



MINUTES
Regular Meeting of Newaygo City Council
December 11, 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: Black, Burns, DeVries, Engemann, Fedell, Johnson, Walerczyk
Absent: None

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Walerczyk, second by Burns to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the Council regular meeting minutes from 11/13/2023, approval of accounts payable of \$27,889.86, \$47,508.88, \$6,931.33, \$51,517.14, \$10,759.33, \$227.01, and \$2,013.25, approval of Resolution 2023-35 setting the regular meeting dates for City Council for the 2024 calendar year, and approval of Resolution 2023-39 approving the reappointment of Dave Chambers and Robbin Faulkner to the Planning Commission. Roll Call: Yeas: Black, Burns, DeVries, Engemann, Fedell, Johnson, Walerczyk Absent: None Nay: None. CARRIED

RESERVED TIME

COMMITTEE & BOARD REPORTS

Ken DeLaat, County Commissioner gave updates on Commission on Aging Transportation Service, Dragon Trail, Newaygo County Parks, and unemployment numbers in the County.
Tim Liberty, Newaygo Trustee Representative of River Country Chamber of Commerce, stated that the Charity Auction hosted by the Chamber was very successful and that there was a good turnout at the Christmas Walk.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

Schneider stated that the City Assessor would be retiring at the end of March 2024 and gave an update on union negotiations with the Police Department. He stated that the attorney was working on Board Compensation and Park Ordinance Amendments. Schneider gave an update on upgrades being worked on at the M82 sewer pump station.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Ron Wight, DPW Superintendent, was unable to attend the meeting and Schneider said that the DPW is working on getting the remaining leaves picked up in various parks and the cemetery. He said that they are busy prepping winter equipment.
Chief Andres gave legal updates on Firearm Storage Rules and Firearm Purchase Rules that will go into effect in February 2024. She discussed "Red Flag" Law that will go into effect in 2024 and is concerned with the safety of officers under this law. Chief discussed changes made to "Handicap Reserved" Signs.

BOARD BUSINESS

Motion by Black, second by Burns to approve the Gus Macker Basketball Event to be held at Newaygo High School in July 2024. Roll Call: Yeas: Black, Burns, DeVries, Engemann, Fedell, Walerczyk Absent: None Nay: Johnson. CARRIED Tim Liberty, representing River Country Chamber of Commerce, stated that the Gus Macker Board measured various areas in the City to hold the 2024 Gus Macker Event and said that they decided that Newaygo

High School was the best location allowing them to have more courts and better parking. Johnson asked about the initial possibility of holding the Gus Macker Event downtown. Liberty stated that they had discussed the possibility of holding the event downtown Newaygo behind The Stream, but ran into the following issues: the parking lot slopes, does not have enough room, and that they would have to keep Wood Street open on Saturday for the Post Office. Johnson asked if the Elementary School had been looked at as a site. Liberty stated that ultimately the Gus Macker individuals decided where the event would be held and that the Chamber will do its best to direct people to come downtown to shop and eat during the event.

Motion by Burns, second by Johnson to approve Resolution 2023-36 to remove expiration date of Social District. AIF/MC Schneider said that each year a Resolution was passed to renew the Social District expiration date for one year and that there have not been any problems with the Social District. He said that if there are ever problems with the Social District that the Council could pass a Resolution to close the Social District at any time.

Motion by Johnson, second by DeVries to approve Resolution 2023-37 Intent for Funding of Water Service Line Project. Schneider stated that this had been discussed last month. He said this Resolution approves the notice of intent to eventually issue bonds. Roll Call: Yeas: Black, Burns, DeVries, Engemann, Fedell, Johnson, Walerczyk Absent: None Nay: None. CARRIED

Motion by Johnson, second by Black to approve Traffic Control Order # 203-Parking on Water St. between State Rd. (M37) and Fair St. Fedell said that the changes to Traffic Control Order # 203 and new signage provide a clearer understanding of what side of the street that cars should be parked on during the winter months. AIF/MC

Motion by Black, second by Engemann to approve Cybersecurity Grant consent agreement and to designate Schneider as authorized agent to sign the agreement and all relevant documents to effectuate the grant. AIF/MC Schneider said that the Federal Government granted some funds to the State for Cybersecurity that organizations can apply for. He stated that he is still researching the criteria of the grant funding and may or may not apply depending on the criteria, but this approval gives the City the option to apply.

Motion by Engemann, second by DeVries to approve Resolution 2023-38 which exercises the City's right to exempt itself from the requirements of PA 152 of 2011 for coverage beginning 01/01/2024. AIF/MC

Schneider displayed the GIS Map and highlighted the parcel being discussed (Parcel # 62-18-26-200-015). He said that the undeveloped parcel in discussion is surrounded by a larger undeveloped parcel, owned by a developer whom has discussed interest in a future housing development on this parcel. Schneider said that the smaller parcel had previously been for sale and asked Council for their thoughts if it might make sense for the City to look at the possibility of acquiring the smaller parcel. Schneider stated that the City has had illegal Code issues at this small parcel in the past. Council Members discussed listing price vs. assessed price of small parcel in discussion. Council discussed that there might be more incentive to the developer, who owns the larger parcel, to develop that area if the City owned the small parcel. Consensus of Council was that Schneider should research property details and bring information back to a future Council Meeting.

Motion by Black, second by DeVries to approve Marshall Run to be held on August 31, 2024. AIF/MC Chief stated that this is an annual event and no changes were made to the route from last year.

Fedell said that the Engineering Report for the Powerhouse Building Assessment was included in packets. Schneider discussed the Executive Summary section of the report stating that the first phase would be working with an engineer on the structural repair items listed in the assessment. Schneider discussed funding options and said that repairs and work on the building would be done in phases based on funding.

Schneider said that the Audit was included in packets and that it was a clean audit stating that there were no deficiencies listed by the auditors. Council Members thanked Schneider and staff for doing a good job.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

All Council Members wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Motion by Walerczyk, second by Johnson to adjourn the meeting at 8:27 PM. AIF/MC

Mayor – Ed Fedell

Clerk – Kim Goodin