppers" and are in the process of developing plans to attain the goal of relocating the depot and being well on our way to rehabilitating the building within the next two years.
11. Planning Commission Meeting. The Planning Commission was originally scheduled to meet March 10th, 2010, but was rescheduled for March 17, 2010. Agenda items include presentation of the City's five-year capital plan and three discussion topics: the depot; a possible PILOT request; and the potential northern industrial development. The Michigan Planning Enabling Act of 2008 mandates that the Planning Commission review the City's annual proposed capital improvement project list to ensure the planned projects support the goals and objectives of the Comprehensive Master Plan.
12. Governor's Roundtable – Job Creation Initiatives. Lori Schuh, our Main Street Manager; Mary Ann Shurlow, our Chamber of Commerce President; and I were invited, along with approximately 60 other local-area (Mt. Pleasant, Harrison, Farwell, & Clare) community members to attend a round-table hosted by Governor Granholm at the Harrison Campus of the MidMichigan Community College. The Governor showcased a new entrepreneurship program titled, FASTTRAC NEW VENTURE at the roundtable; she also announced that the first 1,000 registrants in the state would receive free tuition for the program. Invited members of the roundtable included five Michigan entrepreneurs (two from the Grand Rapids area; one from Mt. Pleasant; and two from Clare), who each shared with those in attendance their local "success" stories. The two entrepreneurs from Clare (Jeff Best of Best Outfitters and Mark Reihl, who has designed and developed a patent-pending high efficiency commercial refrigeration unit that is currently being tested at Cops & Doughnuts) publicly made very complementary comments regarding the Clare business community from which they had received support and also praised the staff of the Michigan Small Business & Technology Development Center at MMCC that provided them needed assistance for business start-up.
13. Board & Committee Vacancies. We will commence providing the City Commission with a monthly listing of current board and committee vacancies and pending (two months in advance of term-expirations) vacancies as an attachment to the City Manager's Report; the first of the aforementioned listings is attached. I ask that the City Commission inform us if they desire additional or supplemental information to that provided in the attachment to this Report.
14. Dog Complaints – Cherry Grove Cemetery. I've received two expressed concerns (one from a Clare resident; one from a non-resident) within the past three months regarding their displeasure that we do not prohibit dogs in the Cherry Grove Cemetery. I will forward the matter for discussion and consideration to both the Cherry Grove Cemetery Board and our Parks & Recreation Advisory Board (the first as they have responsibility, in concert with the City Staff, for development of the City's cemetery rules and guidelines; and the latter as walking – to include walking with dogs – is a recreational activity). I anticipate that this could be a tough issue to resolve and difficult to find a solution that will appease everyone.
15. Initiative and Referendum. The topic of a referendum related to the proposed new industrial park recommended by the Clare Industrial Development Corporation was mentioned at the March 1st meeting. I asked our Jaynie Hoerauf, our City Attorney, to provide an opinion regarding the topic to guide the City Commission in this matter if a referendum petition is received by the City.

16. ACTION ITEM:

Commissioner Tom Koch made a request for City staff to obtain information on installing cameras with decibel meters that would automatically issue tickets to motorcyclists and other vehicles that violate the noise ordinance as a means to address the noise issue downtown while providing additional revenue to the City.

17. *COMMUNICATIONS:

Consent Agenda Approval.

Correspondence from Plunkett & Clooney. The City received an Order Granting Defendants' Motion for Summary Disposition.

18. *APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Consent Agenda Approval.

19. EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT: None

20. COMMISSION DISCUSSION TOPICS: Commissioner Tom Koch discussed the upcoming budget process.

Mayor Pat Humphrey suggested Commissioners visit Robotics Welded Parts (old Spartech) to see the renovations Scott Carter has undertaken on the building.

21. 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