

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



September 27, 2021
5:30 p.m.
(517) 279-9501
www.coldwater.org

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES REGULAR MEETING

This meeting will be an in-person meeting for all Councilmembers and members of the public except that Councilmember Rissman will attend by telephone or video conferencing due to current military duty. She may be contacted regarding any business that will come before the Council at the meeting by email at erissman@coldwater.org up to 3:30 p.m. on the day of the meeting or by contacting City Manager Keith Baker at kbaker@coldwater.org. This meeting is also 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 Kramer called the meeting to order with the following Councilmembers present: Councilmembers Emily Rissman (attending via telephone or video conferencing due to current military duty) and Travis Machan, representing the 1st Ward; Councilmember Jim Knaack, representing the 2nd Ward; Councilmembers Michael Beckwith and John Petzko, representing the 3rd Ward; Councilmember Scott Houtz, representing the 4th Ward. Councilmember Rissman had received no email comments before 3:30 p.m. prior to the meeting.

Council Action: Motion by Councilmember Knaack, seconded by Councilmember Beckwith, to excuse the absence of Councilmembers Chad Johnson and Randall Hazelbaker, as presented.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

OTHERS PRESENT: Keith Baker, Tom Eldridge, Megan Angell, Jeff Budd, Craig Figueroa, Dean Walrack, Susan Heath, Joe Scheid; Don Reid, Mike Hard and Randy Ramsey.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- None.

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 September 13, 2021.
2. Coldwater Public Library Advisory Board Regular Minutes of August 9, 2021.
3. Historic District Commission Regular Minutes of May 17, 2021.
4. Memo from Mayor Kramer regarding board reappointments.
 - Downtown Development Authority – Brad Rockey and Makayla Bendele – terms expire September 2025.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

ACTION ON CONSENT AGENDA

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

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

5. Bills and Accounts: \$185,811.95.

Council Action: Motion by Councilmember Machan, seconded by Councilmember Houtz, to approve Bills and Accounts in the amount of \$185,811.95, as presented.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

6. City Manager's Report.

- **November Election** – Applications for absentee ballots for the November election are now available through the City Clerk's office. You may contact City Clerk Susan Heath at 279-6928 if you would like to apply to vote via absentee. The election date is Tuesday, November 2, 2021.
- **Fall reminders** – Final bulk brush pickup for the year will begin on Monday October 4, 2021. Yard waste bags will continue to be picked up each Monday weather permitting. We ask residents to not rake or dump leaves into the street until a pick-up schedule is announced later in October. The burning of yard waste, brush and leaves is not permitted within the City limits. Brush, leaves and yard waste can continue to be dropped off at the City's Municipal Services facility located at 45 Industrial Drive during normal business hours and on Saturday mornings. In addition, please continue to keep lawns mowed, yards free from junk and vehicles appropriately parked.
- **October is National Fire Prevention Month** – The week of October 9 of each year has been declared Fire Prevention week in commemoration of the Great Chicago Fire. This year it will be held the week of October 3-9, 2021. The Coldwater Fire Department will be visiting each elementary school in Coldwater. During our visit we will have the students go through the Fire Safety Trailer where they will learn valuable tips on Fire Safety and what to do if their own house is on fire. In addition to our visits we have numerous pre-school classes already scheduled to come to the fire station for tours. The CFD reminds everyone that this is a good time to replace batteries in smoke detectors and check and service your home's heating system prior to the onset of cold weather.
- **Downtown Fall Decorations** – The fall decorations downtown are sponsored by the Coldwater Downtown Development Authority and designed and maintained by Neitzert's Greenhouse.
- **Hoptober Fest** – Mark Saturday October 9, 2021 on your calendar for the second annual Hoptober Fest. Broadway Grille will be serving up the Two Bandits Brewery Octoberfest beer. Die Dorfmusikanten, a German Band out of Fort Wayne and Tanzer Dancers will be providing the entertainment. Food trucks including J&J's Delicious Dogs will be serving polish sausages, brats and sauerkraut, as well as KPC Kettle Corn. The event runs from 4 to 10 p.m. on S. Monroe Street in downtown Coldwater.
- **Haunted Forest** – Mark your calendars for the city's Haunted Forest (\$5/person) to be held Friday and Saturday October 15 and 16, 2021 at Rotary Park. The less scary tour runs from 5 to 7:30 p.m. with the scary version beginning at 7:30 to 9 p.m.
- **Household Hazardous Waste** – The CBPU's annual Household Hazardous Waste collection event will be held this Saturday, September 25, 2021 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Branch County Fairgrounds. A list of items that will be accepted and participating communities can be found on the City's website.
- **Four Corners Park Project** – construction continues with final touches this week.
- **Sauk River Drive Construction** – the road is open and the trail is nearing completion.

- **Brush Pickup Extension** – Councilmember Petzko asked the City to extend brush pickup to November, as was done last year.

Council Action: Motion by Councilmember Machan, seconded by Councilmember Beckwith, to approve and place on file the City Manager’s report, as presented.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

7. Letter from Jeffrey Budd, CBPU Director, regarding proposed lease of vacant land at 231 S. Angola Road – Consider adoption of Resolution No. 21-80 and approval of Agreement No. A21-15.

Council Action: Motion by Councilmember Petzko, seconded by Councilmember Machan, to adopt Resolution No. 21-80 and approve Agreement No. A21-15, as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers: Machan, Knaack, Beckwith, Petzko, Houtz, Rissman and Mayor Kramer.

Nays: Councilmembers: None.

Motion carried.

8. Letter from Megan Angell, City Attorney, regarding approval of HVAC bid for MSHDA home at 17 Thompson Blvd. – Consider adoption of Resolution No. 21-79.

Council Action: Motion by Councilmember Machan, seconded by Councilmember Petzko, to adopt Resolution No. 21-79, as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers: Knaack, Beckwith, Petzko, Houtz, Rissman, Machan and Mayor Kramer.

Nays: Councilmembers: None.

Motion carried.

9. Letter from Keith Baker, City Manager, regarding proposed sale of vacant lot at 68 Thompson Blvd. – Consider introduction of Sales Agreement No. A21-21.

Council discussed whether or not approval of this item might change the outcome on an earlier purchase agreement for other lots in the neighborhood.

Item #9 died for lack of a motion.

10. Letter from Dave Schmaltz, Fire Chief, regarding authorization to prepare spec list and seek bids for a new fire engine – Consider adoption of Resolution No. 21-82.

Council Action: Motion by Councilmember Knaack, seconded by Councilmember Beckwith, to adopt Resolution No. 21-82, as presented.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

11. Letter from Keith Baker, City Manager, regarding proposed easements for the Garfield Drain District – Consider introduction of:

- a. Drain Easement Agreement No. A21-22;

Council Action: Motion by Councilmember Knaack, seconded by Councilmember Petzko, to introduce for first reading Agreement No. A21-22, as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers: Beckwith, Petzko, Houtz, Rissman, Machan, Knaack and Mayor Kramer.

Nays: Councilmembers: None.

Motion carried.

- b. Drain Easement Agreement No. A21-23; and

Council Action: Motion by Councilmember Beckwith, seconded by Councilmember Houtz, to introduce for first reading Agreement No. A21-23, as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers: Petzko, Houtz, Rissman, Machan, Knaack, Beckwith and Mayor Kramer.

Nays: Councilmembers: None.

Motion carried.

c. Drain and Temporary Easement Agreement No. A21-24.

Council Action: Motion by Councilmember Knaack, seconded by Councilmember Houtz, to introduce for first reading Agreement No. A21-24, as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers: Houtz, Rissman, Machan, Knaack, Beckwith, Petzko and Mayor Kramer.

Nays: Councilmembers: None.

Motion carried.

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 6:29 p.m.



CITY OF COLDWATER COUNCIL MINUTES

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Susan E. Heath, CMC, MiPMC
City Clerk