



MINUTES
Regular Meeting of Newaygo City Council
October 13, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Fedell called the meeting to order at 7:05 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, Walerczyk, Walker

Absent: Burns

Motion by Walker, second by Walerczyk to excuse absent member. AIF/MC

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Black, second by Engemann to approve the Consent Agenda which includes Council regular meeting minutes from 09/08/2025, Council closed session meeting minutes from 09/08/2025 and approval of accounts payable of \$4,640.00, \$31,512.06, \$644.83, \$321,171.63, \$56,322.43, \$10,295.90, \$400,639.94, \$159,330.39, \$641,307.81, \$88,370.33, \$3,676.80, \$134,787.39, \$5,189.62, and \$3,455.73 AIF/MC

RESERVED TIME

Jackie Knight and Carmen Faulkner from True North Community Services gave a presentation on “Engage-Social Prescribing” Program offered at True North. They discussed what social prescribing is, its outcomes, the people it supports, the services and activities offered, and the program’s participation criteria.

COMMITTEE & BOARD REPORTS

Lori Tubbergen Clark, Newaygo County Commissioner, discussed and provided information on County FY 2026 Budget General Fund Revenues and Expenses by Classification.

Ramona Deters, representing River Country Chamber of Commerce gave updates on upcoming Chamber events and discussed the vegetation in the Peace Memorial area and how it reduces visibility to the park.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

Schneider gave updates on Highbank Apartments behind Leppinks, J&H Gas Station, Pocket Park project and the Powerhouse Building project. He discussed conversations at the recent PSD meeting about the tree in front of City Hall that the school kids decorate for the Christmas Walk. Schneider said that it had been discussed of hiring a company to professionally decorate and put lights on this tree and getting a smaller tree or more for the school kids to decorate. Council stated that they were okay with this if the school was receptive to this change. Schneider said that the City Police Department achieved 100% compliance with NIMS training and will receive an award at the County next week.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Ron Wight, DPW Superintendent, gave an update on sidewalks being installed along Division St., Brooks St., and Mundy Ave stating they are almost complete.

BOARD BUSINESS

Motion by Walker, second by Walerczyk to award City Welcome Sign project to Valley City Sign Company and accept their proposal and Terms and Conditions with the City Manager authorized to sign/approve the proposal and all other relevant documents to bring the project to completion. Roll Call: Yeas: Black, DeVries, Engemann, Fedell, Walerczyk, Walker Nays: None Absent: Burns MOTION CARRIED Fedell stated that the bid tabulation was included in packets and that Valley City Sign Company submitted the lowest bid.

Schneider stated that the existing Fire services special assessment expires in April 2027. He said that a memorandum, from the City Attorney, was included in packets describing the process to establish a new special assessment to include Fire, Police and EMS services. Schneider said that expanding the special assessment to include Police and EMS service provides the City with more funding options in the future, if needed. He said that the process will begin in the coming months to ensure completion before the current assessment expires.

Motion by Fedell, second by Walker to approve Consent Agenda relating to purchase of Muskegon River Holding (MRH) property which includes:

1. Approve purchase agreement and corresponding addendum to purchase the MRH property (approximately 214 acres) for \$1,600,000.00.
2. Approve payment of earnest money of \$25,000.00 for MRH property purchase.
3. Approve Bond Counsel engagement for bonds to purchase MRH property at estimated cost of \$18,750.00.
4. Approve Financial Advisor engagement for assistance in negotiating, marketing, and selling of bonds relating to purchase of MRH property at estimated cost of \$16,000.00.
5. Approve proposal from Lakeshore Environmental LLC for \$2,750.00 for a Baseline Environmental Site Assessment for necessary environmental review due diligence work when purchase land.
6. Approve proposal from Lakeshore Environmental LLC for \$3,355.00 for a Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment for necessary environmental review due diligence work when purchase land.
7. Approve proposal from Nederveld Engineering to complete an ALTA survey of the MRH property for \$11,245.00.
8. Authorize the Mayor, City Clerk, or City Manager to approve/sign all documents relating to the financing, due diligence and purchase of the MRH property, including but not limited to, purchase agreement and related addendum, bond counsel and financial advisor engagement letters, Lakeshore Environmental LLC proposals for environmental work, and Nederveld Engineering's proposal to complete an ALTA survey.
9. Approve Resolution 2025-25 amending the City Budget for due diligence work and financing work relating to the purchase of the MRH property.

Roll Call: Yeas: Black, DeVries, Engemann, Fedell, Walerczyk, Walker Nays: None Absent: Burns MOTION CARRIED Schneider displayed the land that the City wishes to acquire for future development which was discussed during the closed session of the September Council meeting. Fedell discussed financing options stating that the City would have up to 180 days to close on the property. Schneider discussed distributing TIFA funds to the City's general fund annually to cover debt payments.

Schneider went over the budget stating that overall revenue and expenses are right where they should be and explained a couple of fluctuations. He stated all Disc Golf Course funds have been spent and he plans to meet with the County to discuss future maintenance funding.

Schneider stated that he was waiting on a quote regarding City Hall improvements. He said that Division St. and Quarterline Rd. striping will hopefully occur this fall, pending contractor availability and weather.

Motion by Black, second by Engemann to appoint the two recommended members to the MML Liability & Property Pool Board of Directors Election. AIF/MC

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jason Wolford, Newaygo District Fire, stated that the Newaygo Fire Department is hosting an open house on Monday October 20th from 6:00PM-8:00PM. He said that the Department is 100% NIMS compliant and has averaged 64 calls per month in 2025.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

No Council Member comments.

Motion by Walerczyk, second by Engemann to adjourn the meeting at 8:24 pm. AIF/MC