



MINUTES

Regular Meeting of Newaygo City Council

July 10, 2017

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, Walerczyk
Absent: Santana

Motion by Palmiter, support by Walerczyk to excuse absent member. AIF/MC

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Day, support by Walerczyk to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the regular council minutes from 06/26/17 and accounts payable of \$10,670.66, \$43,902.36, \$11,016.90, \$1,636.58 and \$2,428.00. Roll Call: Yeas: Day, Fedell, Hikade, Johnson, Palmiter, Walerczyk Absent: Santana Nay: None. CARRIED

RESERVED TIME

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Scott Swinehart, Chamber Chairman, was present to give Council an update. There are upwards of 275 current members. Swinehart went over a couple of past and upcoming events and stated that the Chamber will be finishing up their five year strategic plan tomorrow. Appreciates the Chamber being able to utilize The Stream and its technology as well as thanked the Council for their continued support.

Scott Faulkner, NEDO Chairman, was also present and gave Council a handout on several NEDO activities. He noted that retail sales are up in the downtown, a lot of out-of-town patrons coming to Newaygo. There is a need for employees to work in some of the downtown businesses, especially in the restaurants. Faulkner talked about a walkable community and enlisting the help of key individuals to do a study of Newaygo. He touched on the work of Harry Wierenga of Fleis & Vandenbrink, who has done work with us already and is familiar with the City, as well as Jeff Speck. The cost for both individuals to come and do their work is \$32,500 and he is requesting \$17,500 to get the process started and will then go to the Fremont Area Community Foundation for the balance.

MANAGERS REPORT

Schneider stated he is working on submitting the scope of work to LSL for the master plan in which MEDC will match up to half of the cost. He is working with Faulkner and Guzniczak on the economic and development strategy portion. Schneider passed out a handout on the potential painting of the water tower which will be black and white with a lion head and wording. He noted that this is a TIFA project that is being budgeted along with repairs that will need to be made to the water tower.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Motion by Johnson, support by Fedell to approve the Fleis & Vandenbrink proposal/contract “Opportunities Analysis & Visioning” with changes and allow the City Manager to do some more negotiating with the Clerk and Mayor to sign the final document. Schneider noted that Faulkner went over this in his presentation already and this goes along with the next agenda item, the Jeff Speck proposal. The City attorney has looked over the Fleis proposal and recommended a couple changes. Schneider recommends Council approval on these two consultants as this is a pivotal time for the City of Newaygo. Schneider stated this will be going in front of the TIFA Board on Friday and they have budgeted for marketing. Roll Call: Yeas: Day, Fedell, Hikade, Johnson, Palmiter, Walerczyk Absent: Santana Nay: None. CARRIED

Motion by Hikade, support by Palmiter to postpone a decision on Jeff Speck and his proposal until Council receives more information on his work; Hikade called for a Special Council Meeting on Monday, July 24th at 7:00 pm. AIF/MC Faulkner and Schneider will get Council some links and information concerning Jeff Speck. Speck’s work is heavily focused on walkability and he specializes in that field.

Motion by Johnson, support by Hikade to reduce Wisner’s lease fee from \$2,000 to \$1,200 with a 3% annual yearly increase hereafter. Roll Call: Yeas: Day, Fedell, Hikade, Johnson, Palmiter, Walerczyk Absent: Santana Nay: None. CARRIED Rachel Wisner and Carol Blair were present to dispute the increase and ask Council to reduce the amount. They stated many reasons as to why they believe they should not have the increase. Schneider explained why the lease came about and why Wisner has to be charged to use the property. Wight explained that the DPW does a lot of clean up after each weekend as well as the need for more port-a-jons.

Motion by Palmiter, support by Walerczyk to change the ICMA trust document to allow for the private sector to invest in Vantage Funds. AIF/MC Fedell briefly explained the reasoning behind the change.

Motion by Hikade, support by Day to approve the use of Brooks Park by Wayne Kauffman to have a free BBQ on Sunday, August 20th from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. AIF/MC

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chris Ortwein, 6688 E. Carrigan Drive was present and stated as NCEDO Vice-President, he wanted to inform the Council that NCEDO was awarded a grant to subsidize the “Citizen Planner” classes. The grant will pay up to 75% of the class cost. The class is for elected officials, planning board members, planners, etc. The grant will cover the first 40 participants that sign up. Ortwein also stated he knows Harry Wierenga of Fleis & Vandenbrink and seeking advice from consultants is good as long as the consultants also take into consideration the vision of the Council and the City residents. He asked to be copied on all special meetings if they may pertain or involve the property that was just purchased on the riverbank.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Johnson asked if the City took care of “Stroven Trail” at Henning Park because it is very overgrown. Schneider explained that was the County Parks and gave him a contact person.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:56 PM.

Mayor – Ed Fedell

Clerk – Kim Biegalle