

CITY OF CARO REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES

Mayor Joe Greene called the regular meeting of the City Council to order on September 21, 2020 at 7:30 p.m. electronically via Zoom Video Communications (meeting ID: 919 4390 1879)

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-168

Moved by Zavitz, seconded by Eschenbacher to approve the agenda as presented. Roll call: Eschenbacher – yes, Hall – yes, Jones-Holubec – no, Rickwalt – yes, White – yes, Zavitz – yes, Mayor Greene – yes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT/VISITORS: None

COMMUNICATIONS: Noted.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Regular Council Minutes – September 8, 2020
2. Personnel Committee Minutes – September 10, 2020
3. Invoices
4. Department Reports
 - A. Police Report – Chief Brian Newcomb
 - B. Fire Report – 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

20-M-169

Moved by Jones-Holubec, 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. Caro Winter Fest Contract

20-M-170

Moved by White, seconded by Hall to approve the Caro Winter Fest 2021 Contract. Roll call: Jones-Holubec – yes, Rickwalt – yes, White – yes, Zavitz – yes, Eschenbacher – yes, Hall – yes, Mayor Greene – yes. Motion carried.

2. Resolution Proclaiming October 2020 as Michigan Library Appreciation Month
20-M-171
Moved by Jones-Holubec, seconded by White to approve the Resolution Proclaiming October 2020 as Michigan Library Appreciation Month with the revision. Roll call: Rickwalt – yes, White – yes, Zavitz – yes, Eschenbacher – yes, Hall – yes, Jones-Holubec – yes, Mayor Greene – yes. Motion carried.
3. Set Halloween Trick or Treat Hours
20-M-172
Motion by Hall, seconded by Eschenbacher to set the Halloween Trick-or-Treat hours for October 31, 2020 from 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. with the siren to sound at the starting and ending times. Roll call: White – yes, Zavitz – yes, Eschenbacher – yes, Hall – yes, Jones-Holubec – yes, Rickwalt – yes, Mayor Greene – yes. Motion carried.
4. Resignation of Planning Commission Member
20-M-173
Motion by White, seconded by Eschenbacher to table the resignation of James Willing from the Planning Commission. Roll call: Zavitz – yes, Eschenbacher – yes, Hall – yes, Jones-Holubec – yes, Rickwalt – yes, White – yes, Mayor Greene – yes. Motion carried.
5. Reschedule November Council Meeting Date
20-M-174
Motion by Hall, seconded by White to reschedule the regular city council meeting of November 2, 2020 to Monday, November 9, 2020. Roll call: Eschenbacher – yes, Hall – yes, Jones-Holubec – yes, Rickwalt – yes, White – yes, Zavitz – yes, Mayor Greene – yes. Motion carried.
6. CARES Act Grant Acceptance
20-M-175
Motion by Hall, seconded by Jones-Holubec to accept the recommendation of the City Manager and officially accept the CARES Act funds in the amount of \$30,000 for the Hazard Pay Program and \$91,536 for the Public Safety Payroll Reimbursement Program and complete the appropriate budget adjustments. Roll call: Hall – yes, Jones-Holubec – yes, Rickwalt – yes, White – yes, Zavitz – yes, Eschenbacher – yes, Mayor Greene – yes. Motion carried.

ITEMS PENDING/TABLED:

1. Council Laptop Purchase
20-M-176
Motion by Hall, seconded by White to purchase laptops for council members for \$4,550 with IT support and to instruct the Clerk/Treasurer to make the necessary budget adjustment. Roll call: Jones-Holubec – no, Rickwalt – no, White – yes, Zavitz – yes, Eschenbacher – no, Hall – yes, Mayor Greene – yes. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE/LIAISON POSITION REPORTS:

1. DDA – minutes in the packet.
2. Parks & Recreation – minutes in the packet.

3. EDC – Working projects list in the packet. There is a new business downtown.

There was a discussion on jake breaking.

20-M-177

Motion by Rickwalt, seconded by Hall to direct the City Manager to consult with the City Attorney on a jake breaking ordinance. Roll call: Rickwalt – yes, White – yes, Zavitz – yes, Eschenbacher – yes, Hall – yes, Jones-Holubec – yes, Mayor Greene – yes. Motion carried.

MAYOR’S REPORT: Mayor Greene stated the need to have a finance committee meeting to discuss waste collection and how we want to bid it out. A finance committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 5, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. There was discussion on having department heads attend at the meetings their reports are presented. The Mayor thanked those that took care of the potted plants all summer. The dog park will be completed this week and would like to schedule a ribbon cutting ceremony. Discussion on putting cornstalks throughout the downtown. Attended Caro Center meeting.

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

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

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Councilor Eschenbacher questioned the status of the Roadhouse and questioned how the city is digging holes. He also made a comment about the arsenic problem and would like to see department heads at the meeting.

Herb Sheardy made a comment about jake breaking.

Mike Carpenter gave an update on South Almer Street and the farmers’ market.

Councilor White made a comment about the junk behind the horse barn at Beith Park and that it needs to be cleaned up.

20-M-178

Moved by Hall, seconded by Eschenbacher to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 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