

**CITY OF MASON
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES OF AUGUST 3, 2009**

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

Present: Councilmembers: Bruno, Clark, Ferris, Naeyaert, Tornholm, Waltz
Absent: Councilmember: Johnson
Also present: Martin Colburn, City Administrator
Eric Smith, Finance Director/Treasurer

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: July 20, 2009

The regular meeting Minutes of July 20, 2009 were approved as submitted.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

MOTION by Naeyaert, second by Waltz,
to approve the payment of bills in the amount of \$375,953.94 as submitted.
MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

PEOPLE FROM THE FLOOR

None.

MOTION by Bruno, second by Naeyaert,
to excuse the absence of Councilmember Neal Johnson from tonight's meeting.
MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

REGULAR BUSINESS

First Reading – Ordinance No. 175 – An Ordinance to Amend the Following Sections Of Division 1, Parks And Recreation, of Chapter 46, Parks And Recreation, of the Mason City Code; Section 46-34 – Amend Section to Adjust Hours of Operation, and City Cemeteries, of Chapter 14, Cemeteries, of the Mason City Code; Section 14-36 – Amend Section to Adjust Hours of Operation

MOTION by Waltz, second by Naeyaert,
to introduce and consider Ordinance No. 175 as read for the first time.
MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

An extensive discussion was held regarding setting the hours of operations for Hayhoe Riverwalk.

Motion – Waiver of Administrative Fee for the Collection of 2008 Real Ad Valorem Taxes Requested by Kiwanis Village

The Kiwanis Village Board annually submits a letter requesting the City to waive the 1% administrative fee collected for real estate taxes. The organization provides affordable housing for Senior Citizens and physically challenged persons from the Mason area. The State of Michigan pays the taxes in accordance with senior citizen housing legislation and asks owners to request a waiver because the fees are not covered by the legislative act. In recognition of the service provided by the Kiwanis, the City has historically waived the fee.

MOTION by Bruno, second by Tornholm,
to waive the 1% administrative fee for 2009 real ad valorem taxes collected for
Kiwanis Village.

MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

**Motion – Use of Right-of-Way for Outdoor Seating – Bestsellers Books & Coffee Company and
Turtle Tom’s Ice Cream Shoppe**

The Clerk’s office received an application to utilize the public right-of-way for outdoor seating from Bestsellers Books & Coffee Company as well as one from Turtle Tom’s Ice Cream Shoppe. Both meet the requirements of Resolution No. 2009-09.

MOTION by Naeyaert, second by Ferris,
To approve the business proposal for use of the public right-of-way for Bestsellers
Books & Coffee Company and Turtle Tom’s Ice Cream Shoppe.

MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

Motion – Designation of Delegates – Michigan Employee Retirement System (MERS) Annual Meeting

Council approval is required for designating an Officer Delegate and Alternate to attend the MERS annual meeting being held in Grand Rapids, September 15 – 17, 2009. Staff has determined to send Kathy Revels as the Officer Delegate and Martin Colburn as the Officer Alternate.

MOTION by Naeyaert, second by Waltz,
to designate Kathy Revels as the Officer Delegate and Martin Colburn as Alternate to
attend the MERS Annual Meeting, September 15 –17, 2009

MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Discussion was held regarding Ingham County’s consideration to close Rayner Park. Tornholm commented regarding the financial impact the City would incur if it were to assume responsibility of maintaining Rayner Park. Naeyaert commented that she is staying in touch with Rayner Park matters through County Commissioners, and that she started a “Save Rayner Park” Facebook page to update anyone interested; it rapidly grew to 1,300 members. Waltz commented that the City offered a solution that would have kept Rayner Park running for 20 years; since they declined the offer, the County should manage their budget to include keeping Rayner Park open.

Ferris informed Council that library repairs are completed following the basement flooding.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

CORRESPONDENCE

Distributed.

LIAISON REPORTS

Waltz informed Council regarding current Historic District Commission business

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

Colburn informed the Council regarding current city business.

PEOPLE FROM THE FLOOR

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Martin A. Colburn, City Clerk

Leon Clark, Mayor