

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CARO CITY COUNCIL
January 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 January 16, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

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

Absent: Emily Campbell

Others: Scott Czasak – City Manager, Rita Papp – City Clerk, Tom Reese – DPW Superintendent, David Dienes II – WWTP Superintendent and other guests

AGENDA APPROVAL

24-M-8

Motion by Eschenbacher, seconded by Kish to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion Carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT/VISITORS: None

PRESENTATION: None

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Charter Communications – Upcoming Changes
2. 2023 Planning Commission Annual Report

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Regular Council Meeting Minutes – January 2, 2024
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

24-M-9

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

Motion Carried.

REGULAR AGENDA: (action required)

1. First Reading – Food Truck Ordinance & Set Public Hearing

24-M-10

Motion by Eschenbacher, seconded by Iseler to accept proposed Ordinance No. 486 Food Truck Ordinance for First Reading and Set a Public Hearing for the next Council Meeting, February 5, 2024. Roll call vote: Campbell – absent, Eschenbacher – yes, Iseler – yes, Kish – yes, Oedy – yes, White – yes, Mayor Snider – yes. Motion carried.

2. Banner Request – Tuscola Behavioral Health Systems – Mental Health Month – May 1 -16, 2024

24-M-11

Motion by Eschenbacher, seconded by Kish to approve the Banner Request from Tuscola Behavioral Health Systems – Mental Health Month, May 1 – 16, 2024 contingent on payment of \$150.00. Motion carried.

3. Light Pole Usage Request Ribbons – Tuscola Behavioral Health Systems – Mental Health Month – May 2024

24-M-12

Motion by White, seconded by Eschenbacher to approve the Light Pole Usage Request from Tuscola Behavioral Health Systems – Mental Health Awareness Month, May 2024 contingent upon the agreement to maintain the ribbons. Motion carried.

4. Banner Request – Tuscola Behavioral Health Systems – Suicide Prevention Month – September 2 – 17, 2024

24-M-13

Motion by Kish, seconded by Oedy to approve the Banner Request from Tuscola Behavioral Health Systems – Suicide Prevention Month, September 2 – 17, 2024 contingent on payment of \$150.00. Motion carried.

5. Light Pole Usage Request Ribbons – Tuscola Behavioral Health Systems – Suicide Prevention Month – September 2024

24-M-14

Motion by White, seconded by Eschenbacher to approve the Light Pole Usage Request from Tuscola Behavioral Health Systems – Suicide Prevention Month, September 2024 contingent upon the agreement to maintain the ribbons. Motion carried.

7. Resolution – Steve Erickson, Tuscola County EDC

24-M-15

Motion by Kish, seconded by White to accept an approve Resolution No. 2024-2, Resolution in Appreciation for Outstanding Public Service by Steve Erickson. Roll call vote: Eschenbacher – yes, Iseler – yes, Kish – yes, Oedy – yes, White – yes, Campbell – absent, Mayor Snider – yes. Motion carried.

8. Caro Center Water Agreement

24-M-16

Motion by Kish, seconded by Iseler to request the City Manager to get with City Attorney to get clarification of indemnification clause and bring back to Council.

Motion carried.

9. Caro Center Sewer Agreement

24-M-17

Motion by Kish, seconded by Iseler to request the City Manager to get with City Attorney to get clarification of indemnification clause and bring back to Council.

Motion carried.

10. Investment Change #1

24-M-18

Motion by Eschenbacher, seconded by Iseler to approve City Treasurer to reinvest the CDARS maturing at Northstar Bank into another CDARS account on January 22, 2024 at Northstar Bank at the best interest rate and terms based on the City Treasurer's professional opinion.

Motion carried.

11. Investment Change #2

24-M-19

Motion by Eschenbacher, seconded by Iseler to leave the current funds at LPL Financial.

Motion carried.

12. Presentation of City Manager Goals

24-M-20

Motion by Eschenbacher, seconded by Kish to receive the City Manager goals for 2024 & will discuss them at the next council meeting.

Motion carried.

ITEMS PENDING/POSTPONED: None

COMMITTEE/LIAISON POSITION REPORTS:

1. Economic Development Corporation (Mayor Snider) – Will be attending Steve Erickson's retirement breakfast tomorrow.
2. Chamber of Commerce (Manager) – Their vacancy on the board was filled. Discussed bringing back Chamber Bucks program & upcoming activities. Citizen of the Year event was announced. Quarterly business after hours, coffee with the chamber and ribbon cuttings were discussed.
3. Downtown Development Authority (Kish) – An informational presentation was presented. Snow removal was discussed. Motioned to add money to the Music in the Park.
4. Fair Board (Iseler) – No report.

5. Parks & Recreation (White) – Meeting is postponed until next week. Discussed items from the December meeting. Bids are out for the volleyball pits. Had election of officers. Discussed the annual calendar & having chairpersons for each event and/or program.
6. Planning Commission (Eschenbacher) – Annual report was presented. Election of officers was completed. Had a discussion on the marihuana ordinance measurement guidelines.
7. Tuscola County Board of Commissioners (Iseler) – Union contracts were approved. Mileage reimbursement increase was approved.
8. Zoning Board of Appeals (Mayor Snider) – No meeting.
9. Indianfields Township (Manager) – 2 land splits were approved. Discussed park vandalism that is occuring. Special Meeting will be held for a tax abatement at the old lumberyard west of town on M81.
10. Almer Township (Campbell) – Absent

MAYOR'S REPORT – Written report submitted.

The sled hill was busy over the weekend & the City of Caro received positive comments on social media.

MANAGER'S COMMENTS – Written report submitted.

Will be attending the MME Winter Institute January 30 – February 1, 2024

CLERK'S REPORT – Written report submitted.
Elections are now in full swing.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Written report submitted.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT: None

Councilor Kish – Commented on a concern regarding snow being plowed over sidewalks downtown. Asked the City Manager to follow up.

Councilor White – Commented on a concern with snow removal & the speed of the snowplow trucks.

24-M-21

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

Motion carried.

Rita Papp
City Clerk