

Village of Howard City
Council Meeting Minutes
November 21, 2022

President Heckman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Present: VanWagner, Smith, Hagstrom, Williams, MacTavish, Heckman and Bassett. Absent: None.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

Oaths of Office were taken by Trustees MacTavish, VanWagner, and Williams, and President Heckman.

Motion by Smith seconded by Williams to approve the agenda as presented. Motion CARRIED (7-0)

Deputy Lycer introduced himself and stated the Sheriff Department dealt with typical calls through October. Motion by Smith seconded by MacTavish to accept the consent agenda as presented. Motion CARRIED (7-0)

Public Comment: None.

Motion by Smith seconded by Bassett to open the DNR Grant Public Hearing at 7:04 pm. Motion CARRIED (7-0)

Public Comment: Mr. Falcon stated we are asking the DNR for a \$300,000 grant for a splash pad with the Village's match to be approximately \$157,000. Trustee Bassett inquired if the volleyball courts would be relocated. Mr. Falcon answered if volleyball becomes a need in the park, we will find some place to put them. Due to being by the lift station and close to electric and drainage, that is the prime spot to put the splash pad. The system will be a Vortex system with a button to push to activate so it will not be on all the time and will be running on a timer. If no one is using the splash pad, there will be no water usage as it is not on constantly. There will be benches and a fence around the area and signs will be posted as to the capacity of the splash pad area. Once the camera system is up and running, a new camera will be installed to monitor the splash pad.

Motion by MacTavish seconded by Williams to close the public hearing at 7:19 pm. Motion CARRIED (7-0)

Motion by Williams seconded by MacTavish to approve the 2022-7 Splash Pad Project Resolution. Roll call vote: Bassett, aye; Hagstrom, aye; MacTavish, aye; Smith, aye; VanWagner, aye; Williams, aye; Heckman, aye. Motion CARRIED (7-0)

President Heckman presented the 2022-2023 Organizational Chart to Council.

Motion by Smith seconded by Hagstrom to approve the 2022-5 American Rescue Plan Act Resolution. Motion CARRIED (7-0)

Motion by VanWagner seconded by Williams to approve the 2022-6 Timothy Hauenstein Reynolds Township Library Resolution. Motion CARRIED (7-0)

Mr. Falcon informed Council that the Village is applying for a DNR Spark Grant in order to refurbish and expand the Depot building and staging area parking lot. This is a non-matching grant. The building will be refurbished and renovated including HVAC, electric, etc.; updates will include lighting, cameras, bike racks, ADA accessible drinking fountain, and bathrooms.

Motion by Hagstrom seconded by Smith to approve the 2022-8 DNR Spark Grant Resolution. Motion CARRIED (7-0)

Motion by Williams seconded by MacTavish to pay bills with the additions presented by the Treasurer of \$635.20 for a total of \$182,461.30. Motion CARRIED (7-0)

Mr. Falcon presented Council with a proposal to advertise in the Michigan Trail magazine. Council would like to split the cost of advertising with the DDA with the possibility of purchasing two different ads. The discussion was tabled until the December 19 meeting after further research is done as to exactly how the advertising works and after Mr. Falcon has a discussion with the DDA Chair to seek approval of the expenditure.

Mr. Falcon presented Council the proposed 2023-2025 Sheriff contract from Sheriff Williams. Council would like to invite Sheriff Williams to the December 19 Council meeting to answer questions regarding the proposed contract.

Mr. Falcon stated that Halloween was a huge success this year and thanked the Park and Recreation Committee for all their hard work putting the event together.

Mr. Falcon stated that the Buck Pole event was a success as well. Mr. Falcon thanked Ronna Wabanimkee and Mattson's Hardware and the Parks and Recreation Committee for all their planning and hard work.

Mr. Falcon reminded everyone that the Annual Tree Lighting is coming up on December 3 from 5-6pm and hopes to have a big turnout for the event.

Public Comment: Dave Saucier thanked the Village Council for trying to take steps necessary to improve the Village with the Depot area.

Trustee Williams wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

President Heckman thanked everyone in Howard City who voted for him to re-elect him as President. He thanked his family and friends who stood by him and supported him through the campaign as this position is very important to him. He continued, "to the people of Howard City, I will work hard to dedicate my time and energy to make this Village a better place to live and work."

Motion by Williams seconded by MacTavish to adjourn the meeting at 7:54 pm. Motion CARRIED (7-0)

Melissa Kuzmik, Clerk

Randy Heckman, President