

## **CITY OF CARO REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES**

Mayor Joe Greene called the regular meeting of the City Council to order on February 15, 2021 at 7:31 p.m. electronically via Zoom Video Communications (meeting ID: 936 6982 1676)

Present: Mayor Joe Greene, City Council: Bob Eschenbacher, Kory Batschke, Emily Campbell, Don Hall, Tisha Jones-Holubec, and Jill White

Absent: None

Others in Attendance: Matthew Lane – City Manager, Sara Savage – Clerk/Treasurer and Brian Newcomb – Police Chief, Randy Heckroth – Fire Chief/Code Enforcement Officer, Curtis Wells – WWTP Supt., Jeffrey Graham – DPW Supt., and other guests.

### **AGENDA APPROVAL**

#### **21-M-023**

**Motion by Eschenbacher, seconded by Hall to approve the agenda as presented. Roll call: Batschke – yes, Campbell – yes, Eschenbacher – yes, Hall – yes, Jones-Holubec – yes, White – yes, Mayor Greene – yes. Motion carried.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT/VISITORS:** None

**COMMUNICATIONS:** Noted.

### **CONSENT AGENDA:**

1. Policy Committee Minutes – February 1, 2021
2. Finance Committee Minutes – February 1, 2021
3. Regular Council Minutes – February 1, 2021
4. Invoices
5. Department Reports
  - A. Police Report – Annual and Monthly – Chief Brian Newcomb
  - B. Fire Report – Annual and Monthly – Chief Randall Heckroth
  - C. Code Enforcement – Randall Heckroth
  - D. DPW/Water Reports – Jeff Graham
  - E. WWTP – Curtis Wells
  - F. Municipal Parking Violations Bureau Report – Sara Savage

#### **21-M-024**

**Motion by Eschenbacher, seconded by Jones-Holubec to approve the consent agenda including the invoices with typo correction to the February 1, 2021 Finance Committee Minutes. Roll call: Campbell – yes, Eschenbacher – yes, Hall – yes, Jones-Holubec – yes, White – yes, Batschke – yes, Mayor Greene – yes. Motion carried.**

**REGULAR AGENDA:** (action required)

1. MML Dues

#### **21-M-025**

**Motion by Eschenbacher, seconded by Hall to pay the invoice from Michigan Municipal League for membership dues including the Legal Defense Fund for period of 4/1/2021 – 3/31/2022 in the amount of \$3,144. Roll call: Eschenbacher – yes, Hall – yes, Jones-Holubec – yes, White – yes, Batschke – yes, Campbell – yes, Mayor Greene – yes. Motion carried.**

2. Set Spring Clean-Up  
**21-M-026**

**Motion by Batschke, seconded by Jones-Holubec to set the Spring Clean-Up day for Saturday, May 1, 2021 at the fairgrounds. Roll call: Hall – yes, Jones-Holubec – yes, White – yes, Batschke – yes, Campbell – yes, Eschenbacher – yes, Mayor Greene – yes. Motion carried.**

**CLOSED SESSION:** Discuss Personnel Evaluation – MCL 15.268 Sec. 8(a)

**21-M-027**

**Motion by Eschenbacher, seconded by Batschke to enter closed session for the purpose of discussing personnel evaluations of the City Manager and Clerk/Treasurer. Motion rescinded.**

**ITEMS PENDING/TABLED:** None

**COMMITTEE/LIAISON POSITION REPORTS:**

1. EDC – none.
2. Chamber of Commerce – City Manager Matthew Lane reported the chamber is working on Youth Citizen of the Year event.
3. Parks and Recreation – Councilor White reported that the committee will be going to Frankenmuth and Bay City to check out their park bathrooms. They are working on rules for the splash pad.
4. Planning Commission – Councilor Eschenbacher reported the commission will be working on an in-depth update to the master plan and there was discussion on the 5,000 sq ft lot issue.
5. Tuscola County Board of Commissioners – Councilor Jones-Holubec reported the county will be accepting RFP's for building code operations. There was a case from the Supreme Court regarding tax foreclosures and what can be added to taxes. The county is getting land back from the state land bank and the prison property is possibly going to be redeveloped with Brownfield money.
6. Fair Board – none.
7. Indianfields Township – Mayor Greene reported they are discussing the budget and attorney fees. They are updating their master plan and asking for comments.
8. Almer Township – Councilor Campbell reported that their planning commission is working on a solar ordinance. The township approved supporting the airport regarding airport zoning.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:** Mayor Greene reported he attended the airport meeting and gave an update on the rehab on the main runway project. He attended the Caro Center conference call. Attended the planning commission meeting. Questioned if the city had woodchips available for residents. The city does not.

**MANAGER COMMENTS:** City Manager Matthew Lane submitted a written report.

**CLERK'S REPORT:** Clerk/Treasurer Sara Savage submitted a written report.

**ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mayor Greene informed the council of the Joy Street Church purchase agreement and zoning issue. The new owners are hoping to turn the church into a thrift store and homeless shelter for men.

Mike Carpenter commented that the Joy Street Church zoning issue could be fixed with a simple text amendment. South Almer Street project was completed just under budget.

Mayor Greene asked the council to think about offering city-wide internet.

Councilor Eschenbacher questioned if the city will do an Easter egg hunt this year. Mayor Greene recommends we at least give coloring page copies to the school and have drawings for a couple bikes. It will depend on what we can do in the parks. Possibly have the Easter bunny ride around town.

Fire Chief Randy Heckroth commented on 102 Joy Street.

Steven Campbell questioned what the status is of the church on Burnside.

**21-M-028**

**Motion by Eschenbacher, seconded by Hall to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 p.m. Roll call:**

**Batschke – yes, Campbell – yes, Eschenbacher – yes, Hall – yes, Jones-Holubec – yes, White – yes, Mayor Greene – yes. Motion carried.**

Sara Savage

Clerk/Treasurer