

CITY OF CARO REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES

Mayor Joe Greene called the regular meeting of the City Council to order on March 1, 2021 at 7:30 p.m. electronically via Zoom Video Communications (meeting ID: 979 1037 1550)

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 other guests.

AGENDA APPROVAL

21-M-029

Motion by Eschenbacher, seconded by Hall to approve the agenda as presented with the addition of #6 Set Policy Committee Meeting under the regular agenda. Roll call: Batschke – yes, Campbell – yes, Eschenbacher – yes, Hall – yes, Jones-Holubec – yes, White – yes, Mayor Greene – yes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT/VISITORS:

Clerk/Treasurer Sara Savage stated that a Petition Against Recreational Marijuana in the City of Caro was received with signatures from sixteen concerned citizens.

Tom Striffler commented that he circulated the petition and made statements to the council against recreational marijuana.

Herb Sheardy commented that the city or DDA should help struggling downtown businesses.

COMMUNICATIONS: Noted.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Personnel Committee Minutes – February 15, 2021
2. Regular Council Minutes – February 15, 2021
3. Invoices

21-M-030

Motion by Batschke, seconded by Hall to approve the consent agenda including the invoices. 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. Policy Committee Recommendations

21-M-031

Motion by Jones-Holubec, seconded by Batschke to approve the Water Shut-Off Policy, Leaf Pick-Up Policy, Electronic Sign Policies and Procedures, Water/Sewer Adjustment Policy, Brush Chipping Policy as presented and recommended from the

Policy Committee. Roll call: Eschenbacher – yes, Hall – yes, Jones-Holubec – yes, White – yes, Batschke – yes, Campbell – yes, Mayor Greene – yes. Motion carried.

2. Set Budget/Capital Improvement Plan Workshop

Budget/Capital Improvement Plan Workshop set for Monday, March 15, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

3. DNR Grant Program Discussion

There was discussion on the feasibility of applying for the DNR Grant and discussion on bathrooms for the splash pad at Bieth Park.

21-M-032

Motion by Batshke, seconded by White to direct the City Manager to look into the rehabilitation of the existing bathroom at Bieth Park. Roll call: Hall – yes, Jones-Holubec – yes, White – yes, Batschke – yes, Campbell – yes, Eschenbacher – yes, Mayor Greene – yes. Motion carried.

4. Part-Time Position for Parks and Recreation/Economic Development Discussion

21-M-033

Motion by Eschenbacher, seconded by White to authorize the City Manager to hire a part-time Project Coordinator and negotiate between \$14-\$18 per hour at 20-32 hours per week and to make the necessary budget adjustment. Roll call: Jones-Holubec – yes, White – yes, Batschke – yes, Campbell – yes, Eschenbacher – yes, Hall – yes, Mayor Greene – yes. Motion carried.

5. Sidewalks/Roads Discussion

There was discussion on sidewalk and road work that could be done in the current fiscal year with funds left in the budget.

21-M-034

Motion by Eschenbacher, seconded by White to direct the City Manager to have DPW put the waterline in on Lincoln Street and to get with ROWE on engineering for Park Drive and Lincoln Street. Roll call: Jones-Holubec – no, White – yes, Batschke – yes, Campbell – yes, Eschenbacher – yes, Hall – yes, Mayor Greene – yes. Motion carried.

21-M-035

Motion by Batshke, seconded by White to direct the City Manager to extend AJ Remus's tasks at Chippewa Landing by pouring a pad inside the entryway of the dog park. Roll call: White – yes, Batschke – yes, Campbell – yes, Eschenbacher – yes, Hall – yes, Jones-Holubec – yes, Mayor Greene – yes. Motion carried.

6. Set Policy Committee Meeting

Policy Committee meeting set for Monday, April 5th at 6:30 p.m.

ITEMS PENDING/TABLED: None

COMMITTEE/LIAISON POSITION REPORTS: None

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor Greene submitted a written report. There was discussion on the City Manager contract regarding performance evaluations.

21-M-036

Motion by Eschenbacher, seconded by Hall to send the matter of the City Manager's contract and how many performance evaluations are allowed, to the city's labor attorney. Roll call: Batschke – yes, Campbell – yes, Eschenbacher – yes, Hall – yes, Jones-Holubec – yes, White – yes, Mayor Greene – yes. Motion carried.

MANAGER COMMENTS: City Manager Matthew Lane submitted a written report. He is requesting two weeks off for the birth of his baby at the end of March.

21-M-037

Motion by Batshke, seconded by Campbell to approve City Manager Matthew Lane's request for two-week leave. Roll call: Campbell – yes, Eschenbacher – yes, Hall – yes, Jones-Holubec – yes, White – yes, Batschke – yes, Mayor Greene – yes. Motion carried.

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

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Mike Carpenter made a comment about sidewalk special assessments for the next upcoming budget.

Councilor Eschenbacher questioned how the Caro Center bids came in and Mike Carpenter gave an update.

Councilor White made a comment about concerning calls she has received about the 102 Joy Street homeless shelter project.

21-M-038

Motion by Eschenbacher, seconded by Hall to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 p.m. Roll call: Eschenbacher – yes, Hall – yes, Jones-Holubec – yes, White – yes, Batschke – yes, Campbell – yes, Mayor Greene – yes. Motion carried.

Sara Savage
Clerk/Treasurer