



MINUTES

Regular Meeting of Newaygo City Council

June 8, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Fedell called the Newaygo City Council teleconference meeting to order at 7:00 PM. A teleconference meeting was held under the guidelines of Executive Order 2020-110 during the COVID-19 Virus.

Presiding officer: Mayor Fedell

Secretary: Clerk, Kim Goodin

Roll Call: Present: Black, Burns, Ederer, Fedell, Hikade, Johnson, Walerczyk
Absent: None

Motion by Black, second by Burns to approve the agenda as presented. Roll Call: Yeas: Black, Burns, Ederer, Fedell, Hikade, Johnson, Walerczyk Absent: None Nay: None. CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENTS

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Johnson, second by Black to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the regular council minutes from 05/11/2020 and accounts payable of \$37,665.04, \$549.91, \$468,637.26, \$55,619.08, \$79,464.39, \$1,707.10, and \$124.48. Roll Call: Yeas: Black, Burns, Ederer, Fedell, Hikade, Johnson, Walerczyk Absent: None Nay: None. CARRIED

RESERVED TIME

Motion by Hikade, second by Johnson at 7:05 pm to open public hearing to discuss and take comments on the Fire District Special Assessment roll. Roll Call: Yeas: Black, Burns, Ederer, Fedell, Hikade, Johnson, Walerczyk Absent: None Nay: None. CARRIED
Schneider explained that this is routine each year, said that the Fire District Budget had been approved at the May Council Meeting and that the budget was almost identical to last year. No comments or questions from the public. Motion by Johnson, second by Ederer at 7:07 pm to close public hearing. Roll Call: Yeas: Black, Burns, Ederer, Fedell, Hikade, Johnson, Walerczyk Absent: None Nay: None. CARRIED

COMMITTEE & BOARD REPORTS

Ken DeLaat, County Commissioner, stated that the Newaygo County Building re-opened to the public today and that the County was beginning the budget process.

Schneider stated that he had spoke with Scott Swinehart from the River Country Chamber of Commerce who said they were working on putting together some meaningful events and more details would be available in the coming weeks.

Scott Faulkner, Economic and Community Development Coordinator, discussed information in packets explaining various NEDO project updates. He gave an update on the potential pedestrian bridge, stated that the City was working on a RFP for a potential disc golf course at Shaw and Henning Park. Faulkner gave an update on Christian Healthcare Centers, gave an update on the Newaygo County Museum Project and stated that Sandmold had relocated to The Stream. He stated that Sable Homes is researching options with the State Land Bank Authority to aid in the developing of adjacent property to the current River Hills Development and that a meeting was held with the Brownfield Board and they are supportive of this potential project.

Hikade, representing the Newaygo Fire Department gave an update on Fire Budget and Training.

CITY MANAGERS REPORT

Schneider discussed call he received from NCATS stating that they are working with the EDA on a potential grant to install fiber optics through downtown Newaygo, the Industrial Park, along Clay Street, and along Cooperative Center Drive. He said that he is waiting on more information from NCATS, and just looking for thoughts and comments from the Council. Schneider and Council discussed that NCATS focus would be on industry and businesses, and would allow for more internet access and point to point networking. Schneider asked Council for thoughts and comments about possibly acquiring 8 W. State Rd. next to the museum to beautify the corner. Council and Schneider discussed potential cost for a project to acquire the building and beautify corner. Schneider stated that TIFA had approved the demolition of the skate park house and he is working to obtain bids. He said that the Fire Department is interested in training at the house prior to demolition. Schneider said that TIFA had approved money for design work of a potential disc golf course at Shaw and Henning Park and he is working on requesting design proposals.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Ron Wight, DPW Superintendent, stated that the sanitary manholes downtown were complete.

Sgt. Walerczyk stated that the River Patrol started a few weeks ago, said that the Police Department would have an intern for the summer and that Bike Patrol would begin soon.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Motion by Ederer, second by Walerczyk to approve Sewer Project Draw Request Number Fourteen-Payment Request Number Fourteen. Roll Call: Yeas: Black, Burns, Ederer, Fedell, Hikade, Johnson, Walerczyk Absent: None Nay: None. CARRIED

Motion by Hikade, second by Ederer to adopt Resolution 2020-10 which establishes the funding level of 1.90658 for the Newaygo Area Fire District for fiscal year 2020-2021. Roll Call: Yeas: Black, Burns, Ederer, Fedell, Hikade, Johnson, Walerczyk Absent: None Nay: None. CARRIED

Motion by Hikade, second by Burns to approve Resolution 2020-11 confirming special assessment roll, establishing lien and providing for the payment and collection of special assessments for Fire Board. Roll Call: Yeas: Black, Burns, Ederer, Fedell, Hikade, Johnson, Walerczyk Absent: None Nay: None. CARRIED

Motion by Black, second by Johnson to approve Dixon Engineering to perform water storage tank inspection for \$3,400. Roll Call: Yeas: Black, Burns, Ederer, Fedell, Hikade, Johnson, Walerczyk Absent: None Nay: None. CARRIED

Motion by Johnson, second by Hikade to approve up to \$19,000 for engineering services with Prien and Newhof for 30ft bridge along Riverfront Trail allowing the City Manager to further negotiate cost and sign all necessary documents. Roll Call: Yeas: Black, Burns, Ederer, Fedell, Hikade, Johnson, Walerczyk Absent: None Nay: None. CARRIED

Schneider stated that Magna had discussed postponing the date of the Street name change from Southpark Ave. to Industrial Drive due to COVID-19, but decided to move forward with name change on July 15th.

Schneider gave an update on potential Brownfield plans that Sable Homes would like to pursue for River Hills Court expansion. He stated that the expansion would consist of approximately 16 additional homes, but the area for the expansion does not have any roads or infrastructure. Schneider stated that Sable Homes is researching options with the State Land Bank Authority to aid in developing the property and this would allow the property to be qualified under the Brownfield Authority. He explained how the process would work and said a plan from Sable Homes would have to be approved by City Council if a Brownfield Plan and incentives was desired for the property. Schneider said he was looking for Council input prior to Sable Homes hiring a consultant to continue the process. Council was favorable to the plan. Council discussed positive impacts on the City with additional City residents.

Motion by Hikade, second by Johnson to support Sable Homes moving forward with Brownfield Plan for River Hills Court expansion. Yeas: Black, Burns, Ederer, Fedell, Hikade, Johnson, Walerczyk Absent: None Nay: None. CARRIED Schneider stated that a written plan will need to be completed by Sable Homes that will come back to City Council in the future for approval.

Motion by Burns, second by Ederer to approve moving forward and allowing the City Manager to negotiate a purchase agreement with CopperRock Construction for the purchase of property along W. Wood Street. Yeas: Black, Burns, Ederer, Fedell, Hikade, Johnson, Walerczyk Absent: None Nay: None. CARRIED Schneider stated that CopperRock Construction was the only bid received for the sale of vacant property along W. Wood St. and that they offered \$50,000 for the three vacant parcels along W. Wood St. Schneider and Council discussed possible options to include in purchase agreement.

Motion by Black, second by Burns to approve the use of Brooks Park for the Newaygo Farmers Market from June 2020 through September 2020 each Friday afternoon from 2:00 pm-6:00 pm. Yeas: Black, Burns, Ederer, Fedell, Hikade, Johnson, Walerczyk Absent: None Nay: None. CARRIED Schneider stated that Ramona Deters, Market Master and Committee Chair, is working with the Chamber on the Farmers Market and had come to the Council Meeting in March to discuss plans.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Bill Kerry, 77 State Rd., inquired about the permit that was approved for Brooks Park listing that 99 or less people would be in attendance for a patriotic gathering on 5/21/2020. He said he would like a written statement responding to questions of: who signed the permit, when the permit was approved, what the permit was approved for, and if anything was done after the event because more than 99 people were in attendance. Mayor Fedell said that a written statement would be sent to Kerry.

Samantha Vanloon, 177 E Washington, thanked Schneider for speaking with her on the phone and asked for a copy of the written statement when available.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Black said he is encouraged about everything happening in the City.

Burns stated that she thinks things are going well.

Ederer thanked everyone and thought a good meeting.

Hikade said good work by City and staff and he enjoyed the public participation.

Johnson stated he had spoke with Schneider on park permit rules and process and stated that Council may want to look at rules and process in the future. He said good news about the Farmers Market.

Walerczyk stated that excited about all discussions.

Schneider thanked City Staff and City Council for hard work and support.

Fedell thanked everyone for their participation.

Motion by Hikade, support by Walerczyk to adjourn the meeting. Yeas: Black, Burns, Ederer, Fedell, Hikade, Johnson, Walerczyk Absent: None Nay: None. CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 8:22 PM.

Mayor – Ed Fedell

Clerk – Kim Goodin