

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CARO CITY COUNCIL
September 18, 2023, 6:30 P.M.
Council Chambers, 317 S. State St., Caro, MI 48723
Amended

Mayor Karen Snider called the regular meeting of the City Council to order on September 18, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

Present: Mayor Karen Snider, City Council: Emily Campbell, Bob Eschenbacher, Pamela Iseler, Charlotte Kish, Doreen Oedy and Jill White

Absent: None

Others: Scott Czasak – City Manager, Rita Papp – City Clerk, Michele Perry – City Treasurer, Brian Newcomb – Police Chief, Randy Heckroth – Fire Chief/Code Enforcement Officer, Tom Reese – DPW Superintendent, David Dienes II – WWTP Superintendent and other guests

AGENDA APPROVAL

23-M-185

Motion by Eschenbacher, seconded by Iseler to approve the agenda with the additions of: Additional Documents for Item Number 8. Burt Watson Lease Documents.

Motion Carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT/VISITORS:

Al Michel – Commented on the Farmers Market & Dollar General Stores.
Mark Putnam – Read his letter into record.

PRESENTATION: None

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Charter Communications – Upcoming Changes
2. Mark Putnam Letter

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Regular Council Meeting Minutes – September 5, 2023
2. Invoices
3. Department Reports
 - A. Police Report – Chief Brian Newcomb
 - B. Fire Report – Chief Randall Heckroth
 - C. Code Enforcement Report – Randall Heckroth
 - D. DPW Superintendent – Tom Reese
 - E. WWTP Superintendent – David Dienes II
 - F. Municipal Parking Violations Bureau Report – Rita Papp

23-M-186

Motion by Iseler, seconded by Campbell to approve the consent agenda as presented including invoices.
Motion Carried.

REGULAR AGENDA: (action required)

1. Halloween Trick-or-Treating Hours

23-M-187

Motion by Eschenbacher, seconded by Kish to set trick-or-treating hours for October 31, 2023, from 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. with the siren to sound at the starting and ending times.

Motion carried.

2. Tuscola County Farm Bureau – Project R.E.D. Road Closure Request

23-M-188

Motion by Kish, seconded by Eschenbacher to allow the road closure request from Tuscola County Farm Bureau’s Project R.E.D. (Park Drive from the horse barns to the sugar factory), Thursday, September 21, 2023 from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Motion carried.

3. MML Annual Meeting Delegate

23-M-189

Motion by Kish, seconded by Eschenbacher to delegate Scott Czasak as the official representative to vote at the Annual Meeting held at the MML Fall Conference October 18 – 20, 2023.

Motion carried.

4. Water Tower Inspection

23-M-190

Motion by Eschenbacher, seconded by Campbell to allow the City Manager to accept the proposal from Dixon Engineering and Inspection Services for a drained inspection and cleaning of the Caro Water Tower in the amount of \$5,775.00 and authorize the signing of any necessary documents.

Motion carried.

5. Sidewalk Repair

23-M-191

Motion by Kish, seconded by Eschenbacher to allow the City Manager to reimburse Elroy Koters \$400.00 for sidewalk repairs as prescribed in City Policy, and authorize the City Treasurer to make the necessary budget adjustments to place \$1,000.00 into the required line item.

Motion carried.

6. Pumpkin Festival Cornstalks

23-M-192

Motion by White, seconded by Campbell to allow the Tuscola County Pumpkin Festival to place cornstalks on light posts in downtown Caro in consultation with the City.

Motion carried.

7. Well # 8 Pump Replacement

23-M-193

Motion by Eschenbacher, seconded by Oedy to accept the proposal from Northern Pipe and Well in the amount of \$60,314.00 to replace the well pump at Well #8, authorize the City Manager to spend up to \$10,000.00 for cleaning, and direct the City Treasurer to make the necessary budget adjustments to account for this project.

Motion carried.

8. Burt Watson Lease Documents

23-M-194

Motion by Iseler, seconded by White to allow the purchase of a 2024 Chevrolet 1500 2FL Crew Cab, for Police Department administrative use for a purchase price of \$53,624.00, authorize the signing of all necessary documents, and instruct the City Treasurer to make the necessary budget adjustments to cover the increase in cost.

Motion carried.

9. Certificate of Deposit Report

23-M-195

Motion by Eschenbacher, seconded by Oedy to approve the City Treasurer to reinvest in 13 weeks CDARS at a rate no lower than 4.35% at Independent Bank.

Motion carried.

ITEMS PENDING/POSTPONED: None

COMMITTEE/LIAISON POSITION REPORTS:

1. Economic Development Corporation (Mayor Snider) – No meeting.
2. Chamber of Commerce (Manager) – New Member appointed to Chamber of Commerce. Discussed Road Rally, Gingerbread Festival, & Small Business Grand Opening – Kraven Coffee.
3. Downtown Development Authority (Kish) – Pumpkin Festival gave updates, Discussed purchase policy. Madison Olar presented her Girl Scout project. Financials were presented. Al Michel discussed his turkey distribution. *
4. Fair Board (Iseler) – No report. Neil Jackson has a concern with the catch basin.
5. Parks & Recreation (White) – Meeting tomorrow.
6. Planning Commission (Eschenbacher) – No meeting.
7. Tuscola County Board of Commissioners (Iseler) – Discussed city water service at the State Police Post.
8. Zoning Board of Appeals (Mayor Snider) – No meeting.

9. Indianfields Township (Manager) – Discussion on Indianfields Park. Tax Abatement request was denied. Republication Party requested ordinance was discussed. Purchased a side mower. County will collect taxes. Voted on increase in garbage fees.
10. Almer Township (Campbell) – Voted in favor of a moratorium on solar batteries. Received grant for fire services and awarded it to Akron Fire. Adopted resolution on local zoning.

MAYOR’S REPORT – Written report submitted.

Update given on Frankenmuth Bible Church volunteer project.

MANAGER’S COMMENTS – Written report submitted.

Update given on DWSRF & CWSRF.

CLERK’S REPORT – Written report submitted.

TREASURER’S REPORT – Written report submitted.

Update given on tax collection. Received grant. Audit started today.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT:

Al Michel – Commented on fair.

Councilor Charlotte Kish – MSU Extension has hired a candidate and would like to invite this individual to the October 16, 2023 Council meeting and a future Parks & Recreation Meeting.

23-M-196

Motion by Eschenbacher, seconded by Kish to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

Motion carried.

Rita Papp
City Clerk