

CITY OF ITHACA
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 5, 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 Douglas LaLone, Steve Lytle, Linda Koebert and students of her fifth grade class.

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.

Mrs. Linda Koebert, 5th grade teacher at North Elementary School, addressed the Council along with students of her class. The class performed a service project which was locating problem areas in the city that contained litter and trash. The students addressed four areas; the park-n-ride, the woods near McNabb park, the vacant lot across from Save-A-Lot and the Playscape. The students shared their concerns on the trash and need for a recycling center in the City or County. Mayor Bailey thanked the students for bringing this issue to the Council's attention and also shared with the students the city's current curbside recycling and large trash pickup for residents.

Mayor Bailey welcomed the students from Mr. Lambrecht's government class.

The Police Department report was reviewed. A motion was made by Councilperson Timmons, second by Councilperson Teegardin to receive the Police Department report. Motion carried

Mayor Bailey acknowledged the 2009-2010 Fiscal Year Budget as introduced by Manager Collison and Clerk-Treasurer Fandell. Clerk-Treasurer Fandell reported that Governor Granholm's Executive Order was released and revenue sharing for the 2008-2009 Fiscal Year Budget was cut by 4.4% an amount equal to \$10,333.00 for the City Of Ithaca. The cut included the 2% increase previously passed and the promise to keep municipalities whole on the sales tax. The 2008-2009 budget was passed without originally including the increase in the event this would happen. A motion was made by Councilperson Trexler, second by Councilperson Teegardin to set a public hearing for comments on the 2009-2010 Fiscal Year Budget for June 2, 2009 at 7:10pm. Motion carried.

Manager Collison reported that the city is experiencing sanitary sewer issues which are infiltrating the sewer system and have appeared due to the flooding from the recent rain accumulation. In looking at the bond project capital outlay, some of these issues could be addressed by foregoing one of the water line looping sections which could be done by the city DPW crew in the future. Manager Collison discussed the water test well. Two sites have produced promising aquifers, the decision to continue drilling the well or using the funds toward other sewer issues in town needs to be made. Manager Collison stated that MDOT will be contacted regarding twelve catch basins which need to be disconnected from the sewer system.

Manager Collison further reported that the start of the re-striping on the Business Route was a miscommunication error on MDOT's part. The public hearing does need to be set. Councilperson Hollenbeck inquired on the traffic light. Manager Collison shared MDOT's comments that a three-lane street will give the city a better chance of securing a light than the four-lane. A new traffic study will be done when the re-striping is completed. A motion was made by Councilperson Schafer, second by Councilperson Timmons to set a public hearing for the purpose of hearing comment on the re-striping of BUS-127 for May 19, 2009 at 7:05pm. Motion carried.