

**CITY OF MASON  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
MINUTES OF APRIL 7, 2008**

Clark called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at 201 W. Ash Street, Mason, Michigan. Preadmore led the Pledge of Allegiance and offered the invocation.

Present: Councilmembers: Bruno, Clark, Mulvany, Preadmore, Waltz, Whipple  
Absent: Councilmember: Naeyaert  
Also present: Martin Colburn, City Administrator  
Kathy Revels, Finance Director  
Dennis McGinty, City Attorney  
Deborah Cwierniewicz, Deputy City Clerk

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES - REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING: March 17, 2008**

The Minutes of March 17, 2008 were approved as submitted.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS**

MOTION by Whipple, second by Preadmore,  
to approve the payment of bills in the amount of \$124,417.17 as submitted.  
**MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**

**PEOPLE FROM THE FLOOR**

Roger Bauer of 608 E. Maple Street stated concern regarding increased traffic on E. Maple Street due to current street improvements, which also occurred last year while Columbia Street was under construction. He asked Council to post a detour and direct traffic to E. Columbia Street or post speed limit signs on Maple Street. Staff will look into the matter and inform Mr. Bauer of their findings.

**REGULAR BUSINESS**

**Annual Report – Capital Area District Library – Barbara Faiks, Head Librarian**

Barbara Faiks, Head Librarian of the Mason Branch Capital Area District Library (CADL), presented the 2007 Annual Report. Also present were CADL Board Members, Deb Bloomquist, Alma Staton, and Sally Trout.

**Resolution No. 2008-14 – Resolution Approving Ryan Carter, dba, Baja Grille Located at 402 S. Jefferson Street “Above All Others” for a Redevelopment Project Area and Development District Liquor License**

Ryan Carter, owner of Baja Grille located at 402 S. Jefferson Street spoke briefly regarding interior modifications he would like to make and the request for a liquor license made available to establishments within designated development districts or areas through Act 501 of the Public Acts of 2006 known as the Redevelopment Project Area and Development District or Area Liquor Licenses. One of the requirements to initiate the licensing investigation process is formal action by the City Council approving the applicant "ABOVE ALL OTHERS". Resolution No. 2008-14 was introduced by Bruno and seconded by Waltz.

**CITY OF MASON  
RESOLUTION NO 2008-14  
A RESOLUTION APPROVING RYAN CARTER, DBA, BAJA GRILLE LOCATED AT  
402 S. JEFFERSON STREET "ABOVE ALL OTHERS" FOR A REDEVELOPMENT  
PROJECT AREA AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT LIQUOR LICENSE  
April 7, 2008**

**WHEREAS**, the Mason City Council of the City of Mason adopted Ordinance No. 115 – "Downtown Development Authority Ordinance", October 15, 1984, established under 1975 PA 197.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Mason City Council of the City of Mason does hereby establish the Downtown Development District also as a redevelopment project area.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that the City Council of the City of Mason does hereby approve Ryan Carter, dba, Baja Grille, located at 402 S. Jefferson Street, "ABOVE ALL OTHERS" for a "Redevelopment Project Area and Development District Liquor License", as authorized by MCL 436.1521a.

**RESOLUTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Resolution No. 2008-15 – A Resolution Approving an Increase to the City of Mason Utility Rates**

Larry Howe, Utility Rate Study Commission Chair, informed Council regarding the Commission's recommendation to implement the recommendation submitted by ACI Finance, Inc. as a reasonable user rate to support the capital improvements to the infrastructure of the water and sewer systems. Resolution No. 2008-15 was introduced by Waltz and seconded by Bruno. A brief discussion was held regarding the manner of change to the capital improvement distribution and the overall rate increase.

**CITY OF MASON  
CITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO. 2008-15  
A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN INCREASE TO THE CITY OF MASON UTILITY RATES  
April 7, 2008**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Mason is anticipating significant capital improvements to the infrastructure of the water system and the sewer system as outlined in the Master Plan, Capital Improvement Plan, Street Improvement Plan, and City of Mason Budget; and

**WHEREAS**, the most significant capital improvement is a result of an unfunded federal mandate requiring the City to construct a water treatment plant; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mason City Council is charged with assigning a just and reasonable rate for supplying the users of the water system and the sewer system with utility services as the City may provide; and

**WHEREAS**, the Water and Sewer Fund is a Proprietary Fund which, by definition, is financed primarily by user charges; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mason City Council contracted with ACI Finance, Inc. to conduct an analysis of the Water and Sewer Fund along with a Water Rate Study and a Sewer Rate Study; and

**WHEREAS**, the Utility Rate Study Commission has met and reviewed the recommendations and reports submitted by ACI Finance, Inc.;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Utility Rate Study Commission is recommending to the Mason City Council that the following changes be implemented as recommended by ACI Finance, Inc.:

- Water Charge will be \$2.85 per 1,000 gallons after the first 2,000 gallons.
- Water Capital Improvement Charge will be \$2.00 per 1,000 gallons of water sold.
- Sewer Capital Improvement Charge will be \$.50 per 1,000 gallons of water sold.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that all rate increases are effective July 1, 2008.

**RESOLUTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Motion – Directory of Charges**

A brief discussion ensued regarding various changes to the Directory of Charges.

MOTION by Preadmore, second by Bruno,  
to approve the Directory of Charges dated April 7, 2008.  
MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

**Motion – Mason Lions Club – Use of Public Right-of-Way for White Cane Drive**

MOTION by Waltz, second by Preadmore,  
to approve the Mason Lions Club’s request to use the public right-of-way for their  
annual White Cane Drive on the sidewalks of Mason Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup> and  
Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup>.  
MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

**Motion – Charitable Donations – Gorsline Runciman Funeral Homes – Request to Use the Public Right-of-Way to Host a Public Awareness Campaign as a Participating City with Oprah Winfrey’s Big Give for the Greater Lansing Food Bank**

Gorsline Runciman Funeral Homes General Manager, Deborah Sydlowski, and Location Manager Glen Smith informed Council regarding their request to utilize the City sidewalks, April 17, 2008 during the hours of 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. to host a public awareness campaign that will directly benefit the Greater Lansing Food Bank. In association with the popular reality television program, Oprah's Big Give, the metropolitan Lansing area has been selected as one of 80 cities throughout the country to receive \$10,000.00 in seed money from the Big Give to be used toward the Greater Lansing Food Bank to provide much needed milk to the food bank. Gorsline Runciman Funeral Homes, ABC-3, CW-5, and Michigan Governor Jennifer Granholm have teamed up with the Big Give to increase the donations for this vital service to Lansing area residents. The campaign will include a horse drawn milk wagon that will travel around the Court House Square while Gorsline Runciman staff walk along on the sidewalk requesting the business community to contribute cash donations and/or shelf stable food products.

MOTION by Waltz, second by Bruno,  
to approve the Gorsline Runciman Funeral Homes request to use the public  
right-of-way to host a public awareness campaign as a participating city with  
Oprah Winfrey’s Big Give for the Greater Lansing Food Bank April 17, 2008.  
MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

It was discussed that the Police Department data link installation is completed and operating properly.

**NEW BUSINESS**

None.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Distributed.

**LIAISON REPORTS**

None.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Colburn informed the Council regarding current city business.

**PEOPLE FROM THE FLOOR**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

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Martin A. Colburn, City Clerk

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Leon Clark, Mayor