



MINUTES
Regular Meeting of Newaygo City Council
June 27, 2022

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, Engemann, Fedell, Johnson
Absent: Walerczyk

Fedell stated that Ederer had resigned from Council.

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

Motion by Burns, second by Black to approve the amended agenda adding “Newaygo Nationals request to use Brooks Park for an event” and adding “Muskegon River Watershed Assembly request for additional funding for watering of trees” under Board Business . AIF/MC

PUBLIC COMMENTS

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Black, second by Burns to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the council regular meeting minutes from 06/13/2022 and accounts payable of \$34,006.47, \$9,828.69 and \$1,193.81. Roll Call: Yeas: Black, Burns, Engemann, Fedell, Johnson Absent: Walerczyk Nay: None. CARRIED

RESERVED TIME

Scott Faulkner, Executive Director of Muskegon River Watershed Assembly (MRWA), was present and gave an update on Tree Planting Project. He said that MRWA had received a grant for new trees to be planted and had recently partnered with the City to assist with planting the trees along Riverfront Trail. Faulkner discussed: number of trees planted, types of trees, and locations of the newly planted trees. He said that MRWA has contracted with a vendor to have the water bags filled and trees watered twice a week through September. Faulkner said that MRWA is asking the City for additional funding, in the amount of \$1,850, for the remaining budget shortfall for watering the trees through September and would also like the City to join MRWA as a Municipal Watershed Moment Partner at \$240 per year. Faulkner thanked Ron Wight and the entire DPW staff for their assistance during the tree planting process.

COMMITTEE & BOARD REPORTS

CITY MANAGER REPORT

Schneider gave an update on paving projects that will be occurring on Justice Street and various areas in the South Parking Lot. He said that a Metro Act Permit and Franchise Agreement with Great Lakes Energy will be coming to a future Council Meeting.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Ron Wight, DPW Superintendent, discussed areas in Phase 1 Park that will be paved in the near future.

Chief Andres explained “Red Project” and said that she had been approached by them this past fall about coming to Brooks Park. She said she did research on this program and did not find any statistics to show that this program was effective and told them that the City of Newaygo was not interested in the program coming to Brooks Park. She said that the program has been visiting neighboring cities and the cities are receiving a lot of negative

comments and complaints from their citizens. Chief said that the program violates certain City Ordinances. Schneider stated that the City Attorney is reviewing these Ordinances to clean up any potential loopholes that may exist. Chief said that she had heard rumors that the program may just come to Brooks Park without permission and that she was looking for Council Member thoughts regarding this program. Consensus of Council was that this program is not a good fit for the City and they support Chief's decision.

BOARD BUSINESS

Motion by Burns, second by Johnson to approve the design, plans, aesthetics, and rules of the Social District that Colleen Lynema, River Country Chamber, presented at the Council Meeting. Yeas: 4 Nays: 1-Motion Carried Mayor Fedell stated that Council had already approved the existence of the Social District and its boundaries and are now being asked to approve the Social District plans, designs, and aesthetics. Lynema, representing River Country Chamber of Commerce, presented a slide show that included Social District designs, plans, aesthetics, signage, and rules. She said that all businesses within the Social District have or will sign a Social District Maintenance Agreement agreeing to responsibilities of maintaining their areas in the Social District. Lynema stated that the consensus of the restaurant owners is that they want the trees removed in the Social District area and that businesses would like the Social District open from April 1st through the Christmas Walk. Council and Lynema discussed how the Social District will work, name of Social District, snow removal of area, hours, current restaurants' private outside dining areas, and estimated time frame to complete the Social District area. Mayor Fedell stated that the DPW does not have the capacity to maintain this area and if businesses want the sidewalks plowed in the Social District that the DPW will need 5 ft. of space on the sidewalks for them to plow.

Motion by Black, second by Burns to approve the use of Brooks Park on Saturday, August 13th for Newwaygo Nationals Association for the USCA Nationals Event Ceremonies. AIF/MC

Motion by Burns, second by Johnson to approve becoming a MRWA Moment Partner of \$240 per year and providing a one-time amount of \$1,850 to MRWA for the remaining budget shortfall for watering, of the newly planted trees, through September 2022. Roll Call: Yeas: Black, Burns, Engemann, Fedell, Johnson Absent: Walerczyk Nay: None. CARRIED

Schneider went over the budget and proposed budget amendments in detail. He discussed some highlights, explained some revenue and expenditures and discussed a couple of fluctuations.

Motion by Black, second by Burns to approve Resolution 2022-22 to amend the City Budget for fiscal year 2021-2022. Roll Call: Yeas: Black, Burns, Engemann, Fedell, Johnson Absent: Walerczyk Nay: None. CARRIED

Motion by Burns, second by Johnson to approve Franchise Agreement with Charter Communications and setting the franchise fee amount to 5%. AIF/MC

PUBLIC COMMENTS

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Burns said that there was good discussion about the Social Zone and appreciated Chief updating Council on the "Red Project."

Motion by Burns, second by Engemann to adjourn the meeting. AIF/MC

Meeting adjourned at 8:52 PM.

Mayor – Ed Fedell

Clerk – Kim Goodin