

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

**Special Meeting Minutes for
June 13, 2016**

A. Meeting Called to Order

The Special Meeting of the White Cloud City Council was held on the above date at the White Cloud City Offices. Mayor Donald Barnhard called the meeting to order at 3:00 P.M.

1. Roll Call

Council Members Present: Mayor Donald Barnhard and Pro-Tem Charles Chandler
Councilmembers: Herm Becker, Richard Dault, Matt Priest, Cassie Stewart, and Jeffrey Murchison

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: City Manager Lora Kalkofen and Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Hilary Davis

Public in Attendance: Candice Dault, Erik Lathers and Richard Houtteman (Consumers Energy)

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Becker, **Seconded** by Chandler to approve the June 13, 2016 agenda as presented.

Vote: Ayes- All Nays- None Motion Carried

3. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Pastor Jeffery Murchison gave the invocation and Mayor Barnhard led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Public Comment: - None

C. New Business

1. Streetlights

a. Erik Lathers, Business Account Manager – Consumers Energy

City Manager/Clerk Kalkofen updated Council on the many years that she has worked with Consumers Energy to see if there were any options that the City had in order to make it feasible for the City to turn the street lights back on. 9 representatives from Consumers Energy had stated that there were no other options available that would fit into the City's budget. The last representative Lora spoke with was Erik Lathers. After some research on Erik's part it was determined that Consumers Energy had been over charging the City for the last 6 years.

Erik Lathers, along with Richard Houtteman, from Consumers Energy were there at the meeting to answer any questions that Council had. A 60% discount that was supposed to be applied to our account was not applied over these years. They stated that Consumers Energy is giving a refund to the City of the 6 years of over-charging. This refund is going to be in the amount of approximately \$53,500. This is a full refund of the 60% of the last 6 years with an additional 7% interest. Consumers Energy is also giving the City a discount on converting 33 of the City's streetlights to LED in order to save energy costs. Erik Lathers asked if the City would like the refund applied as a credit to the account or a check for the amount. It was agreed that the check option would be the best decision for tracking of the refund and the other upgrades the City is doing with Consumers Energy.

DDA has been covering the cost of some of the street lights since the turning off of the streetlights. When this agreement was made the DDA agreed to cover these costs until the City was able to cover the costs of having the street lights turned back on and then all the costs would come back to the City.

Kalkofen recommended to Council to convert 33 of the City's street lights from mercury vapor to LED, to make arrangements for the street lights to be turned back on, and to transfer from contingency fund to the street light fund up to \$8,000.

Motion by Becker, **Seconded** by Chandler to approve converting 33 of the City's street lights from mercury vapor to LED, to make arrangements for the street lights to be turned back on, and to transfer from contingency fund to the street light fund up to \$8,000.

Roll Call Vote: **Ayes:** Chandler, Becker, Stewart, Dault, Murchison, Priest, and Barnhard
Nays: None
Absent: None
Abstained None

Motion Carried

D. Public Comment: - Received


E. Council Member Comments – Received

F. Adjournment

Motion by Becker, **Seconded** by Priest to adjourn the meeting at 3:58 P.M.

Vote: **Ayes-** All **Nays-** None **Motion Carried**


Don Barnhard, Mayor


Hilary Davis Deputy Clerk/Treasurer
Approved on June 18, 2016