

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CARO CITY COUNCIL
August 21, 2023, 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 August 21, 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, Tom Reese – DPW Superintendent, David Dienes II – WWTP Superintendent and other guests

AGENDA APPROVAL

23-M-162

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

Motion Carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT/VISITORS:

Tanya Batschke – Commented on the marijuana grow licenses.

Don Hall – Commented on the marijuana grow licenses.

PRESENTATION: None

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Charter Communications – Upcoming Changes (2)
2. Planning Commission Meeting Minutes – August 8, 2023
3. Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes – August 15, 2023

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Regular Council Meeting Minutes – August 7, 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 Report– Tom Reese
 - E. WWTP Superintendent Report – David Dienes II
 - F. Municipal Parking Violations Bureau Report – Rita Papp

23-M-163

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

Motion Carried.

REGULAR AGENDA: (action required)

1. Planning Commission Member Removal

23-M-164

Motion by Kish, seconded by Eschenbacher to approve the request of the Clerk and remove Walter Szostak from the Planning Commission with regrets and authorize the Clerk to advertise the vacancy.

Motion carried.

2. Planning Commission Recommendations, Special Land Use – Emerald Thumb LLC

23-M-165

Motion by Eschenbacher, seconded by Oedy to approve the Special Land Use request of Emerald Thumb, LLC for an Adult-Use Marijuana Processing facility at 1347 Prospect Avenue and authorize the City Manager to issue the Adult-Use Processing Marijuana License.

Roll call vote: Campbell – yes, Eschenbacher – yes, Iseler – no, Kish – no, Oedy – yes, White – yes, Mayor Snider - no

Motion carried.

3. Generator Maintenance Bids

23-M-166

Motion by Eschenbacher, seconded by Kish to accept the bid of W.W. Williams to provide maintenance for the City of Caro's generators for the amount of \$14,965.00 and authorize the City Manager to execute all necessary documents.

Motion carried.

4. WSP Change Order – Well Drilling

23-M-167

Motion by Eschenbacher, seconded by Oedy to authorize the City Manager to sign Change Order #3 from WSP USA Environment & Infrastructure, Inc. and transmit the same, and to adjust the FY 2023/2024 budget by increasing account number 592-557-801-000, Contracted Services, by \$41,596.00, and transferring \$41,596.00 from the Water Fund Balance.

Motion carried.

5. Tuscola County Economic Development Corporation Funding Request

23-M-168

Motion by Kish, seconded by Mayor Snider to approve an amended donation request from Tuscola County Economic Development Corporation in the amount of \$6,500.00.

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

Motion failed.

23-M-169

Motion by Iseler, seconded by White to postpone the matter of the Tuscola County Economic Development Corporation Funding Request.

Motion carried.

6. Marijuana Grow Licenses Discussion

Discussion followed.

23-M-170

Motion by White, seconded by Iseler to deny any further licensing changes and to continue with the current ordinances.

Motion carried

ITEMS PENDING/POSTPONED: None

COMMITTEE/LIAISON POSITION REPORTS:

1. Economic Development Corporation (Mayor Snider) – No meeting.
2. Chamber of Commerce (Manager) – Chamber of Commerce discussed the golf outing, ribbon cuttings, fundraising, Gingerbread Festival & Ollies Grand Opening schedule for August 30, 2023.
3. Downtown Development Authority (Kish) – No meeting.
4. Fair Board (Iseler) – No meeting.
5. Parks & Recreation (White) – Parks & Recreation discussed Atwood Park, Sled Lending, and donation received.
6. Planning Commission (Eschenbacher) – Discussed Emerald Thumb LLC Special Land Use.
7. Tuscola County Board of Commissioners (Iseler) – No report.
8. Zoning Board of Appeals (Mayor Snider) – No meeting.
9. Indianfields Township (Manager) – Indianfields Township discussed road work, copiers, golf cart purchase, tax abatement request, renewal of assessor contract, and held a Special Meeting for Marijuana ordinance.
10. Almer Township (Campbell) – No report.

MAYOR'S REPORT – Written report submitted.

Highlighted the Exchange Forest Walk and thanked the Council members that attended.

MANAGER'S COMMENTS – Written report submitted.

CLERK'S REPORT – Written report submitted.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Written report submitted.

Council commented on the Aging Report and requested a shorter version of it.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT:

Al Michel – Commented on Tuscola County Economic Development, Farmers Market, Flea Market at Caro Rental, Weeds, and old police station demo.

Tanya Batschke – Commented on Farmers Market, and the Marijuana Licenses Request.

Bianca Golani (Adessa Gardens) – Commented on the Marijuana Licenses Request.

Don Hall – Commented on the Marijuana License Request and his past Council Term.

CLOSED SESSION: Discuss Clerk & Treasurer Employment Evaluations – MCL 15.268 Sec 8(1)(a)

23-M-171

Motion by Eschenbacher, seconded by White that the Council meet in closed session under MCL 15.268 Section 8(1)(a) of the Open Meetings Act to consider a periodic personnel evaluation of a public officer, employee, staff member, or individual agent.

Motion carried.

Recessed to closed session at 7:40 p.m.

Reconvened at 8:53 p.m.

23-M-172

Motion by Eschenbacher, seconded by Kish to adjourn the meeting at 8:54 p.m.

Motion carried.

Rita Papp
City Clerk