

**CITY OF THE VILLAGE OF CLARKSTON
Artemus M. Pappas Village Hall
375 Depot Road
CLARKSTON MI 48346**

**MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
May 29, 2012**

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Luginski followed by the pledge of allegiance.

**Roll. Present – Mayor Luginski, Hunter, Bisio, Hargis, Sabol and Roth
Absent: Haven (at the time of roll call)**

Others Present – City Manager Ritter

Moved by Hargis, supported by Bisio to approve the Agenda as presented.

Moved by Luginski, supported by Sabol to amend the agenda and add 3 E. Church Update to Unfinished Business, item C.

Motion Carried. Absent: Haven

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Lt. Dale Labair thanked the Council for all their support through all his years serving Clarkston. He had an excellent time!

Roth expressed what a pleasure it has been working with Lt. Labair. Sabol concurred.

CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Hunter, supported by Roth to approved consent agenda as presented with the exception of removing the May 14, 2012 council minutes from the agenda for corrections.

Motion Carried. Absent: Haven

Moved by Bisio, supported by Sabol to amend the motion to read the corrections into the minutes for the May 14, 2012 council meeting. Corrections are as follows: Under Consent Agenda change approved to approve, Page 3. First paragraph under City Manager's Report: change personal property reduction to personal property tax reduction, also insert It is proposed that any business that have personal property with a taxable value less than \$40,000 are no longer subject to the tax and the Senate approved a reimbursement of the loss that exceeds 2% of the entire General Fund budget and add the following: The city attorney advised that court action can be taken to gain access to inspect the property if there is a sufficient showing of danger to public health or other violations. Page 2. Second paragraph to add the discussion included the use of local businesses, the need for the City Manager to give local businesses an opportunity to bid, his duty to find the City the best price possible and that he should review these purchases and the bids before making the purchase but no formal action was taken at this time.

Motion Carried. Absent: Haven

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Funding of HRC Project – City Manager briefed the council on the funding for the HRC Storm Water Permit Compliance. Cost will be charged to the sewer account which has adequate balance to cover expenses. Will proceed accordingly. This project will be performed paid over two budget years----- 2012 and 2013

Heritage Signs – City Manager contacted the Historical Society requesting payment for the Planner fees of \$200. They did not budget for this expense and therefore are not willing to pay the \$200.

Mayor Luginski did not think that the Historical Society should pay the \$200 planner fee.

Moved by Sabol, support by Bisio to pay the Planner's bill of \$200.

Motion Carried. Absent: Haven

Bisio commented that the minutes on demand are on the website now. This being done, the packets and agenda's should be on the website in a timely manner.

Training was done last week on the uploading onto the website. It was discussed who would be responsible for the uploading information. Hargis briefed the council on the status of minutes on demand.

It was suggested that all minutes and agenda's be forwarded to the Clerk to upload on website.

Cory Johnston a resident and part of the audience gave a brief synopsis of the open meeting act and that the City not posting all meetings and minutes in a timely manner to the public and the City is in violation of the open meetings act.

Bisio concurs with Cory Johnston's comment regarding the Planning Commission and Historic Commission current minutes and agenda's not on website or available. He as well has asked several times for these and didn't get them.

OLD BUSINESS

Resolution – Proposed Library Funding

Bisio summarized the resolution expressing the intent of the council. Resolution is as follows:

Resolution

- Whereas,* the city and Independence Township have appointed a joint District Library Agreement Committee to draft an agreement under which the Independence Township Library would become a district library established by the city and the township, governed by a separate and independent library board and funded by a separate district library millage;**
- Whereas,* it is anticipated that both the township and the city will approve formation of a district library and the library board will seek approval of a district library millage on the November 6, 2012 ballot;**
- Whereas,* the library is currently funded by a .691 mill levy on property in the township and by payments from the city to the township under an Intergovernmental Library Contract;**
- Whereas,* the city's payments to the township under the Intergovernmental Library Contract are equal to an annual amount determined by the formula of multiplying the number of mills assessed in the township for library services times the taxable value of property assessed in the city for property taxation purposes;**
- Whereas,* the city makes its payments to the township under the Intergovernmental Library Contract from the city's general fund and, unlike the township, the city does not impose a separate library millage;**
- Whereas,* if the voters approve a district library millage, the district library will receive funding from its separate library millage beginning with the December 2012 tax levy; the township will no longer impose its library millage beginning with the December 2012 tax bill; and the district library agreement will provide for termination of the city's payment obligations under the Intergovernmental Library Contract as of December 31, 2012; and**

Whereas, in order for city property owners to be placed on an equal footing with township property owners with respect to funding the library, if the voters approve a district library millage, it would be appropriate for the city to reduce its general operating millage levy to the same extent that the township eliminates its separate library millage;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. It is the intention of the City Council of the City of the Village of Clarkston to place city property owners on an equal footing with township property owners with respect to funding the library.

2. If the voters approve a district library millage at the November 6, 2012 election, it is the intention of the City Council to lower the city’s general operating millage levy as follows:

(a) The city will reduce its December 2012 general operating millage levy by 0.3455 mills.

(b) In future years, the city will reduce its general operating millage levy by 0.691 mills from the level that the city would otherwise have imposed.

Resolved by Bisio, support by Hunter to approve the Proposed Library Funding Resolution as presented.

Roll Call Vote: Yes:	Bisio, Hargis, Hunter, Luginski, Roth and Sabol
No:	None
Absent:	Haven

Resolution Adopted.

Lengthy discussion continued.

Retailer’s Zoning Ordinance Amendment Request – Update

Mayor Luginski updated the Council on the items from the retailers meeting.

Retailers would like to get the process to change an ordinance. City Manager has given that process to Kevin and they would like to get an estimated cost to change the ordinance. Estimated cost from both Tom Ryan and Dick Carlisle is \$2,250. \$750 for the application and \$1,500 for the professional service.

Mayor Luginski went on to say that the process is the process and they have to follow it. Which is: Application and fee of \$750.00, an estimated \$750 each for city planner and city attorney. Planning commission meeting, public hearing and recommendation to the council? Retailers are less concerned with sandwich board signs. Biggest concern is open signs.

Hargis asked, would the \$2,250 cover both issues? Was told the figure is only an estimate.

City Manager responded, with a variance each item is separate and will check on it. Needs to get direction on what the Retailers intend to do. Decision has to be made.

Mayor Luginski suggested council put forward this amendment on their own and not charge the retailers.

Roth and Sabol agree that the Retailer's bring great things to the community. They provide a benefit to the City as well.

Bisio commented that amending the zoning ordinance is not on our fee schedule.

Mayor Luginski suggested the following: 1. Retailer's decide if you want it, if you do, here it is. 2. City does it. Bear the cost.

Bisio replied, if it's clear regulations, I have no problem with it. Do what we can to help the retailers.

Sabol – No problem with Kevin's sign as it is now.

Hargis – Tasteful, no problem.

Hunter – Agree with open/close provision limiting the size. Would not object to that. Sandwich signs very reluctant to approve that. Would have a problem with it.

Roth – Finances would be a problem with the Retailer's

Mayor Luginski – All in favor of Kevin's sign.

Moved by Sabol, supported by Roth to extend meeting pass 9:00 P.M.
Motion Carried. Absent: Haven

3 E. Church Update – J. Brueck –

Mr. Brueck from the Building Committee updated the council on the DPW addition and revised plans.

Eric Haven arrived at 9:03 p.m.

Proposal A is to extend to the north. This proposal is to cover all proposed needs with a cost of \$265,000.

It was discussed 4 bays accessible through 2 bays. Total of \$75,000 with additional 2,000 square feet. \$150,000 with 2 bays going west. North side no problem with soil borings.

Mayor Luginski feels that we owe it to the committee and architect if we want to continue to pursue or not. It's roughly \$200,000.

Bisio – Not clear if we need all that space for the equipment. We should check into equipment leasing.

Roth – Price went up. We should pursue the price for 3 E. Church.

City Manager will contact Morgan and see if he wants to sell 3 E. Church and his price.

Lengthy discussion continued.

Resolved by Hargis, support by Haven that we abandon the project that we have been working on with the new building that we would attach to this existing building for storage of all our equipment.

Roll Call Vote:	Yes:	Luginski, Bisio, Hargis, Hunter, Haven, Roth and Sabol
	No:	None
	Absent:	None

Resolution Adopted.

Roth expressed her appreciation on how Jim Brueck worked so hard on this project. Council members concurred.

NEW BUSINESS

Proposed 2013 Operating Budget – Expenses that are proposed in a number of cases are less. Finance Committee did a very in depth job doing this.

Would like to pursue crack filling. Transfer funds from fund balance account and put in capital fund to cover this expense.

Discussion continued.

Mayor Luginski commented that sometimes we need to tighten the belt and do without something's.

Discussion on wages was addressed. No wage adjustments have been made in a long time. It was also talked about setting up a committee and look into the wage structure and reasonable salary adjustment be considered.

Mayor Luginski would like the committee of Tom, Steve and Mike look into the need, validity of the wage structure. Committee to talk with Sandra and Kelly.

Establish June 11, 2012 as Public Hearing date for 2013 Budget –

Moved by Hargis, support by Bisio to establish June 11, 2012 as Public Hearing date for 2013 budget.

Motion Carried.

Moved by Hargis, supported by Hunter to adjourn meeting at 10:25 p.m.

Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

**Kelly Richter,
City Clerk**