



MINUTES

Regular Meeting of Newaygo City Council

September 12, 2016

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Fedell called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM at City Hall located at 28 N. State Road, Newaygo MI 49337.

Presiding officer: Mayor Fedell

Secretary: Clerk, Kim Biegalle

Roll Call: Present: Day, Fedell, Hikade, Johnson, Palmiter, Santana, Walerczyk
Absent:

Motion by Hikade, support by Santana to approve the agenda as presented. AIF/MC

PUBLIC COMMENTS

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Palmiter, support by Walerczyk to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the regular council minutes from 08/08/16 and accounts payable of \$406.42, \$59,200.06, \$32,392.84, \$3,827.67, \$7,034.66, \$18,303.47, \$521,953.69, \$2,746.27, \$267,589.95, \$41,579.93, \$1,104,493.75, \$30.37, \$3,536.90, \$102.00 and \$1,563.66.

Roll Call: Yeas: Day, Fedell, Hikade, Johnson, Palmiter, Santana, Walerczyk Absent: None Nay: None.
CARRIED

RESERVED TIME

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MANAGERS REPORT

Schneider informed the Council of several items: options for modifying the rolled curbs around City Hall/library entrances, revenue sharing update e-mail in their packets, waste water treatment plant repairs and publishing a notice of intent to apply for USDA grants/loans, Division Street sidewalk project will be completed in the next couple of weeks, the railroad repair at River Street has started and will be completed in two weeks and finally some of the roads in the City are being chip sealed. There were two contractors, one of which is back to do work for free because of some road issues from last year.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Sgt. Walerczyk was present as Chief Andres was unavailable. He will be able to answer any questions regarding the upcoming skateboard and bicycle agenda item.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Motion by Day, support by Walerczyk to approve Resolution 16-19 which amends the Major Streets Construction budget line for the current budget year. Schneider explained that the money did not get spent out of last year's budget so the money was moved to the current year's budget. Roll Call: Yeas: Day, Fedell, Hikade, Johnson, Palmiter, Santana, Walerczyk Absent: None Nay: None. CARRIED

Motion by Hikade, support by Palmiter to approve the pay request for the Division Street sidewalk project. Schneider noted that this is their first pay request, there is still project balance and retainage monies left. Roll Call: Yeas: Day, Fedell, Hikade, Johnson, Palmiter, Santana, Walerczyk Absent: None Nay: None. CARRIED

Motion by Johnson, support by Hikade to approve Resolution 16-20 which authorizes the City Manager to become a representative/administrator for the City regarding Rural Development applications and certifications. This will allow Schneider to submit applications and certifications for the waste water treatment plant. Roll Call: Yeas: Day, Fedell, Hikade, Johnson, Palmiter, Santana, Walerczyk Absent: None Nay: None. CARRIED

Motion by Palmiter, support by Day to approve Resolution 16-21 which allows the Principal Shopping District (PSD) Board to have one business renter as a board member. AIF/MC

Motion by Hikade, support by Day to approve the sign/banner request by Spectrum Health for a couple upcoming events held in Fremont. To be approved as long as there are no conflicts with any upcoming Chamber events during that same time period. AIF/MC

Schneider informed the Council that the current owners of property off of M-82, near the City's water booster station, would like to donate it to the City. Council has an aerial map of the property; it's the high banks above the river (doesn't touch the river) off of Fremont Street. Council members were in favor of the donation as long as there are no stipulations but if the City were to ever sell it, they would like to reserve the small lot (002) in case any sewer utilities come to that side of the river. Motion by Hikade, support by Johnson to proceed with the discussion with the property owners to donate to the City. AIF/MC

Schneider brought up another vacant piece of City owned property, lot at the corner of Water Street and Fair Street. This property was acquired on a tax sale, house on the property was demolished and the neighbor to the south of this lot is possibly interested in purchasing it. Carol Sherwood who lives in the neighborhood feels this is a good option and to make it just one big, conforming lot. Schneider stated that the City cannot make a profit from the sale or any profit would have to go back to the County. Motion by Santana, support by Hikade to sell the property to the owners to the south based on an amount the City assessor decides is fair. AIF/MC

Motion by Hikade, support by Walerczyk to approve the Newaygo High School to have a homecoming parade on Friday, October 14th. Laurie Gracik from the high school was available for questions. She stated that this will be the first homecoming parade to showcase the floats and went over the street route with Council. Once approved, Gracik will talk to Chief Andres regarding the road closures during the parade. AIF/MC

Fedell asked for the skateboard and bicycle discussion. Sgt. Walerczyk explained the ordinance and State laws on where each was allowed to ride within the City and downtown district. Fedell had no further issues after Sgt. Walerczyk explained.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mike King 220 State Street, reviewed the revenue and expense amounts of The Stream for fiscal year 2015 - 2016. He questioned how many businesses would survive under similar circumstances. He told Council there needs to be accountability, on their part, to the taxpayers; these expenses keep going out month after month. Council member Walerczyk and Council member Hikade both stated to King they were upset and were looking into this matter themselves. Hikade stated they were trying to get all the facts and making sure they are doing the right thing. King stated that he has asked that The Stream be on the agenda for the past two months.

Charlie Benham, 625 Main Street, stated he came down to the Council meeting on a different topic but stated that he and Jeff Cronk, years ago, had issues regarding The Stream and he claimed Blachford told them back then if it was a problem, he would sell it. He came to Council to ask for something to be done regarding his neighbor's dog defecating in his yard continuously. The neighbor was supposed to put a fence up and hasn't and now the neighbor's dog is going after his wife and company in his yard. Sgt. Walerczyk took the information and will address it. Benham also does not want the police cars turning around in his driveway as it sets off an alarm.

Scott Swinehart, of Edward Jones, was present on behalf of the River Country Chamber of Commerce to give Council an update of several upcoming chamber sponsored events and to inform Council of the Chamber's new revamped website. The Chamber currently has 256 members. On behalf of the Chamber, he thanked the City Council for their support, also thanked the City's Police Department, City Police Reserves and DPW for all their help during Logging Fest. He stated the Pickle Ball people thank the City for their support and for putting down the pickle ball lines at Henning Park.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Walerczyk thinks Council needs to be looking at The Stream and how money is being spent.

Hikade seconded Walerczyk.

Palmiter agreed that something has to happen with The Stream; need a timeframe.

Johnson stated he has reviewed The Stream numbers with Schneider as he is a business analyst at Nestle and proposed having a joint meeting of the City Council and the TIFA Board. He wants the boards to come up with a measurement and goals with regards to The Stream.

Santana stated The Stream is an investment in our community; communication is key and need to decide how much is going to be invested.

Schneider stated there are Fire Board reports in the packets as well as information from The Stream.

Fedell stated contrary to what was said, the City doesn't own the first floor, they own the second. He stated The Stream is used frequently and the income fluctuates considerably so don't know how the fiscal year will end. The Stream was leased by NCEDO and they walked away from it earlier than they agreed upon; options now are to lease space or sell.

Motion by Hikade, supported by Santana to adjourn the meeting. AIF/MC

Meeting adjourned at 8:24 PM.

Mayor – Ed Fedell

Clerk – Kim Biegalle