

CITY OF ITHACA
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 7, 2009
7:00pm

The regular meeting of the City of Ithaca City Council, held at 129 W. Emerson Street, Ithaca, Michigan, was called to order by Mayor George Bailey at 7:00pm and followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Councilperson Thomas opened with prayer.

Present were Mayor George Bailey, Councilpersons L.D. Hollenbeck, Alice Schafer, Charles Teegardin, John Thomas, Cathy Timmons, Larry Trexler and City Attorney Jefferson Arnold. Staff present was Clerk-Treasurer Barbara Fandell and Consulting City Manager Dennis Collison.

Audience in attendance was Bill Dilts, Craig Schripsema, Douglas LaLone, Todd Betzold, and Steve Lytle.

A motion was made by Councilperson Hollenbeck, second by Councilperson Timmons to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Motion carried.

Mayor Bailey asked to receive public comments. Mayor Bailey welcomed Consulting City Manager Dennis Collison.

The Police Department report was reviewed. Councilperson Thomas inquired if a patrol car was out of service as most of the mileage was placed on the 2008 patrol vehicle only. Staff indicated there was not and Manager Collison would address the issue with Officer Swan. A motion was made by Councilperson Thomas, second by Councilperson Trexler to receive the Police Department report. Motion carried.

Mayor Bailey presented Resolution 2009-05 which if passed would enter the City into a cost agreement for traffic signal control with the Michigan Department of Transportation. The signal controls have been in place but MDOT has audited its paperwork and the Resolution was omitted from the original placement. A motion was made by Councilperson Trexler, second by Councilperson Teegardin to adopt Resolution 2009-05 the Michigan Department of Transportation Cost Agreement for Traffic Signal Control on US127BR at the intersection of Center Street and Main Street. Motion carried.

Manager Collison reported that request was received for a special use permit to place a small windmill at the Cowdrey building on Center Street. The request will be presented to the planning commission at a meeting on April 28, 2009. The City currently does not have an ordinance which deals with small wind turbines, so the request will be addressed through the special use process. Commissioner Bill Dilts informed members that a public hearing will be held at the County meeting on May 5, 2009 for comment on the zoning ordinance for the large wind turbines. Manager Collison further reported that the MML Region IV meeting would be held in St. Johns and interested members are to inform Clerk Fandell for registration.

Manager Collison reported that the 2009 Michigan DNR Trust Fund grant application was submitted, the budget for the 2009-2010 fiscal year is in process and offered to help in the hiring of a Police Chief if the Council so desired. Manager Collison reported that the detention pond project bid opening was held and the low bid was well under the estimated cost. Bids for the project ranged from \$54,739 to over \$150,000. It is possible that if the project is awarded through stimulus funding, the Bacon-Davis Act for wages may apply and the bid may need to be re-bid or negotiated based on the requirement. The MML has been contacted and we are awaiting an answer from Washington.

Manager Collison reported that he and staff met with Rowe Professional Services regarding the Water/Sewer Bond Project and all of the priority items are completed and can now do some of the projects on the initial secondary list. Mayor Bailey stated that Rowe had contacted the railroad and was unable to get clearance or an easement to run the north water line for looping. Manager Collison reported that discussion was held on the traffic issues on Center Street, especially the number of accidents and deaths at the Industrial Parkway and Dilts Road Intersections. It has been suggested to restripe Center Street and turn the four-lane road into a three-lane road with a center turn lane and painted bike paths on each side. Craig Schripsema of Rowe Professional