



MINUTES
Regular Meeting of Newaygo City Council
October 9, 2023

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: Burns, DeVries, Engemann, Fedell, Johnson, Walerczyk
Absent: Black

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

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Burns, second by Walerczyk to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the Council regular meeting minutes from 09/11/2023 and approval of accounts payable of \$52,464.82, \$29,247.89, \$35,242.28, \$426,770.48, \$359,098.52, \$1,462.65, and \$111.59. Roll Call: Yeas: Burns, DeVries, Engemann, Fedell, Johnson, Walerczyk
Absent: Black Nay: None. CARRIED

RESERVED TIME

Julie Burrell, Economic Development Director, Newaygo County, presented a slideshow discussing the Newaygo County Economic 2023-2025 Strategic Plan.

COMMITTEE & BOARD REPORTS

Kelly Rider, Executive Director of River Country Chamber of Commerce, stated that the summer events were very successful. She said that they are researching locations to hold the third year of Gus Maker Basketball Event and are looking at locations in Newaygo. Council Members gave their input and concerns on potential locations in Newaygo.

Newaygo District Fire Chief Otteren discussed equipment that was being consolidated.

Ken DeLaat, County Commissioner, said that the County Budget was complete and gave updates on a joint housing project between the County and FACF, Disc Golf Course, Dragon Trail, and Commission on Aging Transportation Service.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

Schneider displayed a map that discussed Net Migration in Rural Counties in the United States. He gave updates on the Powerhouse Building and Public Safety Study and stated that the City had closed on the purchase of 8 State Road.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Chief Andres stated that a new School Resource Officer had been hired for Newaygo Middle School and said that the Police Department had received grants for new body cameras and for the True Blue Academy Program.

Ron Wight, DPW Superintendent, stated that the department was busy preparing all equipment for the winter months and said that new curbs had been installed in the City/Library Parking Lot and road striping had recently been completed on various roads in the City.

BOARD BUSINESS

Motion by Johnson, second by Engemann to approve Resolution 2023-29 to set the date and schedule of notices for Public Hearing for Mercury Broadband LLC for a Tax Abatement. AIF/MC

Motion by Johnson, second by Walerczyk to award the waste service bid for the City's Residential Waste Service to American Classic and allowing the City Manager to begin working on a contract and transition plan with American Classic. Roll Call: Yeas: Burns, DeVries, Engemann, Fedell, Johnson, Walerczyk Absent: Black Nay: None. CARRIED Schneider stated that a bid tab summary for Residential Waste Services was included in packets. Fedell stated the Republic Services had done a great job servicing the City over the years, but that the American Classic bid came in lower for all services.

Motion by Johnson, second by Engemann to approve the Release of Residential Restrictions on River Valley Development LLC Properties. AIF/MC Schneider stated that he was working with a potential developer interested in building apartments behind Leppinks and that the residential restrictions for these parcels had been released from the plat years ago, but the residential restrictions had not been released from the deed.

Motion by Johnson, second by Engemann to approve Agreement for use of City Logo. AIF/MC Schneider discussed "draft" agreement for use of City Logo and stated that he took Council recommendations from previous meetings and listed those recommended guidelines in the proposed agreement.

Motion by Engemann, second by Burns to approve Resolution 2023-30 amending the City of Newaygo's 457 Deferred Compensation Plan. AIF/MC Schneider stated that Council had approved amending the City's 401 retirement plan at a previous Council Meeting and now the 457 Plan was updated with similar changes and ready for approval.

Eric Johnson presented information, which was included in packets, on a proposed Flash Mob event that he would like to plan to be held on the land behind the Newaygo Elementary School above the retaining wall. He said that he felt this would be a good opportunity to test and gather data on whether future events could or should be held in this location. Johnson said that he had discussed the event with the Chamber, school and some of the businesses and would like support from City Council to move forward with planning the proposed event. He said that he would present final event details at a future Council Meeting. Johnson and Council discussed: business support, expenses of event, liability issues, insurance and concerns with retaining wall structure. Consensus of Council was that Johnson move forward with planning event and bring back event information for approval prior to holding the event.

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

Schneider went over the budget stating that overall revenue and expenses are right where they should be and explained a couple of fluctuations.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Burns said that she likes the way that the budget is reported from Schneider on a quarterly basis.

Goodin stated that a Special Election for NCRESA Millage Renewal will be held on Tuesday, November 7, 2023.

Motion by Walerczyk, second by Burns to adjourn the meeting at 9:04 PM. AIF/MC

Mayor – Ed Fedell

Clerk – Kim Goodin