

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



October 10, 2022
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: Councilmember 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.

Council Action: Motion by Councilmember Johnson, seconded by Councilmember Hazelbaker, to excuse the absence of Councilmember Emily Rissman, as presented.

Ayes: 8

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

OTHERS PRESENT: Keith Baker, Megan Angell, Dean Walrack, Joe Scheid, Patrick Beeman, Josh Smith, Lisa Miller, Katie Higgs, Tom Eldridge, Susan Heath, Debra Sikorski-Bernath, Samantha Albright, Paul Jakubczak; Neal A. Rossow, Robert Stevenson, Matt Saxton, Jeff Budd, Bart Goldberg, Dan Corwin, Don Reid, and five others.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Bart Goldberg, Democratic Candidate for Congress 5th District, introduced himself to Council.

Council Action: Motion by Councilmember Hazelbaker, seconded by Councilmember Beckwith, to extend Mr. Goldberg's public comments 2 more minutes, as presented.

Ayes: 8

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

- Dan Corwin, 22 Lilly St., retracted an earlier objection to the rezoning of property at 95 S. Fremont St.; spoke in opposition to procedures utilized by Council and for minutes formatting.

CONSENT AGENDA (Item Numbers 1-8):

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 26, 2022.
 - Closed session minutes of September 26, 2022.
2. Downtown Development Authority Special Minutes of August 31, 2022.
3. Planning Commission Regular Minutes of September 6, 2022.
4. Board of Public Utilities' Regular Minutes of September 7, 2022.
5. Michigan South Central Power Agency Board Regular Minutes of August 4, 2022.
6. Board of Public Utilities' Reports and Financial Statements for August, 2022.
7. City of Coldwater monthly Financial Report for August, 2022.
8. Memo from Mayor Kramer regarding board reappointments/appointment.
 - Economic Development Corporation (EDC) – Jeffrey Budd – term expires October, 2028.
 - Historic District Commission (HDC) – Michael Caywood – term expires November, 2025.
 - Local Development Finance Authority (LDFA) – Jeffrey Budd and Budd Norman – terms expire October, 2026.

ACTION ON CONSENT AGENDA

Council Action: Motion by Councilmember Hazelbaker, seconded by Councilmember Petzko, to approve Consent Agenda Items 1-8, as presented.

Ayes: 8

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

PUBLIC HEARING

9. Memo from Debra Sikorski-Bernath, NSD Director/Assessor, regarding renewal of Downtown Central Business District City Parking Lot Maintenance and Improvement Program – Consider adoption of Second Resolution No. 22-87.

Mayor Kramer opened the Public Hearing at 5:44 p.m.

NSD Director/Assessor Debra Sikorski-Bernath presented information and answered questions.

Public Comments:

- None.

Mayor Kramer closed the Public Hearing at 5:50 p.m.

Council Action: Motion by Councilmember Machan, seconded by Councilmember Houtz, to adopt Second Resolution No. 22-87 (attached in Addendum A), as presented.

Ayes: 8

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

END OF PUBLIC HEARING

PUBLIC HEARING

10. Letter from Megan Angell, City Attorney, regarding proposed abandonment of the southern portion of Allen Avenue – Consider adoption of Resolution No. 22-47.

Mayor Kramer opened the Public Hearing at 5:51 p.m.

City Attorney Megan Angell presented information and answered questions.

Public Comments:

- None.

Mayor Kramer closed the Public Hearing at 5:52 p.m.

Councilmember Scott Houtz requested to be allowed to abstain from the vote on this matter due to a conflict of interest as he works for the requesting company.

Council Action: Motion by Councilmember Knaack, seconded by Councilmember Machan, to allow Councilmember Houtz to abstain from the vote on this matter, as presented.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Abstain: 1 Councilmember Scott Houtz

Motion carried.

Council Action: Motion by Councilmember Johnson, seconded by Councilmember Knaack, to adopt Resolution No. 22-47 (attached in Addendum B), as presented.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Abstain: 1 Councilmember Scott Houtz

Motion carried.

END OF PUBLIC HEARING

11. Bills and Accounts: \$254,733.43.

Council Action: Motion by Councilmember Knaack, seconded by Councilmember Johnson, to approve Bills and Accounts in the amount of \$254,733.43, as presented.

Ayes: 8

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

12. City Manager's Report.

- **Public Power & Utility Week!** – This is Public Power Week which we have renamed Public Utilities Week to include our Electric, Water, Sewer, Telecommunications and Municipal Services staff. Being a municipal electric community has many advantages and we want to recognize and thank our CBPU Water, Electric, Wastewater and Telecommunications staff as well as the Department of Municipal Services for all they do for and on behalf of the City's residents and utility customers.
- **Fire Prevention Month** – October is National Fire Prevention Month. The Coldwater Fire Department reminds everyone 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. We would like to recognize and thank the City's professional fire-fighting staff for all they do throughout the year.
- **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 8, 2022.
- **Fall reminders** – Bulk brush pickup is wrapping up for the season. 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 or 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 Avenue during normal business hours and on Saturday mornings.
- **City Projects:**
 - 4 Corners Park** – Work is wrapping up on the project. The natural gas line has been extended. The fire pit masonry is completed. Restoration is ongoing. All work should be completed by the end of the month.
 - Michigan/Sprague/Washington/Perkins** – Utility work is complete. Concrete curb, gutter and sidewalk are being installed on Washington Street. Final paving of Sprague, Perkins and Washington is scheduled to be completed by the end of the month.
 - Cemetery Roads** – The second round of paving of the Oak Grove Cemetery roads is scheduled to begin within the next two weeks. There will be areas that will be blocked

off or inaccessible while work is taking place. We apologize for the inconvenience but know that the improvements will be greatly appreciated.

- **Haunted Forest** – Mark your calendars for the city’s Haunted Forest (\$5/person) to be held Friday and Saturday, October 14 and 15, 2022 at Rotary Park. The less scary tour runs from 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. with the scary version beginning at 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

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

Ayes: 8

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

Council Action: Motion by Councilmember Petzko, seconded by Councilmember Knaack, to extend fall leaf pickup into November as time permits, as presented.

Ayes: 8

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

13. Memo from Joseph Scheid, Director of Public Safety, regarding accreditation approval and report - Presentation by Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police, Director of Professional Development, Chief Neal A. Rossow (Ret.) and Robert Stevenson, Retired Chief and Executive Director of the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police.

Council Action: None – Presentation only.

14. Letter from Dean Walrack, Planning and Zoning Administrator, regarding proposed conditional rezoning of property located at 95 S. Fremont Street – Consider introduction of Ordinance No. 854.

Council Action: Motion by Councilmember Petzko, seconded by Councilmember Machan, to introduce for first reading Ordinance No. 854, as presented.

Ayes: 8

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

15. Letter from Keith Baker, City Manager, regarding request for a Payment In Lieu of Tax ordinance approval for Coldwater Senior Villas apartments – Consider introduction of Ordinance No. 855.

Council Action: Motion by Councilmember Machan, seconded by Councilmember Beckwith, to introduce for first reading Ordinance No. 855, as presented.

Ayes: 8

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

16. Letter from Keith Baker, City Manager, regarding annual Opt Out of Public Act 152 requirements for 2023 – Consider adoption of Resolution No. 22-88.

Council Action: Motion by Councilmember Johnson, seconded by Councilmember Knaack, to adopt Resolution No. 22-88 (attached in Addendum C), as presented.

Ayes: 8

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

17. Letter from Keith Baker, City Manager, regarding proposed change order for additional sidewalk repair project – Consider adoption of Resolution No. 22-89.

Council Action: Motion by Councilmember Beckwith, seconded by Councilmember Petzko, to adopt Resolution No. 22-89 (attached in Addendum D), as presented.

Ayes: 8

Nays: 0

Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Dan Corwin, 22 Lilly St., expressed his opposition to the zoning change for 95 S.

Fremont, regarding the setback.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- None.

NEW BUSINESS

18. Councilmember Chad Johnson noted the lack of sidewalk on Western Ave. from the new Lakeland School south to US-12, and asked that it be considered for inclusion with future sidewalk work.

ADJOURNMENT

Noting no other business to come before Council, Mayor Kramer adjourned the regular meeting at 6:22 p.m.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "SEHeath".

Susan E. Heath, CMC, MiPMC
City Clerk