

**CITY OF ST. CLAIR
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 16 - 7:00 P.M.
MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 547 N CARNEY DRIVE**

Mayor Cedar convened the Regular Meeting of the City Council to order in the Council Room of the Municipal Building at 7:00pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was recited.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mayor Cedar, Members Foley, Kindsvater, Klieman, Kuffa, LaPorte, McCartney.

ABSENT: None.

ADMINISTRATION: Michael E. Booth, City Superintendent; James T Downey, Jr; Kane, Clemons, Joachim & Downey; Rick Jefferson, Police Chief; Katie Stepp, Harbormaster; Annette Sturdy, City Clerk.

AUDIENCE: There were 18 people in attendance.

AGENDA AMENDMENTS – None.

CONSENT AGENDA

LaPorte moved, Kuffa seconded, CARRIED, to approve Consent Agenda item A. as presented.

A. City Council Minutes of May 2, 2016 Regular Meeting: Approved

PUBLIC HEARING

2016-2017 Annual Budget Hearing – Mayor Cedar opened the public hearing at 7:03pm to receive public comment on the proposed 2016-2017 fiscal year budget and millage rate. A presentation by City Superintendent/Finance Director detailed several items of interest including 2016 Taxable Value, current millage rates and general revenues. The fiscal year begins October 1st and under the City Charter, Council must adopt the budget by June 15 of each year. The majority of General fund revenues are from property tax (70%). Major Street and Local Street funds have a projected increase from the state shared gas revenue. The road millage tax capture will appear on next year's budget and will be used for road repairs. In the past 3 years the cash balance increased from 13.3K to 412.20K. The Downtown Development Authority (DDA) street-scape project still has a balance due of 64.2k. General comments included a proposed 2% Water rate increase to support a short-term goal of replacing the water main on Goffe street, an explanation of Harbor expenses and that pension liability remains underfunded. There was no public comment for or against the proposed annual budget. The public hearing closed at 7:22pm

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution (16-04) – Lot Combine 522 Brown Street and 510 Brown Street-

RESOLVED, that the premises hereinbefore described be split and combined into the following parcels of land:

Created Parcels A and B: (522 Brown Street and 510 Brown Street)

NEW LEGAL DESCRIPTION AND PARCEL NUMBERS TO BE PROVIDED BY ST. CLAIR COUNTY LAND FILE.

City Assessor Houston explained the request made by the property owner to split 20' off of one

parcel and add to the other.

Foley moved, McCartney seconded, CARRIED, to adopt Resolution 16-04 Lot Split/Combine-Brown.

Ayes: Foley, Kindsvater, Klieman, Kuffa, LaPorte, McCartney, Cedar
Nays: None

RESOLUTION ADOPTED

Resolution (16-05) – Lot Combine 911 Clinton Avenue and Adjoining vacant lot-
RESOLVED, that the premises hereinbefore described be combined into the following parcel of land:

Created Parcels A and B: (911 Clinton Avenue)
NEW LEGAL DESCRIPTION AND PARCEL NUMBERS TO BE PROVIDED BY ST. CLAIR COUNTY LAND FILE.

City Assessor Houston explained the request by the property owner and land contract holder to combine both parcels into one, mainly because of no frontage on the vacant property.

McCartney moved, Foley seconded, CARRIED, to adopt Resolution 16-05 Lot Combine-Clinton.

Ayes: Kindsvater, Klieman, Kuffa, LaPorte, McCartney, Foley, Cedar
Nays: None

RESOLUTION ADOPTED

Resolution (16-06) – Lot Combine 702, 716 and 614 Waterloo-
RESOLVED, that the premises hereinbefore described be split and combined into the following parcels of land:

Created Parcels A and B: (716 Waterloo Street and 614 Waterloo Street)
NEW LEGAL DESCRIPTION AND PARCEL NUMBERS TO BE PROVIDED BY ST. CLAIR COUNTY LAND FILE.

City Assessor Houston explained the request made by the property owners to split the parcel, 702 Waterloo, in half and attach each half to the adjoining properties.

Foley moved, Kuffa seconded, CARRIED, to adopt Resolution 16-06 Lot Split/Combine-Waterloo.
Ayes: Klieman, Kuffa, LaPorte, McCartney, Foley, Kindsvater, Cedar
Nays: None

RESOLUTION ADOPTED

REPORTS FROM ADMINISTRATION

City Superintendent- A meeting to gather cost estimates for Trumbull/Cass road repair will commence this week. Friends of the St. Clair River will host the Sturgeon Festival June 4th 10am-4pm at the Great Lakes Maritime Center.

City Attorney –

Housing Commission proposed Ordinance-In reference to the drafted ordinance that was included in the last council agenda packet and the question of necessity of such, the proposed ordinance would be necessary because the original documents do not include any such provision. The issue will return to council at a later date.

Property Purchase-A review of the Charter showed the motion as presented to purchase property needs 5 votes to pass, therefore the original motion to purchase foreclosed property and donate it to Habitat for Humanity at the May 2 meeting failed (4-3 votes). Several options were presented to council regarding reconsideration or to renew a motion per Roberts Rules of Order. Discussion included comments from Councilmember Foley who confirmed with Habitat for Humanity the donation would be welcomed and from resident, Hisham Algharabally, 711 S. 10th, who expressed his own interest in purchasing the property and would like it to go to auction. No action was taken.

City Departments – None

Authority, Board, Commission, Committee Chairman or Council Representative- The Historical museum will host an event, “The Dynamic Dozen”, this Thursday, May 19th at 7pm and Friday, May 20th at 1pm.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS -None

NEW BUSINESS

Approve Special Use for Riverview Veterinary Center

Planning Commission approved Riverview Veterinary Center’s request for a Special Use permit that would grant permission to operate the Plaza Pet Club business at 201 N. Riverside, as an extension of the Riverview Veterinary Center currently located at 102 S. Third Street. As the process requires, Council also received the application, supporting documents and the recommendation from Planning Commission for their approval.

McCartney moved, Kindsvater seconded, CARRIED, to approve the Special Use request by Riverview Veterinary Center.

Ayes: Kuffa, LaPorte, McCartney, Foley, Kindsvater, Klieman, Cedar
Nays: None

Approve Housing Study proposal from LandUse USA

Paul Wade, Chairman of the DDA, stated a request for proposals was advertised for a St. Clair Downtown Housing Study. It will study housing units in the downtown area and determine the housing market. Proposals were received from 3 of the 5 solicited. The study will be fully funded through several private foundations. All factions considered, LandUse USA was chosen. The DDA respectfully, recommends approval to enter into the agreement as presented.

LaPorte moved, Kindsvater seconded, CARRIED, to approve entering the agreement as presented.

Approve Purchase of Passenger Van

Superintendent Booth requested approval to purchase a new vehicle that would support both the Harbor and Senior transportation function. The old vans from the Harbor and Senior activities will be listed on the state web-site and sold at auction.

McCartney moved, Kuffa seconded, CARRIED, to purchase a used vehicle for the amount of \$29,000 plus additional transfer fees.

Ayes: LaPorte, McCartney, Foley, Kindsvater, Klieman, Kuffa, Cedar
Nays: None

Approve Purchase of 2017 Ford Police Inceptor Utility

Superintendent Booth requested approval to purchase a new vehicle that would support the St. Clair Police Department. This purchase would replace a 2006 Dodge which will be listed on the state web-site or sold to Arrowhead Uphitters, Inc for \$2500.00, whichever is more profitable.

Kindsvater moved, Kuffa seconded, CARRIED, to purchase the vehicle for the amount of \$26,318.00 plus additional equipment and installation.

Ayes: McCartney, Foley, Kindsvater, Klieman, Kuffa, LaPorte, Cedar
Nays: None

American Legion Memorial Day event and parade

Council received information from the American Legion Post 382 to conduct a Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony on Monday, May 30, 2016 with the parade commencing at 1:00pm.

Approve Permit Application for annual 4th of July Fireworks Display

Council received an application for a fireworks display permit required by the State of Michigan for the annual Fourth of July event. The fireworks will be displayed from a barge located in the St. Clair River at the center of Palmer Park as in previous years. Approval of the permit is recommended.

McCartney moved, Kuffa seconded, CARRIED, to authorize application for a fireworks display permit from American Fireworks Co to conduct the annual Fourth of July fireworks display.

Assignment of Fourth of July Vendor Permit Process to St. Clair Events

McCartney moved, Kuffa seconded, CARRIED, to assign the 2016 Fourth of July vendor permit process to St. Clair Events in compliance with Section 18-177 of the City Code.

Extend Fourth of July Vendor Hours

Kindsvater moved, Kuffa seconded, CARRIED, (voice vote/Foley=Nay) to extend the 2016 Fourth of July vendor hours to 11:00pm in accordance with the applicable sections of the City Code to allow for additional sales during this special event.

CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS – May 4 and May 13, 2016

Check registers listing the bills for the period ending May 4, 2016 (check numbers 41150->41184) and May 13, 2016 (check numbers 41185->41265) were presented for Council review.

LaPorte moved, Kuffa seconded, CARRIED, to approve payments of May 4 and May 13, 2016 Claims and Accounts as submitted.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS – Gary Kohs, 1012 Riverside Avenue, expressed concern of traffic speed on Riverside Avenue.

MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS – Upcoming special events are the 15th annual Marbleye Fishing Tournament 5/20-5/22/16 at the St. Clair Boat Harbor; Memorial Day Parade 5/30/16 downtown at 1:00pm and the Little League Wooden Bat Tournament 5/27-5/29. Appreciation to the Harbormaster was expressed for Sunday's RC boat event. The walking audit of Hillside Cemetery and Klecha park grounds was completed.

CLOSED SESSION

McCartney moved, Kindsvater seconded, CARRIED, to grant Request for a Closed Session to Discuss Strategy Connected with the Negotiation of a Collective Bargaining Agreement with Employees Represented by American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFSCME.

Ayes: Foley, Kindsvater, Klieman, Kuffa, LaPorte, McCartney, Cedar
Nays: None

At 8:25pm, Council recessed into closed session and resumed regular session at 8:58pm.
No action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT at 8:59pm.

Annette Sturdy, City Clerk

Bill Cedar, Jr, Mayor