

The regular meeting of the Clare City Commission was called to order by Mayor Pat Humphrey in the Commission Chambers, at 6:03 p.m., who led the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were: Commissioners Bill Horwood, John Koch, Tom Koch, Jean McConnell, and Pat Humphrey. Absent: None. Also present were Ken Hibl, City Manager; Steven Kingsbury, Finance Director/Treasurer; Richard Acker, Airport Manager; John Holland, Waste Water Superintendent; Sarah Schumacher, Deputy City Clerk.

2. CONSENT AGENDA:

Moved by Commissioner Jean McConnell second by Commissioner Tom Koch to approve the items listed with an asterisk (*) that are considered to be routine by the City Commission (Minutes, Communications, Department Reports, Approval of Bills, Agenda with exception of the second Reading of Ordinance 2009-003 whereby a request was made by Commissioner John Koch to remove this item from the Consent Agenda). Roll call vote: Yeas: Commissioners John Koch, Jean McConnell, Tom Koch, Bill Horwood and Pat Humphrey. Nays: None. Absent: None. *Motion Approved.*

3. *APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Consent Agenda Approval.

4. *APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Approved by Consent Agenda with exception to the second Reading of Ordinance 2009-003 whereby a request was made by Commissioner John Koch to remove this item from the Consent Agenda.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT: - None

6. OLD BUSINESS/UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Tractor Purchase.

Motion by Commissioner John Koch second by Commissioner Jean McConnell to table the purchase of a tractor for sidewalk snow removal until a later date. At the request of the City Commission, City Staff will gather information on the cost of leasing a Holder tractor, purchasing a refurbished/reconditioned Holder tractor, and obtain a new bid on a demonstration model Holder tractor for the Commission's consideration prior to the Commission making a decision on the purchase of a tractor for sidewalk snow removal. Roll call vote: Yeas: Commissioners Tom Koch, Bill Horwood, John Koch, Jean McConnell, and Pat Humphrey. Nays: None. Absent: None. *Motion Approved.*

7. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Police K-9 Proposal.

Motion by Commissioner Bill Horwood second by Commissioner Jean McConnell to approve the proposal of Officer Brian Gregory to initiate a Police K-9 Program for the Clare Police Department with no additional appropriation of funds to commence and maintain said K-9 Program by adoption of Resolution 2009-097. Roll call vote: Yeas: Commissioners Tom Koch, Bill Horwood, John Koch, Jean McConnell, and Pat Humphrey. Nays: None. Absent: None. *Motion Approved.*

B. Adoption of Ordinance 2009-003 (Road Naming Ordinance).

Motion by Commissioner Tom Koch second by Commissioner John Koch to adopt Ordinance 2009-003, a House Numbering and Road Naming Ordinance, with exclusion of Sections 23, 24 and 25, the effective date of said Ordinance being fifteen days from this date by adoption of Resolution 2009-104. Roll call vote: Yeas: Commissioners Tom Koch, Bill Horwood, John Koch, Jean McConnell, and Pat Humphrey. Nays: None. Absent: None. *Motion Approved.*

C. Green Communities Challenge.

Motion by Commissioner Jean McConnell second by Commissioner Bill Horwood to accept the Michigan Green Communities Challenge and pledge to work toward achieving the goals of the Basic Challenge through demonstrated energy efficiency and conservation practices over the next three years by adoption of Resolution 2009-105. Roll call vote: Yeas: Commissioners Tom Koch, Bill Horwood, John Koch,

Jean McConnell, and Pat Humphrey. Nays: None. Absent: None. *Motion Approved.*

D. U.S. Bike Route 20.

Motion by Commissioner Jean McConnell second by Commissioner John Koch to set aside approval and support for the development of USBR 20 until after the issue has been introduced and approved by the Parks and Recreation Board. Roll call vote: Yeas: Commissioners Tom Koch, Bill Horwood, John Koch, Jean McConnell, and Pat Humphrey. Nays: None. Absent: None. *Motion Approved.*

8. TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer's report received.

9. *DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Consent Agenda Approval.

10. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Capital Project Updates: The last significant planned summer projects we have yet to complete are the paving of the Stamina Stadium Parking Lot (final grade has been completed – just waiting for the weather to cooperate...maybe within the next two days) and the drilling of our new Well #9. Our major concentration will now turn to restoration of all the concrete projects that have been completed and preparation for winter (hydrant flushing, winterization of irrigation systems, leaf removal, etc.).

Fire Council Meeting & Annual Fire Department Steak Fry. The CFD annual steak fry has been set for Monday, Oct 26th at 7pm at the Clare Public Safety Building; If the Commission has not received your formal invitations, you should expect them shortly. To preclude the need for another fire department event in proximity to the Steak Fry, a Fire Council meeting will also be held on Oct 26th at 6pm, thereby eliminating the need to Fire Council members (who will all also be invited to the Steak Fry) to commit two separate evenings away from home.

Hydrant Flushing. We will commence hydrant flushing on October 18th @ 11pm to exercise and ensure proper operation of all of our fire hydrants. This annual task routinely takes our crews five working days to complete working an 11pm-7am shift; we anticipate completion on October 23rd.

Teamster's Contract. We still have a few details that we need to coordinate with our bargaining unit members before we are prepared to present this proposal to the City Commission. Due to my planned absence from the October 19th City Commission meeting, I now anticipate presenting this proposal to the City Commission at the scheduled meeting of November 2nd.

Railroad Depot Forum. Approximately 25 local residents attended the forum on September 29th. Based on comments and input offered at the forum, we will provide recommendations to the City Planning Commission that we pursue alternative locations for the future home of the depot other than just the site presently determined by the State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO) to be the only site that will facilitate historic designation; invite SHPO representatives to Clare in an effort to persuade them to consider other potential sites that would not adversely affect the historic designation of the depot; and determine whether there are other possible funding sources to restore the depot (to include local fund-raising efforts) in the event that SHPO will not consider alternative sites. Mr. Bob Warrick, the local author of *The Ann Arbor Railroad*, offered a letter supporting the preservation of the depot; the attendees present at the forum essentially echoed the sentiments of Mr. Warrick. The depot remains structurally intact as reported in a letter received from Mr. Steve Letherer, of Letherer Truss, but we will initiate in-house, local efforts to temporarily close the open soffits and repair one significant leak in the roof. There was considerable discussion regarding future use of the depot; by the close of the evening's discussion, it appeared that those present reached general consensus that multiple uses (not solely or strictly a museum or trail head, etc.) of the building would best serve the needs of the community and concurrently better preserve and maintain the building as a community asset while showcasing it as a significant part of Clare's history.

Traffic & Safety Committee Meeting. The T&S Committee met on September 22nd; a copy of the meeting minutes is attached for the Commission's information.

4th Street Senior Housing Project Groundbreaking Ceremony. The formal groundbreaking ceremony for this project has been delayed and is now tentatively scheduled for the week of October 26th. Mr. Seybert has informed us that they are scheduled to complete all required property closure procedures on October 7th, after which construction can start in earnest; he also advised us that he has finalized the lease agreement with Clare County for the Clare Senior Center on the bottom floor of the new building.

Cherry Grove Cemetery Board Meeting. The Board is scheduled to meet on Tuesday, October 6th @ 6pm. An item of new business will be to consider a proposed policy to "buy-back" vacant grave sites.

Absence. I will be out of the office and out-of-state for the period Oct 8-22; Bob Bonham will serve as the Acting City Manager during my absence.

11. *COMMUNICATIONS:
Consent Agenda Approval.

*USDA Communications. The City forwarded correspondence to USDA.

*Tax Tribunal Communications. The City received correspondence regarding a potential pending case to be heard by the Michigan Tax Tribunal.

*MMDC Correspondence. The latest editions of weekly *MMDC Bullets* are attached for the Commission's information; please note that George Dunn, the President of MMDC retired on September 30th; a search for his replacement is in progress.

12. EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT

13. COMMISSION DISCUSSION TOPICS

14. *APPROVAL OF BILLS:
Consent Agenda Approval.

15. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Commissioner John Koch second by Commissioner to Jean McConnell to adjourn. Roll call vote: Yeas: Commissioners Tom Koch, Bill Horwood, John Koch, Jean McConnell, and Pat Humphrey. Nays: None. Absent: None. *Motion Approved.*

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Pat Humphrey, Mayor

Diane Schmidt, City Clerk