

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



February 24, 2020  
5:30 p.m.  
(517) 279-9501  
[www.coldwater.org](http://www.coldwater.org)

## CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

### REGULAR MEETING

#### CALL MEETING TO ORDER

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

#### ROLL CALL

Mayor Kramer called the meeting to order with the following Councilmembers present: Councilmembers Emily Rissman and Travis Machan, representing the 1<sup>st</sup> Ward; Councilmember Jim Knaack, representing the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ward; Councilmembers Michael Beckwith and John Petzko, representing the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward; Councilmember Randall Hazelbaker, representing the 4<sup>th</sup> Ward.

**Council Action:** Motion by Councilmember Hazelbaker, seconded by Councilmember Beckwith, to excuse the absence of Councilmembers Chris Pierce and Scott Houtz, as presented.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Keith Baker, Megan Angell, Tom Eldridge, Jeff Budd, Joe Scheid, Cody Longrey, Dave Schmaltz, Jim Odneal, Susan Heath, Shauna Chávez; Sherriff Pollack, Amy Galliers, Chris Jenkins, Valerie White, Don Reid, David Woodham plus five more.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Sherriff John Pollack, presented a report on Branch County Sheriff's Department activities and gave an update on the new jail.
- Amy Galliers, Great Start Collaborative Director, spoke about Handle with Care Initiative; gave thanks and presented an award to Officer Longrey and Public Safety Director Scheid for their assistance with the program.
- Chris Jenkins, Branch County ISD Superintendent – Gave thanks to Mark Knaack for creating a safe and secure web base for the Handle with Care Initiative.
- Valerie White, Branch County Prosecutor, spoke in favor of the Handle with Care Initiative in Branch County.

**CONSENT AGENDA (Item Numbers 1-4):**

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 February 10, 2020.
2. Coldwater Public Library Advisory Board Regular Minutes of January 13, 2020.
3. Coldwater Housing Commission Regular Minutes of January 14, 2020.
4. Zoning Board of Appeals' Regular Minutes of December 18, 2019.

**ACTION ON CONSENT AGENDA**

**Council Action:** Motion by Councilmember Machan, seconded by Councilmember Knaack, to approve Consent Agenda Items 1-4, as presented.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

**END OF CONSENT AGENDA**

5. Bills and Accounts: \$347,249.60.

**Council Action:** Motion by Councilmember Beckwith, seconded by Councilmember Petzko, to approve Bills and Accounts in the amount of \$347,249.60, as presented.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

6. City Manager's Report.

- **2020 US Census – Census takers needed** – The U.S. Census Bureau has jobs available in our area! Census takers can work up to 40 hours per week and start at \$16/hour. In particular persons who are bilingual (Arabic/Spanish) are encouraged to apply. Interested persons can visit the U.S. Census website at <https://2020census.gov/en/jobs> or by contacting 1-855-562-2020. Many different forms of Federal and State funding are determined by a municipality's population and demographic characteristics. Please fill out the census for your household and for those looking for employment, consider becoming a Census Taker.
- **Great Start Collaborative 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Community Awards Presentation** – The 2nd Annual Community Celebration will be held on Tuesday February 25, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. at the Promedica Conference Center. The event is sponsored by the Branch County Great Start Collaborative. This celebration provides the opportunity to recognize some of the great things happening in Branch County for children and families. There will be four community awards, with the Childcare Provider of the Year award being the highest honor of the evening.
- **Final Call for Board of Review** – The March Board of Review is next Monday March 9, Tuesday March 10, and Wednesday March 11, 2020. Appeals will be accepted by letter if postmarked on Wednesday March 11, 2020 or before. Questions can be made to City Assessor Deb Sikorski at 279-6929.
- **Read, Respect & Ride** – Staff from the Coldwater Fire Department will be participating in a reading program at Jefferson Elementary School. The program is designed to help students who read with less confidence achieve the ability to become stronger readers. Approximately seven firefighters will be taking part. The event is scheduled from the last week of February to the last week of March.
- **Mother Son Night** – Enjoy a fun evening out filled with new and exciting activities. There will be games, inflatables, pictures, snacks, and more. This popular event is for boys in kindergarten through 6th grade that are attending a Coldwater School and their moms, aunts, grandmothers or other special woman in their life. The event will be held on Saturday March 7, 2020. Sign up at [www.recdesk.com](http://www.recdesk.com) or by calling 517-278-8566 for assistance.
- **Youth Baseball/Softball** – Youth from Coldwater and the surrounding area are invited to sign up for Youth Baseball/Softball. Games will be played on the new fields located off North Shore Drive. Register by March 10, 2020 to receive lowest rates. Opening week is May 18 through 21, 2020. Games will be played Monday through Thursday with makeup games on Friday. Coaches, assistant coaches, and umpires needed. Please contact the Recreation Department to sign up or register online at: [www.recdesk.com](http://www.recdesk.com).
- **Public Safety Building** – The door access project at the Public Safety building has been completed and is working very well.
- **Walk for Warmth** – Come and join some of the CBPU staff at the Walk for Warmth event which will be indoors this year at the Recreation Center building on Wednesday February 26, 2020 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This campaign directly assists citizens in our community with heating and utility needs.

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

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

7. Memo from Tom Eldridge, Finance Director, regarding 2019 MERS DB Annual Statement.

**Council Action:** None – Presentation only.

8. Memo from Keith Baker, City Manager, regarding first budget amendments for FY 2019-2020.

**Council Action:** Motion by Councilmember Beckwith, seconded by Councilmember Machan, to approve budget amendments for FY 2019-2020, as presented.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

9. Letter from Keith Baker, City Manager, regarding 1st and 2nd ward sidewalk bid award – Consider adoption of Resolution No. 20-05.

**Council Action:** Motion by Councilmember Hazelbaker, seconded by Councilmember Knaack, to adopt Resolution No. 20-05 approving bid from Parrish Excavating in the amount of \$141,990.00 (attached in Addendum A), as presented.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

10. Letter from Megan Angell, City Attorney, regarding remote attendance at council meeting due to military service – Consider adoption of Resolution No. 20-06.

**Council Action:** Motion by Councilmember Petzko, seconded by Councilmember Beckwith, to adopt Resolution No. 20-06 (attached in Addendum B), as presented.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

11. Letter from Megan Angell, City Attorney, seeking approval of the Uniform Video Service Local Franchise Agreement for Buckeye Cablevision, Inc. – Consider adoption of Resolution No. 20-07 and approval of Agreement No. A20-04.

**Council Action:** Motion by Councilmember Knaack, seconded by Councilmember Beckwith, to adopt Resolution No. 20-07 and approve Agreement No. A20-04 (attached in Addendum C) subject to Buckeye Cablevision paying fees owed to the city, as presented.

12. Presentation of the 2019 Annual Fire Department Report by David Schmaltz, Fire Chief.

**Council Action:** None – Presentation only.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

- None

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- None

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- None

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Noting no other business to come before Council, Mayor Kramer adjourned the regular meeting at 6:40 p.m.



Shauna Chávez  
Deputy City Clerk