



MINUTES
Regular Meeting of Newaygo City Council
February 10, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Fedell called the meeting to order at 7:01 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, LaFontsee
Absent: Walerczyk

Motion by Burns, second by LaFontsee to excuse absent member. AIF/MC

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Burns, second by LaFontsee to approve the Consent Agenda which includes Council regular meeting minutes from 01/13/2025 and approval of accounts payable of \$30,937.13, \$55,527.38, \$17,254.58, \$7,396.67, \$1,824.00, \$128,951.85 and \$1,287.48. AIF/MC

RESERVED TIME

Mayor Fedell read Proclamation recognizing the 2024 Newaygo Lions Varsity Football team for their remarkable season.

COMMITTEE & BOARD REPORTS

Newaygo District Fire Chief Otteren stated that the Fire Department finished the 2024 year with 692 calls.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

Schneider gave updates on the Powerhouse Project, sidewalk projects, Wood St. Water and Sewer Project, and the Water Service Line Project. He said that the demolition for 8 State Rd. should occur in the coming months and said that MDOT will be doing repairs on the M37 Bridge this spring.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Ron Wight, DPW Superintendent, stated that they have been busy preparing for upcoming projects.

Chief Andres said that the School Assigned Police Officer Bi-Annual Report was included in packets and to contact her if there are any questions.

BOARD BUSINESS

Motion by Engemann, second by Black to approve request by River Country Chamber of Commerce for the use of City Parks for several events/festivals for the 2025 calendar year. AIF/MC Information for events was included in packets.

Motion by Burns, second by DeVries to approve the Total Trek Quest (TTQ) Community 5K event to be held on May 17, 2025 beginning at 9:00 am with the same route that is utilized by the St. Nick Kick each year. AIF/MC Zach Yokum, with Arbor Circle, was present and stated that they are working with Newaygo High School and the Chief on the event. Information for the event and a map of the route was included in packets.

Nick Looman, owner of Newaygo Brewing, discussed a special event they would like to host for their 10 year anniversary celebration on May 2nd and May 3rd. Looman said that they would like to have a beer tent and music outside in the back of their building. He discussed the special license application that they would have to apply for with the State and requirements needed for the application. Consensus of Council was that Newaygo Brewing move forward with next steps and work with Chief Andres on details and bring back the completed application and details to the next Council meeting.

Schneider stated that he was contacted by Reid Sherwood, City resident, about an old stone that has “Sherwood” on it that is located by the Powerhouse Building that may need to be removed during repairs. Sherwood asked if he could have the stone and Schneider was looking for Council thoughts. Consensus of Council was for Schneider to move forward with researching what steps would need to be taken for the City to release the stone to Sherwood.

Schneider stated that Nikki Ingalls, owner of 14 State Rd. had contacted him about the possibility of utilizing the old sign from 8 State Rd. that would be taken down when the building was demolished. Consensus of Council was that Ingalls would need to remove the sign prior to demolition of the building and for Schneider to move forward with next steps that would need to be taken for the City to release the sign to Ingalls.

Schneider discussed Charter Revision (replacement) outline that was provided by the City attorney which was included in packets. He went through the charter revision process and answered questions from Council. Schneider stated that he is waiting on some additional information from the City Attorney and will bring back to a future Council Meeting for further discussion.

Motion by Engemann, second by DeVries to award City Hall roof replacement project to American Classic at an estimated cost of \$35,000.00, and to authorize the City Manager to approve and sign contract, change order, payment requests and all other relevant documents to bring the project to completion. Yeas: Black, Burns, DeVries, Engemann, Fedell, LaFontsee Absent: Walerczyk Nay: None. CARRIED Schneider stated that he thinks that it has been 30 years or more since the roof was replaced and that there is damage in multiple areas of the roof.

Schneider displayed the current layout of City Hall and discussed reconfiguration options that had been discussed at a recent department head meeting. He said that the Police Department was in need of additional work space. Chief Andres discussed the importance of safety when looking at reconfiguration options. Consensus of Council was for Schneider to continue working on proposed reconfiguration options at City Hall.

Motion by Black, second by Burns to approve Wood St. sewer main repair and extension project at estimated cost of \$205,000.00 and to award work to Terra Contractors (contractor doing water main project in Wood St). Furthermore, City Manager is authorized to approve and sign contract, change order, payment requests and all other relevant documents to bring the project to completion. Yeas: Black, Burns, DeVries, Engemann, Fedell, LaFontsee Absent: Walerczyk Nay: None. CARRIED Schneider stated that as the Wood St. water main project was occurring that the City would like to have sewer main repairs done in this area to eliminate the need of having this area torn up again in the future. He said that TIFA had approved some funding for this project.

Motion by Black, second by Burns to approve City Manager as the authorized agent to submit the 2025 Match on Main Grant Application and if awarded, approve/sign the grant agreement and other relevant documents to bring the program to completion. AIF/MC Schneider stated that no downtown businesses had submitted applications yet, but wanted to be prepared if one should submit an application.

Motion by Engemann, second by Burns to approve Resolution 2025-02 establishing guidelines for granting of poverty exemptions from property taxes. AIF/MC

Motion by Black, second by DeVries to approve Resolution 2025-03 setting the March Board of Review first meeting date for taxpayer appeals. AIF/MC

Schneider discussed the Planning Commission 2024 Annual Report that was included in packets. He said that this report contains a record of the Planning Commission’s activity during 2024.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Motion by Burns, second by Engemann to adjourn the meeting at 8:44 PM. AIF/MC

Mayor – Ed Fedell

Clerk – Kim Goodin

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