



MINUTES

Regular Meeting of Newaygo City Council

August 10, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Fedell called the Newaygo City Council teleconference meeting to order at 7:00 PM. A teleconference meeting was held under the guidelines of Executive Order 2020-110 during the COVID-19 Virus.

Presiding officer: Mayor Fedell

Secretary: Clerk, Kim Goodin

Roll Call: Present: Black, Burns, Ederer, Fedell, Hikade, Johnson, Walerczyk
Absent: None

Motion by Ederer, second by Burns to approve the amended agenda adding "M" MDOT Detour for the M37 Rehab Project scheduled to occur during the summer of 2021. AIF/MC

PUBLIC COMMENTS

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Black, second by Burns to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the regular council minutes from 07/13/2020 and accounts payable of \$57,394.43, \$100,878.77, \$16,428.15, \$10,233.59, \$333,021.17, \$14,891.19, \$150.00, \$14,170.11, \$1,593.00, \$117,533.79, \$132,465.63, \$953.50, \$1,242.21, \$941.02, \$460.00, \$229.99, and \$304.05 Roll Call: Yeas: Black, Burns, Ederer, Fedell, Hikade, Johnson, Walerczyk Absent: None Nay: None. CARRIED

RESERVED TIME

Motion by Hikade, second by Black at 7:04 pm to open public hearing to discuss and take comments to consider holding the regular election for Newaygo City Council Members at the November even year regular election days. Roll Call: Yeas: Black, Burns, Ederer, Fedell, Hikade, Johnson, Walerczyk Absent: None Nay: None. CARRIED Council discussed that this would save the City approximately \$3,000 every odd year. Motion by Burns, second by Ederer at 7:06 pm to close public hearing. Roll Call: Yeas: Black, Burns, Ederer, Fedell, Hikade, Johnson, Walerczyk Absent: None Nay: None. CARRIED

COMMITTEE & BOARD REPORTS

Mark Blocher, CEO of Christian Healthcare Center (CHC), gave an update on their project of building a facility in Newaygo. He discussed the positive Economic Impact for the City of Newaygo and Newaygo County. Blocher stated that CHC plans to be a very involved community member. Schneider said he supports what Blocher stated. Blocher said that CHC is working on letters of support and asked if Council would support the Mayor to write a letter of support on behalf of Newaygo City Council.

Motion by Black, second by Hikade to allow the Mayor to draft a letter in support of Christian Healthcare Center. Roll Call: Yeas: Black, Burns, Ederer, Fedell, Hikade, Johnson, Walerczyk Absent: None Nay: None. CARRIED

Scott Faulkner, Economic and Community Development Coordinator, discussed information in packets explaining various NEDO project updates. He said very excited about the Christian Healthcare Center Project and the positive economic effect the City and surrounding areas will receive. Faulkner said that the City received a permit from EGLE to build a potential pedestrian bridge over the Muskegon River at Wood St. right of way and that an Economic Impact Analysis is being done. He stated that the City and County narrowed bids to three vendors for a potential disc golf course and would be holding final interviews in the coming week.

Hikade, representing the Newaygo Fire District stated that the Newaygo Fire District annual breakfast would be held on September 5th, but would be limited to only take out.

CITY MANAGERS REPORT

Schneider discussed engineers draft analysis of M37 Pilot Program that was emailed to all Council Members. Per the engineers, “the pilot program operated successfully and the majority of the public were in favor of the proposed lane configuration and on-street parking.” He reviewed the summary and recommendations of the analysis discussing traffic speeds, parking widths, center turn lane and curb bump outs. Schneider stated that the Newaygo County Road Commission would prefer no curb bump outs and eliminating the center turn lane if allow parking on both sides of the street. Council and Schneider discussed various options and Schneider recommended that Council members contact the Road Commission with their thoughts. Schneider stated that he spoke with Republic Services and nothing is changing with current contract, but they stated that the residential waste volume has increased significantly and this could affect future contracts. Schneider gave an update on a bill that was introduced, but vetoed by the Governor relating to deferring summer tax bills and discussed impacts a bill of this nature could have on the City. Schneider discussed changes related to tax foreclosed properties and delinquent tax revolving funds and impact on County and municipalities.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Ron Wight, DPW Superintendent, stated that busy with obtaining paving quotes and the sewer project. Ederer inquired about the possibility of volunteers helping with clean up at Marshall Park. Wight and Schneider will look at waiver that would be needed for volunteers.

Sgt. Walerczyk stated that the Police Department has been very busy and the river traffic has been busier than normal.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Motion by Hikade, second by Johnson to approve Resolution 2020-15 to approve Brownfield Plan for River Hills Ct. expansion. Roll Call: Yeas: Black, Burns, Ederer, Fedell, Hikade, Johnson, Walerczyk Absent: None Nay: None. CARRIED Schneider discussed information and timeline that was included in packets stating that the Resolution and letter of recommendation are the beginning steps of process. John Bitely, Sable Homes President, and Susan Wenzlick, Sr. Brownfield Specialist, were on the call and discussed Brownfield Plan and Bitely stated Newaygo County Brownfield Development Authority has been very gracious assisting with plans and time line.

Motion by Ederer, second by Burns to approve Letter of Recommendation to State Land Bank regarding River Hills Ct. expansion. Roll Call: Yeas: Black, Burns, Ederer, Fedell, Hikade, Johnson, Walerczyk Absent: None Nay: None. CARRIED

Motion by Hikade, second by Black to approve up to \$3,000 for NCRESA/NCATS to have a feasibility study completed for a potential Fiber Optics Project. Roll Call: Yeas: Black, Burns, Ederer, Fedell, Hikade, Johnson, Walerczyk Absent: None Nay: None. CARRIED Schneider gave an update on NCRESA/NCATS project being explored to install fiber optics through downtown Newaygo, the Industrial Park, along Clay Street, along Cooperative Center Drive and also various locations in other communities. He stated that NCRESA/NCATS is working on a potential grant through the EDA and they are requesting a feasibility study and each municipality was asked to contribute dollars towards the feasibility study. Council discussed matching funds, if another vendor is needed in Newaygo, and any options available for residents. Schneider stated that other communities are very supportive of potential project and this could be an asset to the community.

Motion by Burns, second by Walerczyk to approve consent to grade or reconstruct sidewalks in front of the Peace Memorial and City Hall. Roll Call: Yeas: Black, Burns, Ederer, Fedell, Hikade, Johnson, Walerczyk Absent: None Nay: None. CARRIED Schneider stated that MDOT will reconstruct or replace any sidewalks in front of the Peace Memorial and The Stream that are damaged during the M37 Project in 2021.

Motion by Black, second by Ederer to approve consent to grade or reconstruct sidewalk in front of The Stream. Roll Call: Yeas: Black, Burns, Ederer, Fedell, Hikade, Johnson, Walerczyk Absent: None Nay: None. CARRIED

Motion by Ederer, second by Burns to approve Right of Entry for Storm System outfall at Muskegon River near M37 Bridge. Roll Call: Yeas: Black, Burns, Ederer, Fedell, Hikade, Johnson, Walerczyk Absent: None Nay: None. CARRIED Schneider stated this right of entry is temporary and a Resolution for a permanent easement for MDOT will come to a future Council Meeting.

Motion by Burns, second by Ederer to approve Resolution 2020-16 to change the regular Election Cycle for Newaygo City Council Members to November in even years. Roll Call: Yeas: Black, Burns, Ederer, Fedell, Hikade, Johnson, Walerczyk Absent: None Nay: None. CARRIED

Motion by Johnson, second by Walerczyk to approve Sewer Project Draw Number Sixteen-Payment Number Sixteen. Roll Call: Yeas: Black, Burns, Ederer, Fedell, Hikade, Johnson, Walerczyk Absent: None Nay: None. CARRIED

Motion by Burns, second by Ederer to approve Assessor, Dan Kirwin's, Contract for two years. Roll Call: Yeas: Black, Burns, Ederer, Fedell, Hikade, Johnson, Walerczyk Absent: None Nay: None. CARRIED Schneider said that Kirwin is our current assessor and very pleased with his work and that the only change in the contract is the dates.

Motion by Ederer, second by Hikade to approve the two members recommended on the MML Workers' Compensation Fund to serve as trustees to the MML Workers' Compensation Fund Board. Roll Call: Yeas: Black, Burns, Ederer, Fedell, Hikade, Johnson, Walerczyk Absent: None Nay: None. CARRIED

Motion by Hikade, second by Johnson to approve Loomis Lodge Rental on August 15, 2020 allowing alcohol outside. Roll Call: Yeas: Black, Burns, Ederer, Fedell, Hikade, Johnson, Walerczyk Absent: None Nay: None. CARRIED Schneider stated that in order to meet the current State Executive Order, the City is allowing Loomis Lodge to be rented, but they must have event outside and can utilize the lodge for food distribution and using restrooms. City Park rules state that City Council must approve outdoor alcohol consumption.

Motion by Burns, second by Black to approve paving projects presented allowing the ability to make minor adjustments as needed. Roll Call: Yeas: Black, Burns, Ederer, Fedell, Hikade, Johnson, Walerczyk Absent: None Nay: None. CARRIED Schneider stated that paving projects were included in the 2020-2021 budget which had previously been approved by Council, but State Law requires that need to present individual projects to Council.

Motion by Hikade, second by Burns to approve MDOT Detour for M37 Rehab Project for the summer of 2021. Roll Call: Yeas: Black, Burns, Ederer, Fedell, Hikade, Johnson, Walerczyk Absent: None Nay: None. CARRIED Schneider discussed MDOT plans for project and detour route that were emailed to Council.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Faulkner stated that IAmNewaygo Meeting being held Tuesday, August 11th in Brooks Park to focus on trails/Walkability.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Walerczyk stated that she feels the center lane downtown is needed for emergency vehicles.
Hikade echoed Walerczyk's statement.
Black discussed higher amount of semi-truck traffic along Division St. and Quarterline St. He inquired about Chamber events during Labor Day. Faulkner stated that the Chamber monthly meeting would be held on Tuesday, August 11th and decisions would be made.
Ederer thanked Schneider for his hard work.
Burns thanked Faulkner and Schneider for hard work on projects.
Schneider stated he would reach out to business owner on Division about the semi-truck traffic, stated that hoping for in person meeting in September, and thanked everyone for kind words.

Motion by Hikade, second by Walerczyk to adjourn the meeting. AIF/MC

Meeting adjourned at 8:56 PM.

Mayor – Ed Fedell

Clerk – Kim Goodin