

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, Jean McConnell. Absent: None. Also present were Ken Hibel, City Manager; Steven Kingsbury, Finance Director/Treasurer; Jim Chapman, Fire Chief; Lori Schuh, Main Street Manager; Bob Bonham, Director of Public Works; and Sarah Schumacher, Deputy City Clerk.

2. CONSENT AGENDA:

Moved by Commissioner Jean McConnell second by Commissioner John Koch to approve the items listed with an asterisk (*) that are considered to be routine by the City Commission (Minutes, Agenda, Board and Committee Appointment-Jan Winter, Main Street Manager's Report, Communications, Approval of Bill and second reading of proposed Ordinance revision 2009-004). Roll call vote: Yeas: Commissioners Bill Horwood, Pat Humphrey, John Koch, Tom Koch and Jean McConnell. 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. RECOGNITION – WARREN MCGUIRE.

Motion by Commissioner Jean McConnell second by Commissioner John Koch to formally recognize the community service and leadership of Mr. Warren McGuire by adoption of Resolution 2009-107. Roll call vote: Yeas: Commissioners Bill Horwood, Pat Humphrey, Tom Koch, John Koch, and Jean McConnell. Nays: None. Absent: None. *Motion Approved.*

B. RECOGNITION – COLONEL MIKE HUMPHREY.

Motion by Commissioner John Koch second by Commissioner Jean McConnell to formally recognize the distinguished career and dedicated service of Colonel Mike Humphrey by adoption of Resolution 2009-108. Roll call vote: Yeas: Commissioners Bill Horwood, Pat Humphrey, Tom Koch, John Koch, and Jean McConnell. Nays: None. Absent: None. *Motion Approved.*

C. RECOGNITION – FIREFIGHTER JAY KLEINHARDT.

Motion by Commissioner John Koch second by Commissioner Jean McConnell to formally recognize the distinguished career and dedicated service of Colonel Mike Humphrey by adoption of Resolution 2009-108. Roll call vote: Yeas: Commissioners Bill Horwood, Pat Humphrey, Tom Koch, John Koch, and Jean McConnell. Nays: None. Absent: None. *Motion Approved.*

D. REVISION OF CHAPTER 52 (ZONING) SECTIONS 52-277 AND 52-279 (ORDINANCE 2009-004).

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

Motion by Commissioner Bill Horwood second by Commissioner Tom Koch to approve adoption of Ordinance 2009-004 by Resolution 2009-109. Roll call vote: Yeas: Commissioners Bill Horwood, Pat Humphrey, Tom Koch, John Koch, and Jean McConnell. Nays: None. Absent: None. *Motion Approved.*

E. SUPPORT OF H.R. 3745

Motion by Commissioner Bill Horwood second by Commissioner Jean McConnell to support proposed legislation, H.R. 3745, presented by Congresswoman Baldwin, as a means to protect the continued use of PEG channels throughout the United States by adoption of Resolution 2009-110. 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 received.

9. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

October 26th Fire Council Meeting. The Fire Council met on October 26th; all governmental entities (Grant Township, Sheridan Township, Vernon Township, Wise Township, and the City of Clare) of the Council were represented. The primary point of discussion was the possible purchase of a new water tender; the Council approved the solicitation of bids for the new, proposed apparatus. Dependent on the bid prices, the Council will make a purchase recommendation (or not) to the City Commission – likely in December. Other items of discussion included the grant application submitted to DNR for the purchase of wild-land turn-out gear (lightweight gear used predominantly to fight grass or forest fires); the joint purchase of ice rescue gear with the Surrey Township Fire Department (each department purchased two sets of gear) to ensure we have the local capability to accomplish water rescue operations in the winter; the recent completion of an evaluation of the department by representatives of ISO.

Veteran's Day Office Closure. City offices will be closed on Wednesday, November 11, 2009; however, this is not a vacation day for our employees. Traditionally, we have used this day to complete administrative tasks and functions that we don't routinely have time to accomplish during the year, e.g., annual purging of files; general housekeeping chores, etc.

Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) Meeting. The Clare ZBA is scheduled to convene on Friday, October 30th at 10:30am to consider a sign setback variance request of the Clark Podiatry Clinic. The City Staff supports this variance request as we believe the current sign setback requirements to be too restrictive/unreasonable. We intend to propose an ordinance change to the Planning Commission and the City Commission to reduce the current required sign setback.

Well #9. The well has been drilled. The pump is scheduled to be removed from Well #5 (the old well) within the week for rehabilitation; once the rehab is completed, the pump will be placed in the new well and the well brought on line. We anticipate it will be at least another month (likely longer) before the new well is brought on line.

Tractor Purchase. As the Commission is well aware, we have been discussing this topic since April 2009. I apparently have not done a good job in communicating the City's needs on this subject and have evidently done a poor job in justifying that need. And I have also failed to ensure we have explored all options regarding the purchase of the needed equipment – in particular, the financing of this equipment. Prior to my departure on my recent vacation, I asked Steve Kingsbury to explore our options in this regard. We have looked at all the "normal" funding options (self-funding, commercial loans, etc.), but we also now discovered that this equipment purchase could be eligible for 50/50 USDA grant funding. This source of funding is generally reserved for public safety equipment (particularly fire trucks), but in Steve's conversation with USDA, he discovered that USDA may look favorably on a grant for this particular equipment due to its sidewalk snow removal function coupled with the fact that we have a significant senior population and the equipment would be used to clear sidewalks in winter for children walking to school. So before bringing this matter back to the City Commission for further consideration and discussion, we are going to pursue the possible grant option further.

November 3rd Election. As a reminder the City's polling site for the Nov 3rd election is the Public Safety Building, and the polls are scheduled to be open between the hours of 7am to 8pm. We encourage all Clare registered voters to cast their ballots. Aside from the two City Commission seats that are on the ballot, the millage for City street improvements is also slated for renewal.

10. *COMMUNICATIONS:

Consent Agenda Approval.

*FEMA Correspondence. The City received correspondence from FEMA regarding proposed base flood elevations.

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

11. EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT

Joe Johnson announced that he is running for 97th District House seat.

12. *MAIN STREET MANAGER'S REPORT

Consent Agenda Approval.

13. COMMISSION DISCUSSION TOPICS

Tom Koch thanked City Manager, Ken Hibel, for removing an Industrial Development Corporation topic from the agenda at his request. Koch also thanked the press for their interest, noting that the press had contacted him questioning why the IDC topic had been removed from the agenda. Tom Koch provided remarks on the IDC topic, explaining that the IDC is considering applying for a grant to purchase property to pursue building an industrial park, and that he would like to see a workshop created with all interested parties to discuss the matter further. Bill Horwood suggested that Tom Koch was simply making a speech about the topic for the press and the IDC topic should be discussed when it comes before the Commission as an agenda item since there is no proposal before the Commission at this time. John Koch disagreed with Bill Horwood.

14. *APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Consent Agenda Approval.

15. CLOSED SESSION:

Motion by Commissioner Bill Horwood second by Commissioner Jean McConnell to go into closed session to discuss and consider proposed Teamsters hourly and supervisory labor contracts at 6:32 pm. Roll call vote: Yeas: Commissioners Bill Horwood, Pat Humphrey, Tom Koch, John Koch, and Jean McConnell. Nays: None. Absent: None. *Motion Approved.*

Public meeting reopened at 6:47 pm.

16. Approval of Teamsters Local 214 Hourly & Supervisory Labor Contracts

Motion by Commissioner Jean McConnell second by Commissioner John Koch to approve the two proposed labor contracts by adoption of Resolutions 2009-069 and 2009-070, respectively. Roll call vote: Yeas: Commissioners Bill Horwood, Pat Humphrey, Tom Koch, John Koch, and Jean McConnell. Nays: None. Absent: None. *Motion Approved.*

17. ADJOURNMENT:

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Pat Humphrey, Mayor

Diane Schmidt, City Clerk