

Minutes of the special meeting of the City Commission held Tuesday, June 1, 2010, at 6:30 p.m., at Mt. Pleasant City Hall, City Commission Chambers.

Commissioners Present: Mayor Holton and Vice Mayor Kilmer; Commissioners Ling, Joslin, McGuire and Tilmann

Commissioners Absent: None

Others Present: City Manager Grinzinger, City Clerk Howard, Directors Ellis, Gomez, Morrison and Ridley

Mayor Holton gave a brief statement on the goals and guidelines of the Town Hall meeting and opened it up to the public for comment. Mayor mentioned that numerous written comments had been received and will be considered as well.

Public Comments on Agenda Item

Ron Roby, 201 East Bennett:

- concerned with increase in bag and tag fees; and downtown lights coming on early;
- great that people have come to speak on budget and city services;
- Summerfest is beneficial and provides revenue to the Parks and Rec Dept.

David Kerr, 205 South Main Street:

- complimented city on planning for the future;
- study city income tax, utilize citizen committee, possibly in conjunction with charter amendment to cap property taxes;
- look at poor states and see percent spent in specific areas including salaries;
- concerned with increase in bag and tag fee;
- director of public safety was to be both police and fire chief;
- labor negotiations, look at cuts in premiums on holidays and other reductions to save jobs.

Bob Frost, 2009 South McKenzie:

- concerned with cut of access recreation;
- concerned that we committed to access recreation related to trail.

Marty Trombley, 815 South Fancher:

- questions on what positions are being proposed for cut in building and code enforcement;
- questions on how police overtime would be cut;
- when looking at cuts make sure to set priorities on what is important to city and to residents;
- questions on how fire cuts would affect our contract with Union Twp. for fire protection;
- important to make sure that number of fire personnel are available to respond;
- code and building important because of amount of rentals in city;
- make sure that public safety combined service groups are not affected by cuts.

Richard Swindlehurst, 106 North Court Street:

- complimented city on coming up with reductions;
- don't increase taxes;
- concerned with increases in bag and tag because it can encourage people to throw residential garbage in commercial dumpsters.

Sid Smith, 730 East Bluegrass:

- parking meter charges and rental housing fees increase is good idea;
- recreation fee increase is okay and would like to see a county-wide parks and recreation department;

- concerned with cuts to public safety;
- don't raise taxes.

Patrick Nangallgnon, 211 North Arnold:

- concerned with cuts in fire prevention.

Michael Kostrzewa, 1211 East Chippewa:

- complimented city on planning;
- seemed like proposed cuts were fair across multiple areas;
- okay with some cuts to police and fire in extras but thinks service level should stay the same;
- thinks "fluff" things should be looked at like festivals/events;
- balance sheet is strong;
- disagree with city income tax;
- utilize Chipp-A-Waters Park differently - maybe sell lots for residential construction;
- rental housing licensing fees are not lowest in state;
- budget and audit documents are too large and need summary for general public.

Carolyn Rohman, 416 Smalley:

- against any millage increase or tax.

Paul Bigard, 1325 East Chippewa:

- please have more town meetings;
- open entire budget for consideration for cuts and view by the public.

John Haycock and Sexual Assault Organization (via Commissioner Tilmann):

- concerned with cuts in public safety.

Announcements on City-Related Issues and Concerns

Commissioners Holton, Joslin, Kilmer, Ling, McGuire and Tilmann thanks the public for attending and commenting.

Commissioner Joslin encouraged public to call Senators and Representatives and express concern with cutting state shared revenue.

Commissioner Ling encouraged the public to come to budget public hearings in the future.

The meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

James Holton, Mayor

Jeremy Howard, City Clerk