

CITY OF CARO REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES

Mayor Joe Greene called the regular meeting of the City Council to order on July 18, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

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

Absent: None

Others: Matthew Lane – City Manager, Rita Papp – Clerk, Michele Perry – Treasurer, Brian Newcomb – Police Chief, Lauren Amellal – Director of Development & Strategic Initiatives, and other guests

AGENDA APPROVAL

22-M-135

Motion by Eschenbacher, seconded by Campbell to approve the agenda with the addition of:

15 – Nepotism Policy Amendment

Motion Carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT/VISITORS:

Allan Michel – Commented on his concern with the Planning Commission Chairperson. Commented on the good work of the Transition students.

Charlotte Kish – Commented on the issues of unleashed animals in the city.

COMMUNICATIONS: None

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Regular Council Minutes – July 5, 2022
2. Policy Committee Minutes – July 5, 2022
3. Personnel Committee Minutes – July 5, 2022
4. Invoices
5. Department Reports
 - A. Police Report – Chief Brian Newcomb
 - B. Fire Report – Chief Randall Heckroth
 - C. Code Enforcement – Randall Heckroth
 - D. DPW/Water Reports – None
 - E. WWTP – None
 - F. Municipal Parking Violations Bureau Report – Rita Papp

22-M-136

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

Motion Carried.

REGULAR AGENDA: (action required)

1. Open Public Hearing – Establishment of Plant Rehabilitation District
Mayor Greene opened public hearing at 6:45 p.m.

Jim McLoskey & Stephen Erickson explained the process of developing a plant rehabilitation district and what are the benefits on having this type of district. Discussion followed.

2. Close Public Hearing - Establishment of Plant Rehabilitation District

22-M-137

Motion by Eschenbacher, seconded by Campbell to close the public hearing at 6:58 p.m.

Motion carried.

3. Action - Establishment of Plant Rehabilitation District

22-M-138

Motion by Eschenbacher, seconded by White to approve the Resolution to Establish a Plant Rehabilitation District.

Roll call vote:

Campbell – yes, Eschenbacher – yes, Hall – yes, Jones-Holubec – yes, White – yes, Mayor Greene – yes.

Motion carried.

4. Banner Request – Thumb Area Old Engine & Tractor Association – August 1 -15, 2022

22-M-139

Motion by Hall, seconded by Eschenbacher to approve the Banner Request – Thumb Area Old Engine & Tractor Association – August 1-15, 2022.

Motion carried.

5. MML Workers' Compensation Fund – Official Ballot for one trustee

22-M-140

Motion by White, seconded by Jones-Holubec to submit a vote for the MML Workers' Compensation Fund candidate, Lee Kilbourn.

Motion carried.

6. Quote for Well 3A Abandonment

22-M-141

Motion by Eschenbacher, seconded by White to accept and approve the quote for Well 3A Abandonment from Peerless Midwest Inc. in the amount of \$14,500.00.

Motion carried.

7. Quote for Well 6 Piping Upgrades

22-M-142

Motion by Eschenbacher, seconded by White to accept and approve the quote for Well 6 Piping Upgrades from Peerless Midwest Inc. in the amount of \$8,344.11.

Motion carried.

8. Director of Public Works Contract – Thomas Reese
Discussion held. No action taken.
Don Hall left meeting 7:12 p.m.

9. Change Order and Payment – Lincoln Street

22-M-143

Motion by Eschenbacher, seconded by White to accept and approve the change order and payment to Pyramid Paving in the amount of \$129,696.53.
Motion carried.

10. Gilford Road Construction Engineering Proposal – Rowe Engineering

22-M-144

Motion by Eschenbacher, seconded by Jones-Holubec to accept and approve the Gilford Road Construction Engineering Proposal from Rowe Engineering for the estimated fee of \$61,600.00
Motion carried.

11. Quotes for Fencing at the Fairgrounds – Parks & Recreation Recommendation

22-M-145

Motion by Eschenbacher, seconded by Jones-Holubec to postpone this action item.
Motion carried.

12. Change Council Meeting – To August 3, 2022, due to elections.

22-M-146

Motion by White, seconded by Eschenbacher to move next Council Meeting from August 1, 2022 to August 3, 2022, due to elections.
Motion carried

13. Schedule Public Hearing – Sidewalk Special Assessment Roll for August 3, 2022

22-M-147

Motion by Eschenbacher, seconded by White to Schedule Public Hearing – Sidewalk Special Assessment Roll for August 3, 2022.
Motion carried

14. Schedule Special Meeting – Council Member Vacancy Interviews

Special Meeting for Council Member Vacancy Interview shall be scheduled for July 22, 2022
at 5:30 p.m.

15. Nepotism Policy Amendment

22-M-148

Motion by Eschenbacher, seconded by White to accept and approve the Nepotism Policy Amendment and authorize City Manager to develop the final policy language.
Motion carried

ITEMS PENDING/POSTPONED: None

COMMITTEE/LIAISON POSITION REPORTS:

1. Economic Development Corporation (Greene) – No meeting.
2. Chamber of Commerce (Manager) – Director of Chamber of Commerce has left. Did not attend the meeting.
3. Downtown Development Authority (Hall) – No meeting.
4. Fair Board (White) – Fairboard is busy planning fair week. Working on the plans for a mural on the grandstand. Still concerned about the dirt pile next to horse barn.
5. Parks & Recreation (White) – The Splash Pad Celebration was a success. Kona Ice served 195 children by generous donations from Gleanors, Lauren Amellal – Director of Development & Strategic Initiatives, and the Garden Gate Bed and Breakfast.
6. Planning Commission (Eschenbacher) – No meeting.
7. Tuscola County Board of Commissioners (Jones-Holubec) – Animal Control Director resigned and Tuscola County appointed new director.
8. Zoning Board of Appeals (Greene) – No meeting.
9. Indianfields Township (Greene) – Township is moving their finances out of Huntington Bank. Currently working on their parks and roads.
10. Almer Township (Campbell) – Township approved their fire contract. The soccer field issue was discussed.

MAYOR'S REPORT – Written report submitted

Highlighted that the runway at the Tuscola County Area Airport will be installed September.

MANAGER'S COMMENTS – Written report submitted

No additions and/or updates.

CLERK'S REPORT – Written report submitted

No additions and/or updates.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Written report submitted

Board of Review is scheduled to meet at 9:00 a.m. tomorrow.

Currently preparing for the audit.

The investment report has been provided.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT:

Allan Michel – Inquired on the status of the council vacancies interviews. Inquired on what company is tearing down houses. Commented on his concern with the Planning Commission Chairperson. Concerned with the timing of the traffic light at Frank Street and M81 and Burnside Street and M81.

Charlotte Kish – Concerned with the safety of M24 and M81 intersection.

John Schneider – Water pump at dog park is leaking.

Tanya Batschke – Commented on the intersection at Burnside Street and M81.

Council Member Tisha Jones-Holubec – Expressed her concerns with Mayor Greene violating city policies, city ordinances, and the city charter.

22-M-149

Motion by Jones-Holubec, seconded by Campbell to direct the City Clerk to begin disciplinary actions against Mayor Joe Greene as outlined in the Code of Ethics and the Charter of the City of Caro, pursuant to violations of the Code of Ethics Ordinance 485, Sec. 5-13 & Sec. 5-14, as documented to the City Manager.

Roll call vote:

Campbell – yes, Eschenbacher – no, Jones-Holubec – yes, White – no, Mayor Greene – abstain.

Motion failed.

22-M-150

Motion by Eschenbacher, seconded by White to adjourn the meeting at 8:11 p.m.

Motion carried.

Rita Papp
City Clerk