



**MINUTES**  
**Regular Meeting of Newaygo City Council**  
**August 8, 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, Fedell, Johnson  
Absent: Engemann, Walerczyk

Motion by Burns, second by Johnson to approve the agenda as presented. AIF/MC

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

Motion by Burns, second by Black to approve Resolution 2022-23 appointing Denise DeVries to City Council until 12/31/2022 to fill vacancy by Roger Ederer. AIF/MC

Goodin swore DeVries in as Council Member; DeVries signed the oath book and joined the Council Members at front table.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion by Burns, second by Black to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the council regular meeting minutes from 07/11/2022 and accounts payable of \$186,459.11, \$39,416.49, \$6,141.46, \$7,379.31, \$8,826.20, \$4,852.46, \$4,894.35, \$118,575.08, \$1,593.00, \$275,620.72, \$319,885.22, \$1,070.88, \$50.00, \$845.97 and \$100.00. Roll Call: Yeas: Black, Burns, DeVries, Fedell, Johnson Absent: Engemann, Walerczyk Nay: None. CARRIED

**RESERVED TIME**

Mark Wagner and his wife, who live at 555 Cooper St. were present and said that they would like to put a gate on the Edward St. Right-of-Way (ROW) at Cooper St. Fedell stated that notes from meetings that Schneider, City Manager, and Wagner previously had were included in packet along with a map showing the location Wagner's house and ROW. Wagner said that there has been theft in this area and that people tear up ROW. Wagner said that he was told, by Erv Faurot, previous house owner, when he purchased the house that he could put a gate at Edward St. ROW. Wagner said that Faurot had told him that Randy Young, a past Newaygo City Manager, had given him permission to put a gate up at the end of Edwards St. ROW. Wagner continually stated that he maintains the ROW and has the liability of the ROW and the mayor said numerous times that Wagner is not responsible to maintain the ROW and he is not responsible for any liability on the ROW. Wagner said that Faurot is looking for documentation stating that a gate can be placed at this ROW. Wight, DPW Superintendent, and Mayor discussed how roads are classified and that Wight would look into classification of this ROW. Chief said that the Police Department has not had any reported thefts in this area in years. Chief said if someone is maliciously and illegally tearing up ROW that Wagner needs to contact the police. Council concerns and comments related to gating ROW: lack of availability for emergency vehicles, potential to land lock parcels, and setting a precedent for others. Fedell stated that should Council consider this matter an agreement would need to be drafted by City Attorney. Fedell said that this topic will be discussed at a future meeting.

**COMMITTEE & BOARD REPORTS**

Fedell stated that a Newaygo District Fire Board Report was included in packets.

## **CITY MANAGER REPORT**

### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Ron Wight, DPW Superintendent, gave an update on watermain break that had occurred last week on Wood St. and said that milling and paving will occur in the South Parking Lot later this week.

Chief Andres gave an update on Gus Macker Basketball Event that was held July 16<sup>th</sup> and July 17<sup>th</sup> and said that the Police Department donated 146 hours of time over the weekend for the event. She stated that Newaygo Nationals would be held August 11<sup>th</sup> through August 14<sup>th</sup>.

### **BOARD BUSINESS**

Myles Cronk and Hannah Harrington, from Third Coast Creative, were present to discuss and take comments on draft “Welcome to the City of Newaygo” and “City Hall” Sign options that were included in Council Packets. Discussion included: lighted vs. non-lighted signs, material of signs that were not brick, banner brackets, sign wording, styles of signs presented, who should be involved in decision of sign designs, digital banner for City Hall sign, and updating the current sign ordinance. Initial comments by Council Members were: 1. Welcome Sign and City Hall sign do not need to be the same style. 2. Writing looks much better on blue background than the brick background. 3. Like the pillar and trestle look for Welcome sign, but not City Hall sign. 4. Wording of Welcome sign should include logo or at least say City of Newaygo. 5. PSD should be included in decision of City Hall sign. 6. Sign Ordinance needs to be updated before City Hall sign is decided upon.

Motion by Burns, second by Johnson to approve the Construction Code, Administration and Enforcement Services Agreement with North Country Inspection Services, LLC. AIF/MC Fedell said that this is a renewal as the City currently contracts with North Country Inspection Services, LLC for these services.

Motion by Black, second by Burns to approve the Employment Agreement with North Country Inspection Services, LLC as the building official for the City of Newaygo. AIF/MC This is a requirement per State Law.

Motion by Johnson, second by Burns to approve Ordinance 2022-02 Franchise Agreement with Great Lakes Energy for a period of twenty-five (25) years. AIF/MC

Motion by Black, second by Burns to approve Ordinance 2022-03 to amend Article 1 and Article 4 of Chapter 50 (Peddlers and Solicitors) of the Code of Ordinances relating to Transient Vendors. AIF/MC Fedell stated that the suggested Ordinance changes were included in packets. Chief explained changes and said that the changes were needed to help police those that do not follow the proper process of obtaining permits.

Motion by Fedell, second by Johnson to approve reimbursing citizens for vehicle tow fees that occurred at the Gus Macker Basketball Event. Yeas: Fedell Nay: Black, Burns, DeVries, Johnson Absent: Engemann, Walerczyk  
MOTION FAILED Fedell discussed Maple Street Parking Violations that had occurred during Gus Macker and stated that 7 vehicles were illegally parked-blocking the lane of travel. He said that 3 vehicles were removed by owners and 4 vehicles were towed. Fedell stated “No Parking” signs had been posted on various streets in the area, but they had not been posted on Maple Street where the incidents occurred. He said that “No Parking” signs were placed on Maple St., shortly after the incident, to try and prevent future parking violations. Fedell recommended that the City Council approve the City Treasurer to reimburse the 4 individuals whose vehicles were towed the amount of \$300 (\$250 impound reimbursement plus \$50 good will) from the City’s General Operating Fund. Chief explained parking violations related to blocking traffic lane and discussed the location that “No Parking” signs had been placed in the City. Chief stated that she was unsure how the City Treasurer would obtain addresses of individuals whose vehicles were towed as the Police Department is not allowed to release that information. Council Member discussion related to: drivers know cannot park blocking traffic, rewarding bad behavior, setting a bad precedent for future parking violations, and future events and handling parking.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

#### **COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS**

Burns thanked the Police and DPW Departments for their extra work at the Gus Macker Event.

Black said that he was very impressed with how well everything went with the Gus Macker Event.

Fedell stated that DeVries was running for one of the open Council Member Positions in the November Election.

Motion by Johnson, second by Burns to adjourn the meeting. AIF/MC  
Meeting adjourned at 8:49 PM.

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Mayor – Ed Fedell

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Clerk – Kim Goodin