



MINUTES
Regular Meeting of Newaygo City Council
February 12, 2024

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

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

Motion by Engemann, second by DeVries to approve the agenda as presented. AIF/MC

PUBLIC COMMENTS

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Black, second by Engemann to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the Council regular meeting minutes from 01/08/2024, approval of accounts payable of \$44,392.04, \$38,394.23, \$157,719.58, \$13,831.02, \$31,152.15, \$162,453.46, \$91,766.30, \$1,641.00, \$258.48, and \$683.50, and Resolution 2024-12 approving the appointment of Sadie Johnson to the NEDO Board. AIF/MC

RESERVED TIME

Leslie DeLaat and Jen Braman were present to review the Pride Festival Event that was held in Brooks Park in 2023 and discuss steps needed to host another event in Brooks Park in 2024. The Mayor said that whenever a park is proposed to be rented that the individual or organization needs to fill out a City Park rental application, pay the rental fee, and stated that the application includes basic information such as date, time, number of people, etc, and that a separate sheet should be included discussing details of event. The information needs to be accurate so that the City can properly prepare for the event and also require appropriate measures of the applicant. The Mayor explained that all rental applications are vetted with various departments of the City, and external depts (i.e. Fire Dept, additional law enforcement, etc.) when needed. After the application and information is properly vetted, it is forwarded to the City Council for final review and action. Sufficient time needs to be allotted for the process. The Mayor stated that it is important that the safety of all event participants and the surrounding residents be taken into consideration when reviewing requests to rent City parks. Delaat will work with Chief Andres regarding the proposed 2024 event and discuss any Ordinance or permit violations that may have occurred during the 2023 event.

COMMITTEE & BOARD REPORTS

Ken DeLaat, County Commissioner gave updates on the Dragon Trail, Newaygo County Parks, Housing Partnership between the County and the FACF, Headway Coalition and unemployment numbers in the County. He stated that bids were being taken for the County Courthouse renovations and discussed HVAC renovations needed at the County.

Newaygo District Fire Chief Otteren stated that the Public Safety Study was going well and he was looking forward to receiving the results of the study. He said that the Fire Department utilized funds from Pancake Breakfast and the FACF to purchase a UTV to access areas that the fire trucks were unable to reach. Chief Otteren stated that January calls were the highest they have ever had.

Ramona Deters, representing River Country Chamber of Commerce and the Newaygo Farmers Market, said that she is aware of the numerous details needed when applying for park rentals in the City as she had previously applied and attended numerous Council Meetings for the rental of Brooks Park for the Farmers Market.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

Schneider stated that a City Manager’s Report was included in packets that discussed numerous projects in the City. He stated that the City’s Master Plan would be reviewed in 2024 and if anyone had any input to please contact him. He also solicited the Council for any input on regulations for short-term rentals as the Planning Commission will be working on the topic.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Chief Andres stated that traffic orders need to be updated and that she was reviewing numerous traffic orders and they would be emailed to Council for review in the coming days and placed on a future Council Meeting for approval. She said the Public Safety Study was going well.

BOARD BUSINESS

Motion by Engemann, second by Black to approve request by the River Country Chamber of Commerce for the use of City Parks for several events/festivals for the 2024 calendar year. Information for events was included in packets and no new events were scheduled for 2024. AIF/MC

Motion by Black, second by DeVries to approve request by Newaygo Library for the use of Brooks Park for a Solar Eclipse Event on Monday, April 8, 2024 from 11:30 am-2:30 pm and to have 2 food trucks for the event. Application and information for event included in packets. AIF/MC

Motion by Engemann, second by DeVries to approve Resolution 2024-13 to approve the request of funding, approve contract with MDOT and designate authorized agent for the asphalt resurfacing along Croton Rd. from M-37 to the East City limits. Roll Call: Yeas: Black, DeVries, Engemann, Fedell Absent: Burns, Johnson, Walerczyk Nay: None. CARRIED Schneider stated that this had been discussed at previous Council Meetings and said that a grant was funding approximately 50% of the project.

Schneider discussed the Planning Commission 2023 Annual Report that was included in packets. He said that this report contains a record of the Planning Commission’s activity during 2023.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Motion by Engemann, second by DeVries to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 PM. AIF/MC

Mayor – Ed Fedell

Clerk – Kim Goodin