

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CARO CITY COUNCIL
September 16, 2024, 6:30 P.M.
Council Chambers, 317 S. State St., Caro, MI 48723

Mayor Karen Snider called the regular meeting of the City Council to order on September 16, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

Present: Mayor Karen Snider, City Council: Emily Campbell, Greg Hutchison, Pamela Iseler, Charlotte Kish, and Jill White

Absent: Doreen Oedy, Charlotte Kish

Others: Scott Czasak – City Manager, Rita Papp – City Clerk, Brian Newcomb – Police Chief, and other guests

AGENDA APPROVAL

24-M-214

Motion by Iseler, seconded by Campbell to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion Carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT/VISITORS:

Bob Eschenbacher – Commented on invoices from the City Attorney with charges pertaining to Mayor correspondence. Inquired on the nature of those charges.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Planning Commission Meeting Minutes – August 27, 2024 (unapproved)
2. Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting Minutes – August 29, 2024 (unapproved)

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Regular Council Meeting Minutes – September 3, 2024
2. Policy Committee Meeting Minutes – September 9, 2024
3. Invoices
4. Department Reports
 - A. Police Report – Chief Brian Newcomb
 - B. Fire Report – Chief Randall Heckroth
 - C. Code Enforcement Report – Randall Heckroth

24-M-215

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

Motion Carried.

REGULAR AGENDA: (action required)

1. Water Reliability and Capacity Study Bids

24-M-216

Motion by White, seconded by Iseler to accept the proposal from Rowe Engineering to complete the Water Reliability and Capacity Study for the bid amount of \$15,800.00 and instruct the City Manager to sign all documents required to complete the project.

Motion carried.

2. Michigan Rural Water Association Operator In-Charge Contract

24-M-217

Motion by Campbell, seconded by White to accept the proposed contract for Operator In-Charge services from Michigan Rural Water Association as presented.

Motion carried.

3. Snow Removal Ordinance Amendment – First Reading

24-M-218

Motion by White, seconded by Iseler to consider the ordinance amendment to be read for the first time, and set a public hearing at the next City Council meeting on Monday, October 7, 2024 at 6:30 pm.

Roll call vote: Campbell – no, Hutchison – yes, Iseler – yes, Kish – absent, Oedy – absent, White – yes, Mayor Snider – no.

Motion carried.

4. ZBA Rezoning Request – 527 S. State Street

24-M-219

Motion by White, seconded by Campbell to accept the request to rezone parcel 050-500-604-1500-01 from RA-2 with an Office Overlay to B-2 and update all zoning maps accordingly.

Roll call vote: Hutchison – yes, Iseler – yes, Kish – absent, Oedy – absent, White – yes, Campbell – yes, Mayor Snider – yes.

Motion carried.

5. Water Tower Cleaning Request

24-M-220

Motion by Iseler, seconded by White to approve the requested estimate from H2O Towers to clean the exterior of the City Water Tower in the amount of \$6,000.00 and instruct the City Treasurer to make the necessary budget adjustment.

Motion carried.

ITEMS PENDING/POSTPONED: None

COMMITTEE/LIAISON POSITION REPORTS:

1. Economic Development Corporation (Mayor Snider) – Trevor Keys was appointed by resolution to the Brownfield Development Corporation. EDC discussed investments.
2. Chamber of Commerce (Manager) – Carrie Will, P&R Superintendent made a presentation, Chamber is participating in the trunk or treat at the Farmers Market, and several events are continued to be planned.
3. Downtown Development Authority (Kish) – Absent, Mayor reported that a resignation letter was received from Lauren Amellal, DDA Executive Director.
4. Fair Board (Iseler) – Reported that Fair Board President will come to council with a presentation.

5. Parks & Recreation (White) – Working on upcoming events, activities, and improvements. Working with DDA to purchase pine trees downtown.
6. Planning Commission (Hutchison) – Discussed a member who has missed more than 4 meetings, approved rezoning for 527 S. State Street, and working on the 1079 S. State Street project (Starbucks).
7. Tuscola County Board of Commissioners (Iseler) – Hired an assistant prosecutor, hired a temporary security officer for Purdy Building, discussion on recording meetings, discussion on Board rules.
8. Zoning Board of Appeals (Mayor Snider) – Rezoning variance referred to council.
9. Indianfields Township (Manager) – Approved a cemetery lot, Land Division was approved, Resolution approved on Blight Enforcements.
10. Almer Township (Campbell) – No report.

MAYOR'S REPORT – Written report submitted.

MANAGER'S COMMENTS – Written report submitted.
Discussed MML Conference Sessions.

CLERK'S REPORT – Written report submitted.
Received 2 grants for a total of \$11,000.00 for election supplies.
Ballots will be printed within the next two weeks.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Written report submitted.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT:

Lew Worth – Inquired about requesting financial information from the City.

Chief Brian Newcomb – Commended the Police, Fire, and DPW for their cooperation during the suicidal incident that took place recently. Received a full grant for the police recruit in the academy.

Tanya Batschke – Thanked the council for discussion on the snow removal ordinance amendment.

24-M-221

Motion by White, seconded by Iseler to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Motion carried.

Rita Papp
City Clerk