

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



February 27, 2023
5:30 p.m.
(517) 279-9501
www.coldwater.org

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES REGULAR MEETING

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 and Travis Machan, representing the 1st Ward; Councilmembers Chad Johnson and Jim Knaack, representing the 2nd Ward; Councilmembers Michael Beckwith and John Petzko, representing the 3rd Ward; and Councilmembers Randall Hazelbaker and Scott Houtz representing the 4th Ward.

OTHERS PRESENT: Keith Baker, Megan Angell, Joe Scheid, Tom Eldridge, Lisa Miller, Dave Schmaltz, Bryan Torres-Alcantar, Shauna Chávez; Don Reid and Bill Flickinger.

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 February 13, 2023.
2. Coldwater Housing Commission Regular Minutes of January 10, 2023.
3. Downtown Development Authority Regular Minutes of January 25, 2023.

4. City of Coldwater quarterly 2022 MERS DB Statement.
5. City of Coldwater annual 2022 MERS DB Statement.
6. Letter from Keith D. Bildner, Manager, Branch County Fair, requesting permission to hold the Annual Branch County Fair Parade on Saturday, August 5, 2023.

ACTION ON THE CONSENT AGENDA

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

Ayes: 9

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

7. Bills and Accounts: \$100,556.89.

Council Action: Motion by Councilmember Knaack, seconded by Councilmember Johnson, to approve Bills and Accounts in the amount of \$100,556.89, as presented.

Ayes: 9

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

1. City Manager's Report.
 - **February 22, 2023 Ice Storm Event** — On February 22, 2023 an ice storm hit Coldwater and the surrounding areas. CBPU fared well during the day, but around 5:00 PM the weight of the ice and the wind caused many branches to break off and hit the power lines. At the peak, CBPU had more than 850 customers without power. Crews started restoration immediately and worked until 3:30 AM on February 23, 2023. At that time, there were still approximately 380 customers still without power. Crews were sent home for much needed rest and started back up again at 8:00 AM. CBPU also requested the help of mutual aid from the City of Bowling Green Ohio. With their help, power was restored to all those that could be restored on the evening of the February 23, 2023.
 - **Officer Robin Swartz Anniversary** — We would like to congratulate School Resource

Officer Robin Swartz on her five-year anniversary with the Coldwater Police Department. Officer Swartz has been instrumental in the re-vitalization of the School Resource Officer Program at the Coldwater Community Schools. We would like to thank her for her dedication and commitment to our community.

- **Storm Clean Up** — With the recent ice storm, the City will begin collecting brush a month earlier than normal this year. Residents can place their brush between the curb and sidewalk. The City will begin monthly brush collection on Monday March 6, 2023. Residents are asked not to place brush in the road. In addition, Coldwater and Coldwater Township residents can drop off brush and yard waste at the City's Municipal Services Department yard located at 45 Industrial Ave. during normal business hours.
- **Property Assessments** —The property assessment change notices went out this week. The taxable value maximum increase limit of 5% was reached for the first time in the history of proposal A (since 1994). The actual market value increase was 7.9%. The March Board of Review is Mon. March 13, 2023 from 9-12 & 1-4, Tues. March 14, 2023 from 2-5 & 6-9, and Weds. March 15, 2023 from 9-12. Property owners with property tax questions can contact city assessors Deb Sikorski-Bernath or Samantha Albright through the Neighborhood Services Department at 279-6964.
- **Coming soon! The new www.coldwater.org** — Thursday March 2, 2023 is the date for the launch of the City's redesigned website. With an updated appearance and functionality, the hope is that it will be an easier resource to navigate for our residents, customers, businesses and visitors. Check it out at www.coldwater.org.

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

Ayes: 9

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

9. Letter from Lisa Miller, Economic Development Director, BCEGA, regarding Heritage Park tennis court resurfacing bid – Consider adoption of Resolution No. 23-11.

Council Action: Motion by Councilmember Johnson, seconded by Councilmember Petzko, to adopt Resolution No. 23-11 (attached in Addendum A), as presented.

Ayes: 9

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

10. Memo from Keith Baker, City Manager, regarding first budget amendments for FY 2022-2023.

Council Action: Motion by Councilmember Knaack, seconded by Councilmember Machan, to approve first budget amendments for FY 2022-2023, as presented.

Ayes: 9

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

Presentation by David Schmaltz, Fire Chief, of the 2022 Annual Fire Department Report.

Council Action: None — Presentation only.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- None.

NEW BUSINESS

11. Councilmember Rissman inquired about the Notify Me text messaging service and its ability to notify citizens of an emergency.

Council Action: None. Keith will look into the Notify Me policy to see what does and does not get transmitted and will update councilmembers.

ADJOURNMENT

Noting no other business to come before Council, Mayor Kramer adjourned the regular meeting at 6:27 p.m.



Shauna Chávez
City Clerk, CMC