

**MINUTES OF A WORK SESSION OF THE MILAN CITY COUNCIL
HELD ON JANUARY 11, 2016, AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS,
147 WABASH STREET, MILAN, MI 48160**

The work session was opened at 6:02 p.m.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Armitage, Council Members Churchill, Gee, Gilson, Hamden, Kerkes, Thompson

OTHERS OFFICERS PRESENT: City Administrator Smith, City Attorney Mann, City Clerk Frye, City Treasurer Samborski, MIS/Communication Director Slay, Police Chief Tillery

OTHERS PRESENT: Dutch Nie, Honorable Judge Mark Braunlich, State Senator Dale Zorn

Discussion was held on the following items:

1. Discuss Purchase of Administrative Patrol Vehicle.

City Administrator Smith addressed City Council and indicated that Police Chief Tillery returned his annual \$3,000 a year stipend to go towards a new Administrative Patrol Vehicle. The old vehicle is no longer in any shape to drive. He noted that the original Staff Report included a Chevy Impala and they are no longer available as an option either.

The Chief has put a lot of time into this staff report and he had nothing further to add.

Discussion was held between Mayor and City Council. By replacing this vehicle the new one would be building a new fleet if something happens to another. Repairing the old vehicle would cost a great deal and the City Administrator recommends that it be sold as is.

Gee supported the concept of keeping the fleet the same.

Hamden asked if title of a new vehicle would remain in the City's name

Armitage was concerned about the mileage that would be put on the car and the police that the estimated mileage per year would be 20,000 miles.

Gilson supported keeping the fleet the same and go with the SUV

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Churchill said she is leaning towards the SUV and that it was reasonable to join in.

Mayor Armitage will be placing this item on the January 25, 2016 Agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Dutch Nie asked that with the contract, will there be any allowance for compensation or mileage reimbursement for using his own vehicle since the beginning of the contract.

City Administrator Smith indicated that he has not been compensated.

2. Meet and Greet Reception for the public to meet their elected officials.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Michael Armitage, Mayor

Candy S. Frye, City Clerk

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE MILAN CITY COUNCIL HELD ON
JANUARY 11, 2016 AT 7:30 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS,
147 WABASH STREET, MILAN, MI 48160**

Mayor Armitage called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and welcomed Honorable Judge Mark S. Braunlich from the Monroe County Circuit Court.

SPECIAL ITEM: Oath of Office given by Honorable Judge Mark Braunlich to Council Members Mary Kerkes, Martha Churchill, Christian Thompson and Mayor Michael Armitage.

Judge Braunlich was honored to visit Milan again, as he was here 2 years ago as the District Court Judge and now Circuit Court Judge. He wished them all good luck. He presented the Oaths of Office to Clerk Frye.

State Senator Dale Zorn thanked the Mayor for allowing him a moment to address the Council and congratulate the new members. He further commented that public service is a great calling and members will be asked to do many things. He hopes and prays that they continue to be a part of this community to help it to grow and become a better place to live. He concluded by stating that the job is never finished and is ever changing.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Armitage led the audience in Pledge.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Armitage, Council Members Martha Churchill, Ann Gee, Douglas Gilson, Dominic Hamden, Mary Kerkes, Christian Thompson

OTHER OFFICERS PRESENT: City Administrator Jade Smith, City Clerk Candy Frye, City Attorney Steve Mann, Police Chief Donald Tillery, City Treasurer Karen Samborski, MIS/Communications Director Chris Slay, Parks & Recreation Director Ellen Bell, Fire Chief Bob Stevens

OTHERS PRESENT: Honorable Judge Mark Braunlich, State Senator Dale Zorn, Katie Russ, Dave Snyder, Shawn Jackson, Dutch Nie, Rick Kerkes, Daniel Fromm, Von and Cindy Thompson, Ashley Kerkes and Gavin, Carrie and Marty Ritchie, Austin Blaine

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: January 11, 2016

Motion by Churchill to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Gee. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: December 21, 2015 - Regular Meeting

Motion by Gilson to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Thompson. Motion carried unanimously.

CITIZENS MATTERS FROM THE FLOOR: None

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CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion by Hamden to approve the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Gilson.

- A. Milan Parks and Recreation Special Meeting Minutes of August 10, 2015.
- B. Milan Parks and Recreation Meeting Minutes of September 21, 2015.
- C. Milan Beautification Commission Meeting Minutes of September 2, 2015.
- D. Milan Beautification Commission Meeting Minutes of October 7, 2015.
- E. Thank you letter from Elma Vas, Pauline Glenn and Eva Wells.
- F. Personnel Change, Dispatcher (Penny Turner).
- G. Personnel Change, Dispatch Center Lead Operator (Michael Evans).
- H. Proposed Boards and Commissions 2016 Appointments.

Motion carried unanimously.

MATTERS FOR ACTION: None

BILLS PAYABLE AND PAYROLL: \$1,323,366.38

Motion by Gee to approve bill payable and payroll as presented, seconded by Kerkes. Motion carried unanimously.

CITIZENS MATTERS FROM THE FLOOR: Austin Blaine, 1975 Mooreville Road offered a revision to the speed limit on Redman Road near the high school. He would like to propose that the speed limit be 25 MPH from 7 a.m.-3 p.m. and then 45 MPH after 3 p.m.

Dutch Nie, 1309 Pierce Lane wanted to congratulate Mayor Armitage and Councilmember Churchill, along with the newly elected Council Members Mary Kerkes and Christian Thompson. He wished them all the best of luck.

MAYOR, COUNCIL & STAFF REPORTS AND/OR COMMENTS:

City Administrator Smith welcomed the new members and congratulated them all.

He spoke on a conversation he had with the owner of J R's and shared some statistics. JR's broke all of the restaurant's corporate records including 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th and 30 days sales. They are pleased to have exceeded the opening day sales by 40% which they feel shows that the residents are here to support new businesses.

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He also indicated that J R's will be sponsoring the Chili Cook off being held during the Let's Chill Winter Fest 2016 being held on February 6, 2016. There will be many activities and they are listed on the website www.letschillwinterfest.com.

He encouraged everyone to drive safely as the winter weather is coming in tonight. This also has helped with the ice rink as it has been filled, but is not ready to skate on just yet.

Clerk Frye congratulated the newly elected officials and welcomed them aboard.

City Attorney Mann gave an update on SB571 that he discussed at the December 21, 2015 meeting. This has been signed by the Governor.

Mayor Armitage sent letters to State Representatives, as well as a letter to the Governor, and carbon copied City Council, in which he asked him to veto this bill as he is in opposition. He did receive word from Senator Zorn tonight that he is introducing a bill tomorrow to repeal SB571.

Treasurer Samborski welcomed the new Council Members and returning Mayor.

For the residents she wanted to report that the bill pay portal online has changed and been upgraded. There are directions on line and if anyone has a problem then can contact City Hall, but it is very user friendly. Credit Cards are now being accepted at the counter, but there is a 3% convenience fee for paying your taxes.

Chief Tillery congratulated and welcomed the new board members.

Since the last meeting, Dispatcher Michael Evens has been promoted to Dispatch Lead Operator in the dispatch center. The department has one dispatcher sick, one in training and Penny Turner has returned to help out in the dispatch center, until they can get personnel back up to the needs of the department.

Building/Zoning Official Grostick welcomed the new members and all that were elected this year.

Tonight we are suppose to get 3-5" of snow and the public works department will be out plowing so please watch for them as well.

Parks and Recreation Director Bell welcomed the newly elected officials and she looks forward to working with them.

The Parks and Recreation Department received a generous donation from the Milan Alcoholic Anonymous Group.

She also wanted to remind residents that the Grandma and Me Tea Party is on January 31st and there is still room available. Also, the Daddy Daughter Dance will be held on Feb. 12th and 13th.

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The Let's Chill Winter Fest 2016 is being held on February 6th. The lineup of festivities can be found at www.letschillwinterfest.com.

Fire Chief Stevens congratulated the new members and Mayor Armitage. He reported the total runs for the fire department in 2015 were 966 with 47% of them being total runs within the city.

He also wanted to report that they will be placing red and white caution tape on abandoned vehicles to identify vehicles that have been mitigated by the fire department.

The Milan Area Fire Department received their new Toyota Tundra that was donated by Toyota. They will soon be getting graphics and lighting to get this new vehicle on the road.

Councilmember Gilson welcomed the new members and he looks forward to working with them this coming year.

Also, as in the past, he wants to remind parents to let their kids know that the river is no place to be walking or playing on.

He is glad to hear about the success of the new JR's Restaurant. Hopefully, it will give the older business owners the incentive to step up and follow in their footsteps.

Councilmember Thompson feels humbled and proud to be here and looks forward to Milan's bright future.

Councilmember Churchill welcomed Christian Thompson and Mary Kerkes and she is looking forward to the future and all that goes with being on Council.

Councilmember Kerkes is excited and humbled to be on Council, as well as serving on the Milan Seniors for Healthy Living.

Mayor Armitage welcomed Christian and Mary and looks forward to the next couple of years and he also thanked the voters to let him serve again as Mayor. The Mayor stated he will be having his State of the City Address at the next meeting on January 25th. The State of the City Address will summarize what has happened over the past couple of years. He has already received 5 pages of bullet points from the Department Heads which will be mentioned in his presentation.

He wanted everyone to be aware that the GMACF Gala will be on Saturday, February 20th. Tickets are \$70 and you can purchase them through the Mayor or by purchasing your tickets online at www.GMACF.org.

He also wanted to thank the Historical Commission for the grants that they have received to make the bathrooms ADA Compliant and to purchase a humidifier at the Old Mill (Community House).

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He informed any residents that are interested in serving on City Boards and Commissions to visit the City Website for an application and to return it to the Mayor for consideration.

A budget retreat will be held with the Department Heads on Monday, January 25, 2016. This will be an all day workshop as a balanced budget must be presented to Council by the 2nd meeting in May.

Work is currently being done so that all 911 emergency calls from Milan residents will go directly to the Milan Dispatch Center rather than through Monroe or Washtenaw Counties Dispatch Centers which is subsequently directed to Milan. The update will improve response times.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: January 25, 2016 (Submission Deadline Wednesday, January 20, 2016)

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Kerkes to adjourn meeting at 8:06 p.m., seconded by Thompson. Motion carried unanimously.

Michael P. Armitage, Mayor

Candy S. Frye, City Clerk