

April 27, 2009

Regular meeting of the Ludington City Council held in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building on Monday, April 27, 2009, at 6:30 o'clock p.m.

Present: His Honor Mayor John Henderson and Councilors Kaye Holman, Paul Peterson, Greg Dykstra, Brent Scott, Pete Engblade, and Gary Castonia.

Absent: Councilor Weston who was excused and City Treasurer Mary Reeds-Mortensen who was excused over the past several council meetings for medical reasons.

Also present were City Manager John Shay, Police Chief Mark Barnett, Fire Chief Jerry Funk, and City Clerk Deborah Luskin.

Invocation was pronounced by Councilor Pete Engblade.

Pledge to the Flag was given.

Moved by Councilor Castonia, seconded by Councilor Holman, that the Agenda be approved as presented. Motion Carried.

The meeting was opened for public comments.

After no comments were received, the regular order of business was resumed.

Moved by Councilor Scott, seconded by Councilor Holman, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting 4/13/09. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councilor Engblade, seconded by Councilor Castonia, that the request from the Sable Dunes Audubon Society to place three signs in the City's right of way announcing the West Michigan Birding Festival May 15-17, 2009, be approved. One sign will be placed at the Northwest corner of Rowe St. and Ludington Ave, one sign on the Northwest corner of Harrison St. and Ludington Ave., and the third sign across from the Ludington Area Center for the Arts. Councilor Holman asked if this was one of those events where the City allows the signs to be placed between the sidewalk and the street in the right of way and it was confirmed that it was. Councilor Holman opposed. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councilor Peterson, seconded by Councilor Dykstra, to approve the procession down Rath Ave. to the Ludington Carferry dock at 7:30 a.m. on May 22, 2009 to celebrate the first sailing of the season by the S. S. Badger. Community Development Director Heather Loney provided an outline of the events scheduled for that morning and explained that the boat leaves the dock at 9:00 a.m. There is a special rate for those wishing to make the round trip of \$35 and those interested are asked to register at the Carferry office between May 18 and 22. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councilor Scott, seconded by Councilor Dykstra, that the request received from the American Association of University Women Ludington Branch to place signs in the City advertising the book sale on June 11, 12, and 13, 2009, be approved. It was noted that the signs would be placed in the City's right of way. Councilor Holman made it clear that as long as the City continues to allow signs in the City's right of way, she will vote no. Councilor Holman opposed this motion. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councilor Holman, seconded by Councilor Peterson, that the Finance Report with total expenditures in the amount of \$338,709.34 for this period be approved and orders drawn according to the City Charter. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councilor Holman, seconded by Councilor Scott, to approve His Honor Mayor Henderson's request to appoint Tom Coleman to replace Dennis Dunlap, who has moved to Muskegon, to serve on the Construction and Property Maintenance Code Appeal Board with the term to expire December 31, 2011, effective immediately. Motion Carried.

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the United States Power Squadrons, now celebrating its 95th anniversary, has earned the respect of boating men and women through the nation, for their many civic service contributions to boating safety; and

WHEREAS, The voluntary members have taught their USPS public boating courses to more than four million people to date, and are presently teaching in excess of 40,000 men, women, and youngsters a year; and

WHEREAS, The Sable Point Sail & Power Squadron was organized in Ludington and chartered by the United States Power Squadrons in January 2002; and

WHEREAS, the Sable Point Sail & Power Squadron encourages its members to improve their boating knowledge and skills through advanced boating courses and as a civic service has and continues to provide public safe boating courses to local residents; and

WHEREAS, The successful completion of the USPS Boating Course meets the Educational requirements for boat operation in all states; and

WHEREAS, The members of USPS, working in concert with the National Ocean Service, have provided and are continuing to provide, tens of thousands of chart corrections yearly, ore than any other organization, in order to keep our nation's 1000 Nautical charts up to date; and

WHEREAS, The United States Power Squadrons have been honored by four U.S. Presidents for the many contributions they have made in boating safety.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, John Henderson, Mayor of the City of Ludington, do hereby declare Sunday, May 17, 2009, the first day of Safe Boating Week, as United States Power Squadrons Day and urge all people to join in this observance.

Moved by Councilor Castonia, seconded by Councilor Dykstra, to approve the foregoing Proclamation.
Motion Carried.

Heather Venzke-Loney, Community Development Director, presented an update on the Farmer's Market in 2009. Local farmers and residents will be working this event which will be located in the North James Street Plaza. The Information Sheet and Vendor Guidelines were distributed to each Council member as part of their council packet and reviewed. There will be a total of 14 participants at this time. The farm market will run on Fridays from May 8 to October 30 from 3 p.m. until 8 p.m. The vendors must provide homemade or home grown products and must be located in the local four county regions. Other locations may be considered if there is a need. The products will include vegetables, fruit, herbs, flowers, baked goods, honey, jams, syrups, potted plants, artisans, soap maker, and a beekeeper with wax candles. Councilor Peterson questioned where the vendor fees would go and it was explained that the fees will go to the advertising for the farm market. In the future, it is the intent of this committee to see the fees be used to pay for a Market Master. Councilor Scott questioned the numbers which were listed on the map included with the material. He asked if the parking lot numbers were coinciding with the vendor booths. Heather confirmed this. His Honor Mayor Henderson commended Heather Loney on her efforts on the farm market.

Councilor Engblade questioned when the snow fences at the beach would be coming down. City Manager John Shay explained that with the spring leaf pickup which was out of the ordinary, as well as with a reduced DPW staff this week, these fences will be completely down before Memorial Day.

Councilor Castonia informed City Council that Councilor Kaye Holman was recently elected Vice Chair of Region 3 MML.

Moved by Councilor Engblade, seconded by Councilor Holman, that the meeting be adjourned. So carried at 6:50 p.m.

Deborah L. Luskin, CMC
City Clerk