



City of White Cloud
12 N. Charles Street
White Cloud, Michigan 49349 & via Zoom

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
Minutes for August 13, 2024, at 6:00 P.M.

A. Meeting Called to Order

The Regular Meeting of the White Cloud City Council was held on the above date. Mayor Miller called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

1. Roll Call

Council Members Present: Damon Anuci, Herm Becker, Brian Miller, Lori Shears, Candice Dault, Amy Barnhard, Jeff Murchison

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: City Manager Storms, Clerk Arnold, Police Chief Evans

Guest sign-in: Marva Shears

Via Zoom: None

2. Approval of Agenda

Approval of the agenda for August 13, 2024, as presented.

Motion by Dault, **Seconded** by Anuci to approve the agenda as presented.

Vote: Ayes-All No-None Absent-None Abstained-None

Motion Carried

3. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance

Led by Murchison

B. Reserved Time

None

C. Public Comment

Marva Shears – Road work/repair near James/Webster

Received

D. Approval of Minutes

1. Approval of the Regular City Council meeting minutes from July 2, 2024.

Motion by Becker, **Seconded** by Shears to approve the regular meeting minutes of July 2, 2024.

Vote: Ayes-All No-None Absent-None Abstained-None

Motion Carried

E. Unfinished Business

None

F. New Business

1. Resolution 2024-38 Spark Grant Agreement

A resolution to accept the terms of the Council of Michigan Foundation (CMF) / Department of Natural Resources (DNR) SPARK Grant Agreement.

Motion by Dault **Seconded** by Anuci to adopt Resolution 2024-38.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes- Dault, Shears, Barnhard, Murchison Becker, Anuci, Miller

No-None **Absent-**None

Abstained-None

Motion Carried

2. Resolution 2024-39 to Transfer an Obsolete Property Rehabilitation Act (OPRA) Exemption Certificate

A resolution to transfer an OPRA exemption certificate number 3-21-0001 for property located at 1053 E. Wilcox Street from David & Camie Kipta to William L. Hamilton.

Motion by Shears **Seconded** by Dault to adopt Resolution 2024-39.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes-Dault, Shears, Becker, Anuci, Miller, Barnhard, Murchison

No-None **Absent-**None

Abstained-None

Motion Carried

3. Resolution 2024-40 Expenditures for July 2024

A resolution to approve expenditure of City funds in the amount of \$208,434.25 for the month of July.

Motion by Murchison **Seconded** by Dault to adopt Resolution 2024-40.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes-Murchison, Dault, Barnhard, Anuci, Becker, Shears, Miller

No-None **Absent-**None **Abstained-**None

Motion Carried

4. Resolution 2024-08A

A resolution to amend Resolution 2024-08 which establishes guidelines for granting poverty exemptions from property taxes pursuant to MCL 211.7u. The amendment includes the Asset Test, letter c, to include personal assets of any nature with a total value up to \$15,060.00.

Motion by Murchison **Seconded** by Dault to adopt Resolution 2024-40.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes-Murchison, Dault, Barnhard, Anuci, Becker, Shears, Miller

No-None **Absent-**None **Abstained-**None

Motion Carried

5. Application for vacant seat on Tax Board of Review

Virginia Clark filed an application to fill the vacancy on the Tax Board of Review. Mayor Miller recommended the Council appoint Virginia to fill the vacancy for a two year term.

Motion by Dault **Seconded** by Becker to appoint Virginia Clark to the Tax Board of Review.

Vote: Ayes-All **No-**None **Absent-**None **Abstained-**None

Motion Carried

6. Resignation from Cemetery Committee

Curt Crandell submitted his formal resignation as of July 26, 2024 from the WC Cemetery Committee due to selling the Funeral Home and looking toward retirement.

Motion by Shears **Seconded** by Barnhard to accept Curt Crandell's resignation from the Cemetery Committee.

Vote: Ayes-All **No-**None **Absent-**None **Abstained-**None

Motion Carried

7. Tax reverted lands

Newaygo County Treasurer's Office sent a list of city properties which have reverted to the County for non-payment of 2021 property taxes. There are three (3) units that require board action whether to acquire the parcels or let go to public auction on Thursday, September 12, 2024. The parcels are:

11-32-300-028 with 2023 SEV at \$33,500.00, cost to purchase \$67,000.00

15-05-277-009 with 2023 SEV at \$4,300.00, cost to purchase \$1,100.00

15-05-277-015 with 2023 SEV at \$4,300.00, cost to purchase \$1,100.00

The City Manager recommendation to Council is to purchase Parcel # 15-05-277-009 (S. Lakeview Drive) and Parcel # 15-05-277-015 (South Lakeview Drive). Both are conforming buildable lots.

Motion by Becker **Seconded** by Dault to move forward with acquiring lots 15-05-277-015 and 15-05-277-009.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes-Becker, Dault, Barnhard, Anuci, Murchison, Shears, Miller

No-None **Absent**-None **Abstained**-None

Motion Carried

8. State Appropriations & Federal Direct Spending Requests

Appropriations/Direct Spending Requests from Federal and State level were announced for the proposed approval of the 2025-2026 budget year. The deadline to apply for 2026 funding is February-March 2025. For FY 2026, City Manager Storms would like to request federal direct spending for needed sewer infrastructure repairs within the city that are approximately \$2-3 million dollars; on a state appropriations local level she would like to move forward with a request for Downtown Streetscape re-design/rebuild to improve the streetscape and promote economic development. This is information only at this point.

Received

9. Resolution 2024-41 FAFÇ Façade Grant Application

A resolution to approve submitting an application to Fremont Area Community Foundation (FACF) for \$40,000 funding to support \$80,000 of economic development promoting small business development for 4-8 projects with grant match of \$5,000-\$10,000 each.

Motion by Dault **Seconded** by Shears to adopt Resolution 2024-41.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes-Dault, Shears, Murchison, Anuci, Becker, Barnhard, Miller

No-None **Absent**-None **Abstained**-None

Motion Carried

10. Resolution 2024-42 FAFÇ Grant Application Space Needs Study

A resolution to approve applying to the Fremont Area Community Foundation (FACF) for \$14,500 in funding to support a space needs study for the purpose of a state or federal appropriation request for FY 2026.

Motion by Dault **Seconded** by Anuci to adopt Resolution 2024-42.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes-Murchison, Dault, Barnhard, Anuci, Becker, Shears, Miller

No-None **Absent**-None **Abstained**-None

Motion Carried

11. Personnel Committee Recommendation

In an effort to retain Officer Rasch as the School Resource Officer (SRO) at White Cloud Public Schools (WCPS), The City Manager is requesting authorization from Council to negotiate and sign a contract with WCPS for the SRO position with the following terms:

- A 3-year contract between the City, Officer Rasch and WCPS for school years 2024/2025, 2025/2026, and 2026/2027 indicating an at-will employment with at least an advance notice of 6 months for resignation.
- WCPS to pay an annual cost of \$53,880.40 (4 quarterly payments at \$13,470.10), this equates to a \$2 per hour increase for Officer Rasch, from \$25.49 to \$27.49.
- WCPS agrees to build 3% annual cost increase into the contract
- Classification of SRO position as a “specialized position”
- WCPS will allow 160 hours of comp time to be earned throughout the school year (this will be earned by working approximately 107 extra hours during the school year at 1.5 x)
- WCPS will allow 4 weeks off in the month of July in exchange for the comp hours earned during the school year

- The City will continue to pay retirement and health insurance for Officer Rasch and 50% of the cost of coverage for his family
 - The City agrees to pay for a take home vehicle and fuel to/from work
 - The City budget will decrease to five (5) weeks of road patrol for this position
- Under this new contract, the city will have cost savings of \$6,637.40.*

Motion by Becker **Seconded** by Murchison to approve and accept the Personnel Committee recommendation for the SRO position.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes-Becker, Murchison, Shears, Barnhard, Dault, Anuci, Miller

No-None **Absent**-None **Abstained**-None

Motion Carried

G. Correspondence

1. Police Department report
2. DPW report
3. City Manager report/Treasurer report/CM Memo
6. River Country Chamber of Commerce verbal update
7. WCSUA Board Packet
8. Miscellaneous

Received

H. Public Comment

None

I. Council Member Comments


None

Received

J. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned by Mayor Miller at 7:04 p.m.


Brian J. Miller, Mayor


Kelli Arnold, Clerk

Approved on 9.03.2024