

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



May 23, 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 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; Councilmembers Randall Hazelbaker and Scott Houtz, representing the 4th Ward.

OTHERS PRESENT: Keith Baker, Tom Eldridge, Megan Angell, Dean Walrack, Paul Jakubczak, Joe Scheid, Samantha Albright, Julie Santure, Lisa Miller, Audrey Tappenden, Katie Higgs, Tim Hart, Susan Heath; Don Reid, Kim LaSata, Dale Parshall, Angie Marsh, Kent Miller and Chris Austin.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Dale Parshall, 39 Balfour Dr., spoke in opposition to the proposed amendment to Uniform Traffic Code to add Exhibition Driving - Ordinance No. 852.
- State Senator 21st District, Kim LaSata, introduced herself to Council and noted she will be on the ballot in August for the new Senate District 17, which includes Coldwater following redistricting.
- Kent Miller, 171 Fairfield Dr., spoke in opposition to the possibility of publicly audible calls to prayer at the local Mosque.

CONSENT AGENDA (Item Numbers 1-3):

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 May 9, 2022.
2. Coldwater Housing Commission Regular Minutes of April 12, 2022.
3. City of Coldwater quarterly 2022 MERS DB Statement.

ACTION ON CONSENT AGENDA

Council Action: Motion by Councilmember Hazelbaker, seconded by Councilmember Petzko, to approve Consent Agenda Items 1-3, as presented.

Ayes: 9

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

PUBLIC HEARING

4. Memo from Keith Baker, City Manager, regarding FY 2022-23 budget.

Mayor Kramer opened the Budget Public Hearing at 5:38 p.m.

City Manager Keith Baker presented information regarding the FY 2022-23 budget, and answered Councilmember's questions.

Public Comments:

- None.

Mayor Kramer closed the Budget Public Hearing at 5:45 p.m.

Council Action: None – Presentation only.

END OF PUBLIC HEARING

5. Bills and Accounts: \$145,631.22.

Council Action: Motion by Councilmember Machan, seconded by Councilmember Beckwith, to approve Bills and Accounts in the amount of \$145,631.22, as presented.

Ayes: 9

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

6. City Manager's Report.

- **Officer Calcaterra** – We would like to recognize and congratulate Officer Cori Calcaterra for completing her probationary period and one-year anniversary with the Coldwater Police Department.
- **Vandalism/Graffiti** – Unfortunately, the City's parks have seen some recent occurrences of littering, graffiti and vandalism particularly at Heritage and Parkhurst Parks. If residents see any suspicious or destructive behavior, they are asked to contact 911 to have a police officer investigate. Graffiti and vandalism waste public tax dollars and reduces the enjoyment of the parks for everyone.
- **Garage Sale Signs** – Please be advised, garage sales are limited to three per property per year for up to three days each. Garage sale signs are not allowed in the right of way or on utility poles. Signs are only allowed on the property on which the sale is being held.
- **Memorial Day Observances** – The annual Memorial Day service downtown and at Oak Grove Cemetery will be taking place on Monday May 30, 2022. The ceremony downtown begins at 8:30 a.m. in the 4 Corners Park with the ceremonies at the cemetery beginning at approximately 10:30 a.m. We would like to recognize and thank Mr. Jerry Ford for his leadership and organization of this annual event. In addition, the City/CBPU offices will be closed on Monday May 30, 2022 in observance of Memorial Day.
- **Strawberry Fest** – The City's annual Strawberry Fest will be held downtown on Saturday June 18, 2022 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Crafters, food vendors, musical performances and of course strawberries will fill downtown for the first time in over a year. Vendors are still encouraged to contact the Coldwater Recreation Department to reserve a spot.
- **Property Maintenance** – Warmer weather and the occasional sunshine have arrived creating optimal conditions for grass to grow. However, the City's ordinance requires that property owners keep their lawns mowed six inches or less in height. Violators will receive a letter and if still not mowed after ten days, the City will have its contractor mow the lawn and place the cost on the property tax bill. Please be a good neighbor and keep your lawn mowed.
- **Solar Picnic Table and Park Light** – A special "thank you" to local business person Dennis Peet for his donation of a new solar picnic table installed at Heritage Park. Visitors to the park will be able to charge their cell phones or plug in their computers while enjoying the



outdoors. In addition, we would like to thank the City's Municipal Services Department for installing the concrete pad and assembling the picnic table. In addition to the picnic table, a solar street light is being installed in Rotary Park to improve illumination and security around the boat launch and parking area.

- **Volunteer Opportunities** – Unfortunately, there is never enough time, funding or manpower to get everything accomplished that the City would like to do. However, that's where residents and local community-based organizations can come to the rescue! The City has opportunities to put volunteers to work. Often, we can provide materials and supplies, we just need your time and expertise. If you have a favorite park, pet project or idea and would like to help organize a group project or would like to volunteer, please contact Municipal Services Director Todd Mistor at 517-279-6936 for more information.

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

Ayes: 9

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

7. Letter from Keith Baker, City Manager, regarding proposed sale of 10 S. Monroe Street (Lefty's Lounge) – Consider adoption of Resolution No. 22-49, and approval of Sales Agreement No. A22-15 and Development Agreement No. A22-16.

Council Action: Motion by Councilmember Petzko, seconded by Councilmember Johnson, to adopt Resolution No. 22-49 and approve Agreement Nos. A22-15 and A22-16 (attached in Addendum A), as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nays: Councilmembers: None.

Motion carried.

8. Letter from Keith Baker, City Manager, regarding PILOT for Old Mill Race Apartments – Consider adoption of Ordinance No. 851.

Council Action: Motion by Councilmember Knaack, seconded by Councilmember Johnson, to adopt Ordinance No. 851 (attached in Addendum B), as presented.

Ayes: 9

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

9. Letter from Megan Angell, City Attorney, regarding proposed amendment to Uniform Traffic Code to add Exhibition Driving – consider adoption of Ordinance No. 852.

Council Action: Motion by Councilmember Machan, seconded by Councilmember Rissman, to adopt Ordinance No. 852 (attached in Addendum C), as presented.

Ayes: 9

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

10. Memo from Debra Sikorski, NSD Director/Assessor, regarding an Application for Obsolete Property Rehabilitation Exemption Certificate for KevKor Enterprises LLC, 398 Marshall St. and setting a public hearing for June 13, 2022.

Deputy Assessor Samantha Albright presented information and answered Councilmember's questions.

Council Action: Motion by Councilmember Hazelbaker, seconded by Councilmember Houtz, to set a public hearing for June 13, 2022, regarding an Application for Obsolete Property Rehabilitation Exemption Certificate for KevKor Enterprises LLC, 398 Marshall St., as presented.

Ayes: 9

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

11. Letter from Megan Angell, City Attorney, regarding proposed sale of vacant land on Allen Ave. to Sekisui Voltek and partial road vacation – Consider introduction of sales Agreement No. A22-19.

Council Action: Motion by Councilmember Knaack, seconded by Councilmember Beckwith, to

introduce for first reading Agreement No. A22-19, as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nays: Councilmembers: None.

Motion carried.

12. Letter from Keith Baker, City Manager, regarding proposed sale of 71-73 W. Chicago Street – Consider introduction of Sales Agreement No. A22-21 and Development Agreement No. A22-22.

Council Action: Motion by Councilmember Beckwith, seconded by Councilmember Machan, to introduce for first reading Agreement Nos. A22-21 and A22-22, as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nays: Councilmembers: None.

Motion carried.

13. Letter from Keith Baker, City Manager, regarding approval of capital improvement bonds for removal and replacement of lead service lines – Consider adoption of Resolution No. 22-51.

Council Action: Motion by Councilmember Petzko, seconded by Councilmember Houtz, to adopt Resolution No. 22-51 (attached in Addendum D), as presented.

Ayes: 9

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

14. Letter from Keith Baker, City Manager, regarding approval of bid to resurface outdoor basketball courts at Heritage Park – Consider adoption of Resolution No. 22-50.

Council Action: Motion by Councilmember Knaack, seconded by Councilmember Machan, to adopt Resolution No. 22-50 (attached in Addendum E), as presented.

Ayes: 9

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

15. Letter from Audrey Tappenden, Main Street Director/Economic Development Coordinator, regarding amending Social District regular hours of operation – Consider adoption of Resolution No. 22-52.

Council Action: Motion by Councilmember Knaack, seconded by Councilmember Machan, to adopt Resolution No. 22-52 (attached in Addendum F), as presented.

Ayes: 8

Nays: 1 – Councilmember Rissman

Motion carried.

16. Special Project Discussion.

- Mayor Kramer presented Councilmembers with the opportunity to consider possible future capital improvement projects, which could be paid for with Marihuana revenue and a portion of the City's Fund Balance.
- Councilmember Johnson noted he was not in favor of the US-12 corridor project; he wanted to look at the Marshall Street properties for projects; more surveillance cameras; and leveraging City money along with seeking matching grant funds where possible.
- Councilmember Machan noted the corridor project in Sturgis was beneficial to that downtown area; he proposed a Waterworks Park youth soccer field and mini splash pad.
- Councilmember Rissman supports most of the items in the US-12 corridor project and wants to see some safety and visual improvements all the way west to the hospital; proposed some help to the Child Advocacy Center possibly in the form of non-profit loans.
- Councilmember Houtz supports the idea of some improvements or expansion to Rotary Park, possibly in the form of an arboretum or botanical gardens with trails.
- Councilmember Petzko supports an outdoor pavilion or amphitheater possibly on the Federal Mogul property, for holding larger community events.

- Councilmember Beckwith supports Rotary Park and Waterworks Park improvements and more sidewalk repair/installation throughout the City.
- Councilmember Hazelbaker supports Rotary Park and Waterworks Park improvements, as well as more improvements for the Putnam building in anticipation of its ultimate sale.
- Councilmember Knaack supports repairs and updates to the Historic Morse Street Cemetery; possibly a pavilion at the base of Kiwanis Hill; more park cameras; Monroe Street signage, lighting and sound, plus phone chargers; Rotary Park expansion in the form of a marina, fishing dock, arboretum, etc.
- Mayor Kramer asked City staff to review Councilmember's suggestions and come back with some project options and cost estimates.

Council Action: None – Presentation and discussion only.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Katie Higgs, 41 Pierson St., responded to an earlier public comment, and noted she lives very near a church, which often wakes her up early on Sunday mornings to the sound of its loud bell, and also noted a call to prayer is no different in her opinion.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- None.

NEW BUSINESS

- None.

ADJOURNMENT

Noting no other business to come before Council, Mayor Kramer adjourned the regular meeting at 7:27 p.m.



Susan E. Heath, CMC, MiPMC
City Clerk