

Village of Howard City
Council Meeting Minutes
August 17, 2020

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

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

Motion by Smith seconded by Bassett to accept the consent agenda as presented. Motion CARRIED (7-0)

Public Comment: Floyd Lindsey, representing 485 Muenscher, inquired if Council had received information he sent in an email.

Doug Vredeveld of Vredeveld Haefner CPAs and Consultants, gave the 2019-2020 audit presentation to the Council. He explained both the regular audit and the single audit that was required due to Federal funds received from CDBG for the sewer project.

Motion by Smith seconded by Williams to uphold the Planning Commission's recommendation to deny the special land use permit at parcel #59-047-285-001-00, 485 Muenscher. Roll call vote: Bassett, aye; Hagstrom, aye; MacTavish, nay; Smith, aye; VanWagner, aye; Williams, aye; Heckman, aye. Motion CARRIED (6-1)

Motion by Williams seconded by Smith to begin process of re-zoning parcel #59-047-252-002-00, 568 Shaw, from residential to commercial in accordance with the Village Master Plan. Roll call vote: Bassett, aye; Hagstrom, aye; MacTavish, nay; Smith, aye; VanWagner, nay; Williams, aye; Heckman, aye. Motion CARRIED (5-2)

Council would like to discuss their options at next month's Council meeting regarding the technology they would like to use as a Council for receiving packets and email for the Village.

Motion by MacTavish seconded by Hagstrom to pay bills with the additions presented by the Treasurer of \$1,968.78 for a total of \$184,834.82. Motion CARRIED (7-0)

Motion by Hagstrom seconded by Smith to approve Ordinance 2020-2 Village Council to act as Zoning Board of Appeals. Motion CARRIED (7-0)

Motion by Smith seconded by VanWagner to approve the two pieces of fire equipment purchase from T&T for a total of \$19,745.00. Motion CARRIED (7-0)

Motion by Williams seconded by Hagstrom to approve paying half the cost of Main Street Planning to start the new joint Master Plan with Reynolds Township. Motion CARRIED (7-0)

Mr. Falcon informed Council that he went to inspect the property at 335 Ensley and was turned away by the property owner.

Mr. Falcon stated he was contacted by a resident to put "Not a Truck Route" signs on Orton. Council denied the signs.

Mr. Falcon asked about contacting Granger Trash Services to renegotiate the current contract; and Council agreed to allow him to reach out to Granger.

Council approved closing Edgerton Street from White Street to the alley every Thursday from now until end of October from approximately 4:30 pm – 8 pm so the downtown businesses can generate additional business by hosting outside events.

Motion by Hagstrom seconded by MacTavish to move the December Council meeting from the 21st to the 14th.
Motion CARRIED (7-0)

President Heckman asked that a Village approval letter allowing the volunteer fire department to bill for fire runs be written and signed by the Village Manager. Council approved that a letter be written.

Floyd Lindsey of Newaygo and owner of 485 Muenschler, asked about appealing Council's decision to deny the special land use permit. A meeting will be set up with Mr. Lindsey, President Heckman, and Mr. Falcon to discuss options. Mr. Lindsey also inquired about the Charter contract with the Village.

Ron Baker stated he remembered a plan that was developed many years ago regarding the zoning on Shaw Street with definite footage requirements.

Mike Smith, 335 Ensley, stated anyone from Council is welcome to inspect the same spots of his property that Mr. Falcon was allowed to see and stated he did not refuse access to Mr. Falcon.

Motion by Williams seconded by MacTavish to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 pm. Motion CARRIED (7-0)

Melissa Kuzmik, Clerk

Randy Heckman, President