



**MINUTES**  
**Regular Meeting of Newaygo City Council**  
**December 12, 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, DeVries, Engemann, Fedell, Walerczyk  
Absent: Johnson

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

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

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion by Engemann, second by Black to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the council regular meeting minutes from 11/14/2022 and accounts payable of \$43,644.26, \$28,234.53, \$14,650.37, \$36,361.05, \$22,190.19, \$2,190.58, \$200.00, and \$100.00. Roll Call: Yeas: Black, Burns, DeVries, Engemann, Fedell, Walerczyk  
Absent: Johnson Nay: None. CARRIED

The following Resolutions were also approved by Consent Agenda:

- A. Resolution 2022-25 which sets the regular meeting dates for City Council for the 2023 calendar year
- B. Resolution 2022-26 which reappoints Kim Biegalle to the Building Authority for a four year term
- C. Resolution 2022-27 which reappoints Dave Chambers to the Library Board for a four year term
- D. Resolution 2022-28 which reappoints Ron Wight and Denise DeVries to the Planning Commission for a three year term and reappoints Ed Fedell to the Planning Commission for a two year term
- E. Resolution 2022-29 which reappoints John Buckley Jr. and Jake Cooper and appoints Dr. Andrew Rusk to the TIFA/LDFA Board for four year terms
- F. Resolution 2022-30 which reappoints Theresa Cooper and Jane Parsley to the PSD Board for three year terms and reappoints Ed Fedell to the PSD Board for a two year term

**RESERVED TIME**

Julia Turnbull, from Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC), was present and awarded a plaque to the City for receiving “Essential Status” for Redevelopment Ready Communities (RRC) through the MEDC. Turnbull said that RRC promotes communities to be development ready and competitive in today’s economy by actively engaging stakeholders and proactively planning, making a municipality more attractive for projects that create places where people want to live, work and invest.

**COMMITTEE & BOARD REPORTS**

**CITY MANAGER REPORT**

Schneider gave updates on: water/sewer projects, M82 lift station upgrades, new businesses coming to the City, and the TIFA Façade Program. He said that City Staff has been working on potential changes with rental fees and guidelines for Loomis Lodge specifically relating to alcohol guidelines. Schneider stated that the City has been experiencing issues with rentals of Loomis Lodge with most of the problems stemming from alcohol use at their events. He said that the proposed changes will come to a future Council meeting.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**BOARD BUSINESS**

Motion by Engemann, second by Black to approve Special Land Use Request by Team Thompson, DBA as American Classic for the processing of plastic and creation of flammable products located at 313 W. State Rd. AIF/MC Fedell stated that the Special Land Use Request had been approved at the Planning Commission meeting last week. Lola Harmon-Ramsey was present and said that American Classic closed on the building at 313 W. State Rd. on December 9<sup>th</sup> and they had been moving equipment into the building. She presented a slide show and said that the building would be a Material Recovery Facility (MRF), Logistic Hub and Storage Facility. She stated that eventually it would become an Advanced Recycling Center as they hope to partner with Clean-Seas installing a Pyrolysis System. Harmon-Ramsey answered questions related to timeline, emissions and storage.

Motion by Burns, second by Black at 7:28 pm to open public hearing to discuss and take comment to consider the establishment of an Industrial Development District (IDD) in the City’s Industrial Park for parcel # 62-19-19-400-012. AIF/MC Schneider stated that a letter of request was included in packets. Julie Burrell, Economic Development Director, Newaygo County through the Right Place, was present representing Mercury Broadband. She said that Mercury Broadband wanted to expand in Michigan and had been working with a site selector and the parcel in Newaygo Industrial Park met all of their needs. Burrell discussed Mercury Broadband’s plan for the site and said that they think that 50-70 jobs would be needed over the years as they continue to expand. She said that the IDD will allow them to apply for a Tax Abatement in the future. Motion by Burns, second by Walerczyk at 7:32 pm to close the public hearing. AIF/MC

Motion by Burns, second by Engemann to approve Resolution 2022-31 which establishes an Industrial Development District for parcel #62-19-19-400-012. Roll Call: Yeas: Black, Burns, DeVries, Engemann, Fedell, Walerczyk Absent: Johnson Nay: None. CARRIED

Schneider showed pictures of the current powerhouse building and pictures of options to rehab the building into an open air pavilion. This plan had also been discussed at the November Planning Commission and City Council meetings. Schneider stated that he is in the process of applying for a Blight Grant through the Michigan Land Bank in addition to the DNR Spark Grant. He said that the Spark Grant will be very competitive and he is submitting estimated costs and should we receive the grant, actual bids and quotes would have to be obtained. Schneider said that the grant through the Michigan Land Bank is a smaller grant and if we received this grant it may allow the City to replace the powerhouse roof to stabilize the building. Julie Burrell, Economic Development Director, Newaygo County through the Right Place, said that she is very excited that the City of Newaygo is taking the lead on this building as it could be a beautiful building and there is nothing like this on the river in the County. Consensus of Council Members was that it is a good idea to preserve the building and use it for public recreation.

Motion by Walerczyk, second by Black to approve Resolution 2022-32 which approves the DNR SPARK grant for rehab of powerhouse building, matching funds, and designating authorized official. Roll Call: Yeas: Black, Burns, DeVries, Engemann, Fedell, Walerczyk Absent: Johnson Nay: None. CARRIED

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS**

All Council Members wished everyone a Merry Christmas and made positive comments regarding the new use of the building at 313 W. State Rd. and the proposed project to rehab the old powerhouse building on the river and use it for public recreation.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:46 PM.

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Mayor – Ed Fedell

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Clerk – Kim Goodin