

CITY OF CARO REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES

Mayor Joe Greene called the regular meeting of the City Council to order on May 4, 2020 at 7:30 p.m. electronically via Zoom Video Communications (meeting ID: 935 5102 6875)

Present: Mayor Joe Greene, City Council: Brian Rickwalt, Alvin Zavitz, Bob Eschenbacher, 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:

20-M-071

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

Roll call: Eschenbacher – yes, Hall – yes, Jones-Holubec – yes, Rickwalt – yes, White – yes, Zavitz – yes, Mayor Greene – yes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT/VISITORS:

1. Putman Developing: Bill Putman, Dr. Blake Putman and Joe Latozas informed the council that for the past year and half they have been working with the State and other hospitals on bringing a urgent care medical mall into the thumb and specifically looking at Caro, but other option areas are Cass City and Vassar. A medical mall would centralize medical services in one area. Criteria will need to be met to build it in Caro. It will take approximately fourteen months to build and about 40,000 square feet. There is potential for this project to bring about 122 jobs with an average of \$44,000 per job. They would like the potential property to be annexed into Caro. Joe Latozas showed the council design plans for the medical mall.

COMMUNICATIONS: Noted.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Regular Council Minutes – April 20, 2020
2. Finance Committee of the Whole Minutes – April 27, 2020
3. Invoices

20-M-072

Motion by Eschenbacher, seconded by Zavitz to approve the consent agenda including the invoices. Roll call: Hall – yes, Jones-Holubec – yes, Rickwalt – yes, White – yes, Zavitz – yes, Eschenbacher – yes, Mayor Greene – yes. Motion carried.

REGULAR AGENDA: (action required)

1. Lawn Care Services RFP

20-M-073

Motion by Hall, seconded by Zavitz to award the Lawn Care Services and Turf Improvement contract for 2020 to Chris E. Eskelson Landscaping and Lawn Care LLC provided all insurance documentation is submitted and if insurance is not submitted award the contract to Total Lawn Care. Roll call: Jones-Holubec – yes, Rickwalt – yes, White – yes, Zavitz – yes, Eschenbacher – yes, Hall – yes, Mayor Greene – yes. Motion carried.

2. Mowing of Noxious Weeds/Grass RFP
20-M-074

Motion by Rickwalt, seconded by Eschenbacher to award the Noxious Weeds/Grass Mowing Services contract for 2020 to Total Lawn Care at \$65 per every 8,000 square feet and \$15 per every additional 2000 square feet. Roll call: Rickwalt – yes, White – yes, Zavitz – yes, Eschenbacher – yes, Hall – yes, Jones-Holubec – yes, Mayor Greene – yes. Motion carried.

3. Tuscola County Community Foundation Grant
20-M-075

Motion by Eschenbacher, seconded by Zavitz to approve a proposal to the Tuscola County Community Foundation to use the \$9,000 for the creation of a full-service Bark Park complete with big and small dog areas, obstacle courses and drinking fountains and direct the city manager to design and solicit bids for consideration. Roll call: White – yes, Zavitz – yes, Eschenbacher – yes, Hall – yes, Jones-Holubec – yes, Rickwalt – yes, Mayor Greene – yes. Motion carried.

4. ROWE Professional Services Agreement – S. Almer Construction Services
20-M-076

Motion by Rickwalt, seconded by Eschenbacher to approve the proposed Professional Services Agreement with ROWE Professional Services for construction engineering services for the S. Almer Street project in the amount of \$165,700 and to accept their proposal to prepare water main and storm sewer drawings for \$4,600. Roll call: Zavitz – yes, Eschenbacher – yes, Hall – yes, Jones-Holubec – yes, Rickwalt – yes, White – yes, Mayor Greene – yes. Motion carried.

5. MDOT Category B Grant Resolution
20-M-077

Motion by Rickwalt, seconded by Eschenbacher to approve the resolution to establish a request for funding, designate an agent, attest to the existence of funds and commit to implementing a maintenance program funded by the transportation economic development fund category b program. Roll call: Eschenbacher – yes, Hall – yes, Jones-Holubec – yes, Rickwalt – yes, White – yes, Zavitz – yes, Mayor Greene – yes. Motion carried.

6. First Read on Amending Medical Marihuana Ordinance/Set Public Hearing
20-M-078

Motion by Zavitz, seconded by White to table the Ordinance to amend Section 8-29(h) of Medical Marihuana Ordinance. Roll call: Hall – yes, Jones-Holubec – yes, Rickwalt – yes, White – yes, Zavitz – yes, Eschenbacher – yes, Mayor Greene – yes. Motion carried.

7. First Read on Amending Blight Ordinance/Set Public Hearing

20-M-079

Motion by Eschenbacher, seconded by Hall to set a Public Hearing on Ordinance to amend Section 14-42 of Blight Prevention Ordinance for Monday, May 18, 2020 at 7:30 p.m. Roll call: Jones-Holubec – no, Rickwalt – yes, White – yes, Zavitz – yes, Eschenbacher – yes, Hall – yes, Mayor Greene – yes. Motion carried.

8. Reschedule Spring Clean-Up Day

The consensus of the council was to have administration ask Emterra what dates they would recommend for the annual Spring Clean-Up Day.

9. Set Finance Committee Meeting

20-M-080

Motion by Hall, seconded by White to set a Finance Committee Meeting for Monday, May 18, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. Roll call: Rickwalt – yes, White – yes, Zavitz – yes, Eschenbacher – yes, Hall – yes, Jones-Holubec – yes, Mayor Greene – yes. Motion carried.

ITEMS PENDING/TABLED: None

COMMITTEE/LIAISON POSITION REPORTS:

1. Planning Commission – A public hearing is set for Tuesday, May 19, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. for the special condition use permit for Premier Provision's new location. Action on Samson Processing's special condition use is still tabled because they did not attend and they have not communicated with the city.

MAYOR'S REPORT – Mayor Greene submitted a written report.

MANAGER COMMENTS – City Manager Matthew Lane reported that we are looking at reopening strategies. The DPW is preparing for the upcoming summer season. Working on getting sidewalk quotes and working on the budget.

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

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Mike Carpenter stated the city's police building addition and farmers' market site plans will be presented to the Planning Commission at the next meeting on May 19th. He also provided the council with an update on the Caro Center.

There was council discussion on various topics, such as how to bring more businesses and housing to the downtown area, dumpsters in the city, fixing the Chippewa Landing fountain, and dangerous structures in the city.

20-M-081

Moved by Eschenbacher, seconded by Hall to adjourn the meeting at 9:26 p.m. Roll call: White – yes, Zavitz – yes, Eschenbacher – yes, Hall – yes, Jones-Holubec – yes, Rickwalt – yes, Mayor Greene – yes. Motion carried.

Sara Savage
Clerk/Treasurer