



MINUTES
Regular Meeting of Newaygo City Council
January 12, 2026

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, Walerczyk, Walker
Absent: None

Motion by Burns, second by Walker 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 12/08/2025 and approval of accounts payable of \$20,222.43, \$129,421.00, \$35,414.83, \$533.69, \$51,383.00, \$83,893.50, \$4,623.52, \$61,184.63, \$169,444.50, \$1,917.00, \$244.90 and \$58.14.
AIF/MC

RESERVED TIME

Chief Andres recognized Officer Walerczyk for his 24 years of dedicated service to the Newaygo Police Department and said that he was retiring from the department. In honor of his career, Chief Andres presented Officer Walerczyk with a commemorative plaque and a police retirement packet.

COMMITTEE & BOARD REPORTS

No committee or board reports.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

Schneider stated that Newaygo Elementary School opted to have the City purchase trees to be located at the school for students to decorate for the Christmas season and he said that the City was able to arrange for the trees to be planted prior to Christmas. He said that the new City Welcome Sign should be completed and installed this spring. Schneider said that updates to the Utility Ordinance and the Water/Sewer Rate Resolution are currently in progress and will be presented at a future Council meeting. He informed Council that he is reviewing a Hazardous Material Cost Recovery Ordinance template provided by Newaygo County Emergency Services. He stated that he is working with Consumers Energy regarding the lights along the M37 Bridge and said that if any Council member was interested in attending Elected Officials Training, through MML, to contact him or Goodin to get signed up. Schneider gave an update on the status and timeline of the Pocket Park and the mayor gave an update on the funding of the Pocket Park. Schneider provided an update on the MRH property.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Ron Wight, DPW Superintendent, said they have been very busy with taking down Christmas decorations and with snow plowing and removal.

Interim Police Chief Rood said the department has been working to close out 2025 reports.

BOARD BUSINESS

Motion by Walerczyk, second by Burns to approve the Total Trek Quest (TTQ) Community 5K event to be held on Saturday, May 16, 2026 beginning at 9:00 am with the same route as last year, which is also the same route that is utilized by the St. Nick Kick each year. AIF/MC Officer Rood said that he has been working with a representative from TTQ. Information for the event and a map of the route was included in packets.

Motion by Black, second by Burns to approve request by River Country Chamber of Commerce for the use of City Parks, for several events/festivals for the 2026 calendar year. AIF/MC Information for events was included in packets.

Motion by Engemann, second by Walker to approve Resolution 2026-01 establishing guidelines for granting of Poverty Exemptions from Property Taxes. AIF/MC

Motion by Burns second by Walker to approve Resolution 2026-02 to authorize issuance of General Obligation Limited Tax Bonds. Roll Call: Yeas: Black, Burns, DeVries, Engemann, Fedell, Walerczyk, Walker Absent: None Nay: None MOTION CARRIED Schneider stated that this Resolution gives the City authority to issue bonds for the purchase and development of the MRH property. He said that the amount listed in the Resolution is higher than the purchase price of the MRH property, per the City Attorney’s recommendation, to cover any additional funds that may be needed towards infrastructure or to match any potential grant funds in future years.

Motion by Walker, second by Walerczyk to approve Resolution 2026-03, a Resolution of intent to create a Special Assessment District & levy a Special Assessment for Police, Fire and EMS Services; tentatively designating a Special Assessment District; estimating the costs and expenses of providing Police, Fire, and EMS Services to be defrayed by Special Assessment; and calling a Public Hearing regarding the same. Roll Call: Yeas: Black, Burns, DeVries, Engemann, Fedell, Walerczyk, Walker Absent: None Nay: None MOTION CARRIED Schneider said that the current Special Assessment for Fire Services expires in April 2027 and the new Resolution broadens the language to assist with funding for the Police and/or EMS in the future if ever needed. Schneider said at this time the plan is to continue with only a Special Assessment for the Fire Department and there would not be any tax increase.

Motion by Black, second by Burns to approve the 23rd Marshall Run on Saturday, September 5, 2026. AIF/MC

Motion by Walerczyk, second by Black to approve 2026 Council Committee appointments from list included in packets. AIF/MC

Schneider said that audit books were included in packets and that there were no issues with the audit. He stated that the budget reflects six months of activity and discussed some highlights. He explained some revenues and expenditures and said that overall the budget is right where it should be. Schneider said the Equipment Pool Fund looks good and that detail sheets for specific budget lines were also included in packets.

Schneider said that Muskegon River Watershed Assembly (MRWA) received a grant to remove three dams along Penoyer Creek stating that he told the Executive Director of MRWA that the City has a water main that runs under Penoyer Creek in the Rowe Manufacturing ruins area should they do any work in this area.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Mayor Fedell stated that he would be re-running for Mayor.

Motion by Walerczyk, second by Burns to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 pm. AIF/MC

Mayor – Ed Fedell

Clerk – Kim Goodin