

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



**January 24, 2022**  
5:30 p.m.  
(517) 279-9501  
[www.coldwater.org](http://www.coldwater.org)

**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING**

Meeting is live-streamed on YouTube at, [bit.ly/ColdwaterVideo](http://bit.ly/ColdwaterVideo) or on Skitter channel 61.

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mayor Tom Kramer called the meeting to order with the following Councilmembers present: Councilmembers Emily Rissman and Travis Machan, representing the 1<sup>st</sup> Ward; Councilmembers Chad Johnson and Jim Knaack, representing the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ward; Councilmember John Petzko, representing the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward; Councilmember Scott Houtz, representing the 4<sup>th</sup> Ward.

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

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Keith Baker, Tom Eldridge, Megan Angell, Jeff Budd, Dean Walrack, Joe Scheid, Dave Schmaltz, Lisa Miller, Brian Musselman, Katie Higgs, Susan Heath; Don Reid and five others.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

- None.

**CONSENT AGENDA (Item Numbers 1-10):**

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 January 10, 2022.
2. Coldwater Housing Commission Regular Minutes of December 14, 2021.
3. Historic District Commission Regular Minutes of December 8, 2021.
4. Downtown Development Authority Regular Minutes of October 27, 2021.
5. Downtown Development Authority Special Work Session Minutes of December 7, 2021.
6. Downtown Development Authority Special Work Session Minutes of December 8, 2021.
7. Board of Public Utilities' Regular Minutes of December 1, 2021.
8. Board of Public Utilities' Special Minutes of December 8, 2021.
9. Michigan South Central Power Agency Board Regular Minutes of November 4, 2021.
10. Board of Public Utilities' Reports and Financial Statements for November, 2021.

**ACTION ON CONSENT AGENDA**

**Council Action:** Motion by Councilmember Machan, seconded by Councilmember Johnson, to approve Consent Agenda Items 1-10, as presented.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

**END OF CONSENT AGENDA**

11. Bills and Accounts: \$105,402.96.

**Council Action:** Motion by Councilmember Petzko, seconded by Councilmember Houtz, to approve Bills and Accounts in the amount of \$105,402.96, as presented.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

## 12. City Manager's Report.

- **Board of Review** – Residents are reminded that the City's Board of Review will be holding office hours for anyone wishing to appeal their property tax assessment. The board will meet 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 to 4 p.m. on Monday March 14, 2022; 2 to 5 p.m. and 6 to 9 p.m. Tuesday March 15, 2022; and 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Wednesday March 16, 2022. Questions should be directed to the City Assessor Deb Sikorski-Bernath at the Neighborhood Services Department at 279-6929.
- **Robert W. Browne Recreation Center Division 1 Sponsor** – The City of Coldwater would like to welcome and thank Mastronardi Produce/Maroa Farms for their recent division one sponsorship of the RWB Recreation Center. Division one sponsors commit to a four-year sponsorship at \$5,000.00/year. Businesses interested in sponsoring courts or events through the City's Recreation Department can contact Community Enrichment Coordinator Julie Santure at 278-8566 or [jsanture@coldwater.org](mailto:jsanture@coldwater.org).
- **2021 Large Item Pick Up Report** – There were 3,830 large items picked up at the curb by Republic Waste Services in 2021. This was a 33% increase (945) from 2020. That is an average of over 73 items per week City wide. The heaviest weeks are in the early Spring and Summer with less items collected during the Winter months. This continues to be a valuable and well used service and helps keep up the overall appearance of the community. It also helps in code enforcement when our staff can explain that there is a way in which to dispose of large items at no additional expense. Items are collected for City residents each Friday. Residents can request a pick up by either calling 279-9501 or online at [www.coldwater.org](http://www.coldwater.org).
- **Downtown Coldwater Main Street Survey** – As part of the Michigan Main Street (MMS) Program, the Downtown Development Authority launched a community survey. The purpose of the survey is to understand our community's vision for the downtown. The DDA will use the survey results to create strategies that will guide downtown development over time. The survey is available in English, Spanish, and Arabic. The survey can be accessed on the City's website, through social media posts, or a QR code featured on promotional material in the Downtown area. A community presentation will take place 5:30 p.m. February 23, 2022, to share survey results and unveil strategies specific to Downtown Coldwater.
- **Daddy Daughter Dance** – This popular social event is 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](http://www.coldwater.org) or by calling 278-8566 for assistance.

- **Family Fun Night** – Enjoy a fun evening out filled with activities for the whole family. There will be games, inflatables, pictures, snacks, and more. This event is open for kids from Coldwater and the surrounding area. The event will be 5 to 8 p.m. Saturday March 12, 2022. Cost is \$35 per “couple” (parent and child) and \$17/additional person. Sign up at [www.recdesk.com](http://www.recdesk.com) or by calling 278-8566 for assistance.
- **Paul W. Sperbeck Gift** – The City of Coldwater would like to remember Paul W. Sperbeck and thank his estate for a gift of over \$27,000.00, which was donated to the City, and will be used to benefit youth in the community. Mr. Sperbeck was a long time Coldwater resident who passed away in March 2021.
- **Dirty Water** – Water & WRRF Superintendent Brian Musselman addressed the Council regarding some recent Facebook complaints of dirty water in resident water lines. Mr. Musselman asked residents to please contact his department directly at 517-279-4805 if they have questions or concerns with the quality of water in their lines; he will be happy to go to the residence, research and discover the causes of dirty water in the lines, so it can be corrected.

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

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

13. Memo from Jeffrey Budd, CBPU Director, regarding appointment of AMP Alternate Representative – Consider adoption of Resolution No. 22-01.

**Council Action:** Motion by Councilmember Knaack, seconded by Councilmember Houtz, to adopt Resolution No. 22-01 (attached in Addendum A), as presented.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

14. Letter from Megan Angell, City Attorney, regarding proposed sale of 17 Thompson Blvd. – Consider introduction of sales Agreement No. A22-01.

**Council Action:** Motion by Councilmember Knaack, seconded by Councilmember Petzko, to introduce for first reading Agreement No. A22-01, as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: 6

Nays: 1 – Councilmember Rissman

Motion carried.

15. Letter from Keith Baker, City Manager, regarding DDA Children’s Museum Loan Proposal for 60 W. Chicago St. (Taylor’s Building), and presentation by Lisa Miller.

**Council Action:** Motion by Councilmember Machan, seconded by Councilmember Rissman, to move forward with a proposed loan to the Coldwater DDA for the Children’s Museum at 60 W. Chicago St., to direct staff to prepare the appropriate documents and bring them back for consideration, as presented.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

- None.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- None.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

16. Closed session pursuant to Section 8(c) of PA 267 of 1976 to discuss collective bargaining agreement.

**Council Action:** Motion by Councilmember Knaack, seconded by Councilmember Petzko, to enter a Closed Session pursuant to Section 8(c) of PA 267 of 1976 to discuss collective bargaining agreement, as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nays: Councilmembers: None.

Motion carried (6:28 p.m.)

**Council Action:** Motion by Councilmember Machan, seconded by Councilmember Houtz, to reconvene to the regular meeting of January 24, 2022, as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nays: Councilmembers: None.

Motion carried (7:29 p.m.)

**ADJOURNMENT**

Noting no other business to come before Council, Mayor Kramer adjourned the regular meeting at 7:30 p.m.



Susan E. Heath, CMC, MiPMC  
City Clerk