



**MINUTES**  
**Regular Meeting of Newaygo City Council**  
**October 11, 2021**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Fedell called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. The meeting was held at City Hall located at 28 N. State Road, Newaygo, MI 49337.

Presiding officer: Mayor Fedell

Secretary: Clerk, Kim Goodin

Roll Call: Present: Black, Burns, Ederer, Fedell, Johnson (arrived at 7:02pm), Walerczyk  
Absent: None

Motion by Burns, second by Walerczyk to excuse absent members. AIF/MC

Motion by Black, second by Walerczyk to approve the agenda as presented. AIF/MC

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion by Ederer, second by Burns to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the council regular meeting minutes from 09/13/2021 and accounts payable of \$75,063.40, \$69,881.05, \$196,573.31, \$24,077.50, \$311,095.33, \$1,405.01, \$1,720.00, \$200.00, and \$250.00 Roll Call: Yeas: Black, Burns, Ederer Fedell, Walerczyk Absent: Johnson Nay: None. CARRIED

**RESERVED TIME**

Robert Stevenson, Executive Director Michigan Association Chiefs of Police, Neil Rossow, Director of Professional Development/Accreditation Program of Michigan Association Chief of Police, and Police Chief Ronald Wiles, President Michigan Association Chief of Police, were present and presented Chief Andres and the City of Newaygo Police Department the certificate of the Michigan Law Enforcement Accreditation. They said that this is a great achievement for the Newaygo Police Department and the department was only the 37<sup>th</sup> municipal police department out of 400 municipal police departments in the state to earn the accreditation. Chief Andres thanked the entire Newaygo Police Department and said the accreditation process was a team effort.

**COMMITTEE & BOARD REPORTS**

Colleen Lynema, representing the River Country Chamber of Commerce, was present and gave an update on the Social District. She showed concept drawings of possible ideas for the areas in the Social District and said that nothing had been decided or chosen yet. Lynema said that the next steps will be to obtain pricing and scheduling meetings with the PSD businesses to get their input on the drawings and to discuss maintaining the Social District. She said not looking for any decision from Council at this time, but looking for Council ideas and feedback stating that she would eventually come back to Council for final approval once plans were solidified with the PSD businesses. Council Members discussed: natural gas vs. propane for fire pits, lighting, hedges vs. fencing along curbs, not obstructing view of businesses, and utilizing local vendors.

**CITY MANAGER REPORT**

Schneider gave an update on 2020 census data stating that the City had an increase of approximately 500 people since the previous census. He gave an update on the City becoming a Redevelopment Ready Community and hopes to have the process concluded in the first half of 2022. Schneider gave an update on museum, Christian Healthcare Center, River Run Apartments and stated that Mary Jane's Floral is for sale. He briefly spoke about Housing Initiative with the Fremont Area Community Foundation. He thanked Independent Bank staff for volunteering their time cleaning up Marshall Park and for the bank's generous monetary donation of \$5,000.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Ron Wight, DPW Superintendent, said that the DPW is trying to keep up with the growth of the City. Wight answered question related to brush and leaf pick-up  
Chief Andres said the Police Department has been very busy and everything is going good.

**BOARD BUSINESS**

Schneider went over the budget stating that overall revenue and expenses are right where they should be and explained a couple of fluctuations. He said that the City received the first half of federal funds from the American Rescue Plan Funds and these dollars will be utilized towards the M37 Water Project.

Motion by Burns, second by Black to approve Resolution 2021-30 City Council Bylaws. AIF/MC Mayor Fedell said that he and Schneider had discussed establishing bylaws for all City Boards and having as much consistency as possible between the various City Boards. Schneider stated that City Council Bylaws already existed and changes to these bylaws included: addition of virtual meeting information, more detailed information regarding creation of agenda, and the Order of Business making it more uniform for all the boards.

Colleen Lynema, representing the River Country Chamber of Commerce, discussed top 25 ArtPrize piece that local artist, Jeremiah Corrigan, had completed and that he would like to have the artwork stay in Newaygo. Lynema shared video of Corrigan’s artwork and a site plan for a potential location. The first choice for artwork location is by Linda’s Chapel. Schneider stated that the City does not own this property, but has a lease agreement for this space and he would have to contact the owners of the property to get approval to utilize this space for the artwork. Lynema said that crowd funding would be done to pay for the artwork. Corrigan was present and answered Council questions and stated that he would help to maintain the artwork over the years. Consensus of Council was that the artwork is beautiful, like the idea of locating to the City and for Schneider to contact owners of Linda’s Chapel.

Motion by Ederer, second by Walerczyk to appoint the three members recommended on the MML Liability & Property Pool board of Directors Election. AIF/MC

Motion by Johnson, second by Ederer at 8:20 pm to go into closed session to discuss Attorney opinion letter regarding damage claims. AIF/MC Mayor Fedell asked Jon Schneider, City Manager, and Ron Wight, DPW Superintendent, to join the closed session.

Motion by Walerczyk, second by Ederer at 8:50 pm to reconvene and go back into open session. AIF/MC Council reviewed information available at this time related to Damage Claims, including City Attorney letter, and consensus of Council was that no further action be taken at this time.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS**

Ederer stated good meeting.  
Schneider congratulated Police Department on Accreditation and thanked the DPW for all their hard work and said he is happy with how well projects are progressing.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 PM.

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Mayor – Ed Fedell

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Clerk – Kim Goodin