

Council Chamber
Henry L. Brown Municipal Bldg.
One Grand Street
Coldwater, Michigan



January 10, 2022
5:30 p.m.
(517) 279-9501
www.coldwater.org

**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING**

Meeting is live-streamed on YouTube at, bit.ly/ColdwaterVideo or on Skitter channel 61.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Pro Tem Hazelbaker called the meeting to order with the following Councilmembers present: Councilmembers Emily Rissman and Travis Machan, representing the 1st Ward; Councilmembers Chad Johnson and Jim Knaack, representing the 2nd Ward; Councilmember Michael Beckwith, representing the 3rd Ward; Councilmember Scott Houtz, representing the 4th Ward.

Council Action: Motion by Councilmember Machan, seconded by Councilmember Beckwith, to excuse the absence of Councilmember John Petzko and Mayor Tom Kramer, as presented.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

Mayor Pro Tem Hazelbaker read a letter from Mayor Tom Kramer regarding the passing of Dr. Robert W. Browne, and then called for a moment of silence in his honor.

OTHERS PRESENT: Keith Baker, Tom Eldridge, Megan Angell, Jeff Budd, Julie Santure, Deb Sikorski-Bernath, Jodi Beckhusen, Sheila Puffenberger, Pat Pool, Dean Walrack, Joe Scheid, Dave Schmaltz, Lisa Miller, Susan Heath; Courtney Dirschell, Don Reid and two others.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- None.

CONSENT AGENDA (Item Numbers 1-6):

The items listed in the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by the City Council and the City Manager and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless requested by a Councilmember or citizen. In this event, the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and Council action will be taken separately on said item. Those items so approved under the heading "Consent Agenda" will appear in the Council minutes in their proper form.

1. City Council Regular Minutes of December 13, 2021.
2. Coldwater Public Library Advisory Board Regular Minutes of November 8, 2021.
3. Zoning Board of Appeals' Minutes of November 17, 2021.
4. Planning Commission Regular Minutes of December 6, 2021.
5. City of Coldwater monthly Financial Report for November, 2021.
6. Memo from Mayor Kramer regarding board appointments.
 - Board of Review – James McDaniels – term expires July, 2024.
 - Downtown Development Authority – Christopher Howell – term expires September, 2023.

ACTION ON CONSENT AGENDA

Council Action: Motion by Councilmember Johnson, seconded by Councilmember Houtz, to approve Consent Agenda Items 1-6, as presented.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

7. Bills and Accounts: \$254,051.90. (12/31/21: \$104,432.20; 01/31/22: \$149,619.70)

Council Action: Motion by Councilmember Machan, seconded by Councilmember Beckwith, to approve Bills and Accounts in the amount of \$254,051.90, as presented.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

8. City Manager's Report.

- **2022 Construction Project Bidding** – Advertisements will be published and specifications will be available as of Monday January 10, 2022 for the City's major construction project scheduled for this summer. The City's major road and utility construction project for this coming year is the reconstruction with road, curb, gutter, sidewalk, water, sanitary sewer and stormwater improvements to S. Michigan Ave. from US-12 to Sauk River Dr., S. Sprague St. between Washington St. to Perkins, E. Washington St. from Elm Street to S. Sprague St. and Perkins Street from Elm St. to S. Sprague St. Due dates and further information for contractors can be found on the City's website at www.coldwater.org. Bids are scheduled to be publicly opened on Tuesday February 1, 2022.
- **Winterfest 2022!** – Mark your calendars for the second annual Coldwater Winter Fest coming to Downtown Coldwater on Saturday January 22, 2022 from 1 to 4 p.m. Professional wood carving demonstrations, juggler, "snowman" building contest, Kiwanis cardboard sled racing and an evening concert with a Queen tribute band at the Tibbits Opera House are among the planned events. Come downtown to experience all of the fun! Contact the Coldwater Recreation Department at 517-278-8566 for more information.
- **Daddy Daughter Dance** – This popular social event for girls in kindergarten through 6th grade that are attending a Coldwater School and their dads, grandfathers, or other influential male figure in their life is scheduled for Saturday February 12, 2022. Spend an evening of fun with your special girl! There will be dancing, pictures, flowers and refreshments. Sign up at www.coldwater.org or by calling 517-278-8566 for assistance.

Council Action: Motion by Councilmember Beckwith, seconded by Councilmember Knaack, to approve and place on file the City Manager's Report, as presented.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

9. Memo from Debra Sikorski-Bernath, NSD Director/Assessor, regarding proposed amendment to fees for Building Code – Consider adoption of Ordinance No. 848, to amend Section 1428.02 Building Fee Schedule.

Assessor Deb Sikorski-Bernath presented information and answered Councilmember's questions.

Council Action: Motion by Councilmember Beckwith, seconded by Councilmember Machan, to adopt Ordinance No. 848 (attached in Addendum B), as presented.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

10. Winterfest/Snow on Monroe – Event Planning Update.

Council Action: None – Presentation only.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- None.

NEW BUSINESS

11. Consider adoption of Resolution No. 22-02 honoring the life of Dr. Robert W. Browne, with gratitude for his many contributions to the City of Coldwater.

Council Action: Motion by Councilmember Beckwith, seconded by Councilmember Machan, to adopt Resolution No. 22-02 (attached in Addendum C), as presented.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Noting no other business to come before Council, Mayor Pro Tem Hazelbaker adjourned the regular meeting at 6:09 p.m.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "SEHeath". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'S'.

Susan E. Heath, CMC, MiPMC
City Clerk

Addendum A

From: Tom Kramer

Sent: Monday, January 10, 2022 8:44 AM

It is with great sadness that we learned of the passing of Dr. Robert Browne. Dr. Browne's generosity included a wide array of community projects including this building we are sitting in, the wonderful aquatic center, and the expansion of the Heritage Recreation Facility.

I will never forget, during the dedication of this City Hall, Dr. Browne stated "when I first thought of making a donation to the City of Coldwater, I was thinking maybe a park bench, it sort-of got out of hand." The Coldwater community should be glad "it got out of hand" because the effect of his generosity will be felt and appreciated for generations to come. His donations are contributing greatly to the quality of life in the community and to the positive image it provides for our town.

While we appreciate his financial contributions, we should also appreciate his service in World War II where, barely out of his teens, he was flying bombers in the Pacific. We should also appreciate that he chose the Coldwater community to help because he felt, growing up here, he was instilled with values and a work ethic that served him well throughout all his life. He felt the community gave him a great deal and he was merely returning the favor. Oftentimes we forget what a wonderful, caring community this is, Dr. Browne clearly never did.

On behalf of the City Council and the entire Coldwater community I want to express our sorrow and our deepest sympathies to the family and loved ones of Dr. Robert Browne.

We will now have a moment of silence in honor of Dr. Browne.