



MINUTES
Regular Meeting of Newaygo City Council
May 13, 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, Burns, DeVries, Engemann, Fedell, Johnson
Absent: Walerczyk

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

Motion by Johnson, second by Engemann to approve the amended agenda moving Item “N” under Board Business to be discussed under Item “B” under Board Business. AIF/MC

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Lesly DeLaat, applicant of Brooks Park Rental request for Hearts United, Newaygo Pride, spoke about their event request in Brooks Park to be held on June 29, 2024.

Public made positive comments about the Newaygo Pride event that was held last year in Brooks Park.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Burns, second by Engemann to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the Council regular meeting minutes from 04/08/2024, approval of accounts payable of \$55,590.73, \$11,443.53, \$16,149.54, \$29,400.89, \$22,585.97, \$262,235.58, \$1,650.00, \$229.12, \$897.84, and \$2,619.53, Resolution 2024-24 approving the appointment of Mary Franklin to the TIFA/LDFA Board, and Resolution 2024-25 approving the appointment of Janella Byrne to the PSD Board. AIF/MC

RESERVED TIME

COMMITTEE & BOARD REPORTS

Ken DeLaat, County Commissioner gave updates on the Dragon Trail, Newaygo County Parks, Recycling program, Drug Court Program and a Newaygo County Birding Trail being developed.

Rachael Porter, representing River Country Chamber of Commerce, gave updates on the upcoming Memorial Day festivities and Newaygo County Kids Day stating that they are in need of volunteers for the upcoming events.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

Schneider stated that the Planning Commission had reviewed the City Master Plan and determined that the plan is still relevant and no changes were needed at this time. He said that the Planning Commission had approved that Schneider begin working on a ‘draft’ short-term rental Ordinance for review. Schneider said that Marshall Park was recently spruced up and that repairs have started on the M82 lift station.

Johnson asked about Parks & Recreation Plan and Schneider explained the City’s current Parks and Recreation Plan is through NCRA. Johnson said that he had seen information regarding possible grant funding available from the State for Electric Vehicle Charging Stations.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

BOARD BUSINESS

Motion by Fedell, second by Johnson to approve request by Hearts United, Newwaygo Pride (Lesly DeLaat) for use of Brooks Park to have a Community Pride Celebration on Saturday, June 29, 2024 from 9:00 am to 8:30 pm contingent on the following:

- Name of Security Group that will be utilized during the event is provided to the Newwaygo Chief of Police
- Chief of Security Group must meet with the Newwaygo Chief of Police at least 1 week prior to event
- Flags displayed cannot block security cameras
- Must follow City Ordinance related to how flags are secured on trees or objects

Roll Call: Yeas: Black, Burns, DeVries, Fedell, Johnson Nays: Engemann Absent: Walerczyk MOTION CARRIED Application and information was included in packets.

Motion by Burns, second by Johnson to approve request by Family of God Community Church, Pastor Steve Mann, for the use of Brooks Park to have a Church Worship Service on Sunday, July 21, 2024 from 8:30 am-12:00 pm. AIF/MC Application and information was included in packets.

Motion by Black, second by Burns to approve request by Newwaygo Public Schools for the use of Brooks Park to serve free lunches from June 17, 2024 through August 7, 2024 from 12:00 pm to 12:25 pm, Monday through Thursday. AIF/MC Application and information was included in packets.

Motion by Johnson, second by Burns to approve License Agreement for Wisner Canoe to use Riverfront Park Phase II. AIF/MC Fedell stated that the only change to the agreement was the dates and a 3% increase in the lease agreement amount per agreement terms.

Schneider stated that a group of students from Newwaygo High School was interested in painting the Skate Park and said that information and pictures were included in packets. Schneider discussed graffiti on one portion of Skate Park and process to remove graffiti. Fedell and Schneider felt that the rail and posts at the Skate Park were okay to be painted, but concerned with the gray composite area being painted due to the type of material stating that the type of paint needed for this material is very costly and consistent maintenance of painting would be required because of the material type. Additional discussion was: who would do future maintenance of painting if school students paint, school logo being placed at Skate Park, and Parking on road in front of Skate Park. A public member in attendance, who is a local artist, stated that he would be willing to assist with ways to remove graffiti and agreed that the gray areas should not be painted because of the material. No final decision was made on painting the Skate Park.

Motion by Black, second by Burns to approve quote from Verdin Bells & Clocks in the amount of \$15,250.00 for mechanical and cosmetic restoration of the Town Clock. Roll Call: Yeas: Black, Burns, DeVries, Engemann, Fedell, Johnson Nays: None Absent: Walerczyk MOTION CARRIED Schneider stated that there are very few clock vendors available and that two quotes from Verdin Bells & Clocks were included in packets. One quote was for mechanical restoration of clock and the other quote was for mechanical and cosmetic restoration of the clock.

Motion by Burns, second by Johnson to open public hearing at 7:40 pm to discuss and take comments on the proposed City Budget for millage rate for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 AIF/MC Schneider went through the proposed budget for FY 2024-2025 and discussed the highlights stating that he discussed the proposed FY 2024-2025 budget in detail with the Finance Committee last month. Schneider stated that the Capital Improvement Plan was included in budget book and it contained current and future projects. He stated that the millage rate was unchanged and remained at 17.75. There were not any comments or questions from Council Members or the public on budget or millage rate. Motion by Burns, second by Johnson to close public hearing at 8:02 pm.

Motion by Johnson, second by Burns to approve Resolution 2024-26 adopting the City Budget for Fiscal Year 2024-2025. AIF/MC

Motion by Burns, second by Engemann to approve Resolution 2024-27 adopting the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 City Millage Levy. AIF/MC Schneider stated that the millage rate of 17.75 was unchanged from previous year.

Motion by Burns, second by Engemann to approve the City Capital Improvement Plan dated March 20, 2024. AIF/MC

Motion by Black, second by Burns to approve Resolution 2024-28 to amend the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 TIFA Budget. AIF/MC Schneider stated that the TIFA Board had reviewed and approved budget amendments at their recent meeting.

Motion by Burns, second by DeVries to approve Resolution 2024-29 adopting the Newwaygo Area Fire District's Budget for FY 2024-2025. AIF/MC

Motion by Johnson, second by Burns to approve Resolution 2024-30 which sets the date and schedule of notices for Public Hearing on the 2024-2025 Fire Protection Services Special Assessment Roll. AIF/MC Fedell stated that the public hearing will be held at the next City Council Meeting on June 10, 2024.

Motion by Burns, second by Black to approve proposed changes to the Policy for Vacation Time AIF/MC Schneider stated that no additional vacation time was being proposed for City staff, but changes to the number of years an employee has to be with the City before they start accruing additional vacation. Schneider had handed out a sheet with changes being proposed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public made comments thanking City Council for approving Pride Event, complimented Council on doing a good job and complimenting how nice the town looks.

Rachael Porter, River Country Chamber, stated that the Chamber has to go through the same process as everyone to rent Brooks Park for the Chamber events. She said they work with the Chief of Police on safety and security measures for all Chamber events held in the City.

Chief Andres stated that the Police Department monitors all events held in Brooks Park and other City Parks for the safety of the community. She said that if there are any issues in any City park that law enforcement will be available.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Engemann explained his “no” vote on Brooks Park Rental by Hearts United, Newaygo Pride.

Burns thanked public for comments and attending the meeting.

Fedell thanked all for attending.

Motion by Burns, second by Engemann to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 PM. AIF/MC

Mayor – Ed Fedell

Clerk – Kim Goodin