



MINUTES

Regular Meeting of Newaygo City Council

March 8, 2021

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 and via teleconference due to the MDHHS COVID-19 Emergency Order.

Presiding officer: Mayor Fedell

Secretary: Clerk, Kim Goodin

Roll Call: Present at City Hall: Black, Burns, Fedell, Johnson, Walerczyk
Present via teleconference: Ederer
Absent: None

Others Present: Jason Harris, Chief Andres, Donna Friar, Keeley Friar, Myles Cronk, Hannah Harrington, Ron Wight

Motion by Johnson, second by Burns to approve the amended agenda adding item "J" Resolution 2021-08 under New Business. AIF/MC

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jason Harris, PSD Board Member, discussed the logos being presented later in the meeting and gave a handout showing the Riverstop logo that is currently being used in various locations downtown Newaygo. He said that the City should not have multiple logos, but should be consistent throughout the City.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Black, second by Burns to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the regular meeting council minutes from 02/08/2021, special meeting council minutes from 02/23/2021 and accounts payable of \$60,099.56, \$21,586.40, \$24,003.81, \$167,530.72, \$130,936.31, \$36,881.62, \$1,382.58, and \$49,526.24. Roll Call: Yeas: Black, Burns, Ederer, Fedell, Johnson, Walerczyk Absent: None Nay: None. CARRIED

RESERVED TIME

Motion by Johnson, second by Burns at 7:11 pm to open public hearing to take comments and answer questions on Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Façade Improvement Projects at 34 State Rd. and 41 State Rd. that have recently been completed. AIF/MC Schneider stated that MEDC had invested \$990,000 in Muskegon River Inn and Northwood General Store through a CDBG Façade Grant. He said that the project had been in the works for a number of years and construction was completed at the end of 2020. Schneider discussed the scope of work completed and commented that the buildings look wonderful. He stated that the City is working with the general contractor and building owners to complete remaining draws and paperwork and the final step would be the closing process with MEDC once all funds had been distributed. Council Members Burns and Johnson commented that the buildings looked amazing. No comments from the public. Motion by Burns, second by Walerczyk at 7:16 pm to close the public hearing. AIF/MC

COMMITTEE & BOARD REPORTS

Schneider discussed information in packets explaining various NEDO project updates. He gave an update on the Disc Golf Course and stated that 6 holes may potentially be completed in 2021. Schneider said that the Planning Commission had approved Christian Healthcare site plans at the March 4th meeting.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

Schneider stated that he is working with MDOT to potentially add additional watermain work in the upcoming M-37 Project this summer. The new watermain work would be from approximately River St. to East St.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Chief Andres gave an update on a situation that occurred at Newaygo High School.

Ron Wight, DPW Superintendent gave an update on a watermain break that had occurred over the weekend on Middle Street.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Motion by Johnson, second by Walerczyk to approve Resolution 2021-07 approving and recommending Michigan Liquor Control Commission consideration and approval of certain licensees for Social District Permits pursuant to Public Act 24 of 2020. Roll Call: Yeas: Black, Burns, Ederer, Fedell, Johnson, Walerczyk Absent: None Nay: None. CARRIED Schneider stated that Council had approved the Social District Zone at the February Council Meeting and this is the next step needed for local businesses to apply to the Liquor Control Commission to participate in the Social District Zone.

Motion by Johnson, second by Burns to approve the “Fish Tail Logo” presented by Third Coast Creative for a new City brand. AIF/MC Schneider thanked Harris for his input and said he agrees with Harris that the City should have one brand/logo and needs to be cohesive for the entire City. Myles Cronk and Hannah Harrington, owners of Third Coast Creative, were present and discussed 3 logos that had been decided upon at the February Council Meeting and showed various options for each logo. Schneider discussed potential Branding/Logo timeline that was included in packets and said that possibly the new logo could be revealed at Memorial Day Festivities. Consensus of Council Members was to move forward with the “Fish Tail Logo” as many options available with this logo and that it encompasses the entire City. Harrington stated that they would bring various color and font options to the next Council Meeting.

Schneider stated that the City had received a Right-of-Way Permit from Consumers Energy to increase electrical service to an area in the City. He said that upon investigating the request, it is believed that the electric increase is being requested from a resident for a marihuana grow operation, and that it is illegal according to the City of Newaygo Ordinance. Schneider stated that the State law allows for caregivers to grow a certain number of marihuana plants and deliver to patients. He said that the City had updated the Marihuana Ordinance in 2008 and discussed Ordinance details. Schneider asked Council if they wanted to make any changes as he would be working with the City Attorney to make sure the City Ordinance is in line with the current State Law. Consensus of Council was that no changes were needed unless Attorney advised of any necessary changes to be in line with State law.

Motion by Burns, second by Johnson to approve addendum to extend required closing date on Railside Property. AIF/MC Schneider said that closing date is being extended from March 30, 2021 until May 30, 2021.

Motion by Black, second by Burns to approve Ordinance 2021-01 amending and supplementing City Ordinances to authorize issuance of additional 2021 Series of Water Supply System Revenue Refunding Bonds. AIF/MC Schneider said that a financial advisor had approached him and stated that financial institutions may be interested in refinancing the 2003 water and sewer debts at a lower rate. Schneider stated that the Ordinance gives the Mayor and City Manager the authority to negotiate refinancing terms and gives signatory authority to the Mayor and City Clerk should the City receive an offer resulting in savings. He discussed possible options of savings per year depending on the rate.

Motion by Walerczyk, second by Black to approve Ordinance 2021-02 amending and supplementing City Ordinances to authorize issuance of additional 2021 Series of Sanitary Sewer System Revenue Refunding Bonds. AIF/MC Schneider said that a financial advisor had approached him and stated that financial institutions may be interested in refinancing the 2003 water and sewer debts at a lower rate. Schneider stated that the Ordinance gives the Mayor and City Manager the authority to negotiate refinancing terms and gives signatory authority to the Mayor and City Clerk should the City receive an offer resulting in savings. He discussed possible options of savings per year depending on the rate.

Motion by Johnson, second by Burns to approve Sewer Project Change Order Number Fourteen. Roll Call: Yeas: Black, Burns, Ederer, Fedell, Johnson, Walerczyk Absent: None Nay: None. CARRIED Schneider stated that this will be the last change order.

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

Motion by Burns, second by Walerczyk to approve the use of Brooks Park for several upcoming events/festivals for the 2021 calendar year by the River Country Chamber of Commerce. AIF/MC

Motion by Black, second by Johnson to approve Resolution 2021-08 approving the appointment of Charley Zeldenrust and Shelley Staeven to the TIFA/LDFA Board. AIF/MC

PUBLIC COMMENTS

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Burns said she is glad logo was approved and thanked Cronk and Harrington for their work.

Walerczyk said she really likes logo approved and feels it encompasses entire City and not just the downtown area.

Johnson said he is excited with the new logo and looks forward to the next steps.

Fedell explained that Mike Hikade had resigned from City Council, Planning Commission and Fire Board due to family matters.

Black inquired about the Skate Park. Schneider stated that it has been closed due to needed repairs. Myles Cronk said that he would be willing to take a look at the Skate Park to determine what parts would be needed for repairs. Schneider stated that the City would pay for needed parts. Black inquired about the ice rink and Schneider stated that NCRA had voted to relocate the ice rink to Croton Township. Schneider said that NCRA had purchased the ice rink years ago and discussed the time that the City DPW spent maintaining the ice rink. NCRA is comprised of the City of Newwaygo, Brooks Township, Croton Township, and Garfield Township.

Motion by Walerczyk, second by Burns to adjourn the meeting. AIF/MC

Meeting adjourned at 8:42 PM.

Mayor – Ed Fedell

Clerk – Kim Goodin