

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

**Regular Meeting Minutes for
December 19, 2016**

A. Meeting Called to Order

The Regular 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 6:00 P.M.

1. Roll Call

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

Members Absent: Richard Dault and Matt Priest

Staff Present: City Manager/Clerk Lora Kalkofen, Police Chief Robert Mendham, Sergeant Dan Evans and Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Hilary Davis, Officer Harold Lemire, and Officer Clinton Hicks

Public in Attendance: Orrie and Pat Ebenstein, Judy Mendham and Chuck Trapp

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Becker, **Seconded** by Murchison to approve the December 19, 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. Chief Bob Mendham Presentation

Sergeant Dan Evans for the White Cloud Police Department and the City of White Cloud presented Chief Robert Mendham a plaque for his dedication and service as the Chief of Police for the City of White Cloud. The City wished Chief Mendham well in his future endeavors as the Newaygo County Sheriff.

C. Public Comment: - None

D. FY 2015/16 Audit Presentation

Matt Holland from Gabridge and Company presented to the City Council the final findings of the City of White Cloud's Financial Audit for the 2015/16 Fiscal Year.

E. Approval of Minutes

1. Approval of the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of December 5, 2016

Minutes of the City of White Cloud City Council meeting held on December 5, 2016 were presented to Council for consideration.

Motion by Chandler **Seconded** by Becker to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes for the White Cloud City Council meeting held on December 5, 2016 as presented.

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

F. Authorization to Pay Bills & Payroll Wages

A listing of invoices and payroll was presented to Council for discussion and consideration.

Motion by Murchison, **Seconded** by Becker to approve the payment of invoices and payroll wages totaling \$38,428.57.

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

Motion Carried

G. Department Reports - None Presented

H. City Manager Report

The City Manager/Clerk Lora Kalkofen discussed the following items with Council:

- **2016 General Election Recount** – On December 8, 2016 Michigan Secretary of State, Ruth Johnson announced that the Federal District Judge, Mark Goldsmith, lifted his order mandating the statewide recount. It is very unlikely that the recounts will proceed, but there is still an appeal in the State Supreme Court of Appeals to reject the recount petition.
- **Board of Review** – The December 2016 Board of Review met on December 13 and addressed 14 petitions. This is the final opportunity to make changes or corrections to the 2016 tax year.
- **Participating Plan Audit** – Dustin Drabek, from Michigan Participating Plan, met with the DPW Department, Police Department and Kalkofen to conduct the City’s bi-annual Risk Assessment Audit. The purpose of this audit is to look at the City’s policies, plans and procedures that protect the City from insurance claims. The audit is still in process, but it looks like the City will only have a few suggestions this year.

Motion by Murchison, **Seconded** by Chandler to approve the Manager’s Report as presented.

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

I. Unfinished Business

1. City Projects
 - a. City Owned Property, Solid Waste Recycling and Road Repairs – No action
2. Project Funding
 - a. City Income Tax, Millage Proposal, Special Assessment - No action.

J. New Business

1. White Cloud Airport Consultants

At the recommendation of MDOT Aeronautics to do a new consultant search prior to 2017 construction projects, the Airport Committee met on December 12, 2016 to review applications and choose a new Airport Consultant for the White Cloud Airport. After reviewing the two applications that were submitted, Prein & Newhoff and Mead & Hunt, the Airport Committee decided that Mead & Hunt was the better fit.

Motion by Chandler, **Seconded** by Becker to confirm the appointment of Mead & Hunt as the White Cloud Airport Consultant.

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

2. Resolution 2016-21 Setting Meeting Dates for Council

Council was presented with a meeting date schedule for consideration and approval.

Motion by Becker, **Seconded** by Murchison to approve Resolution 2016-21 setting 2017 meeting dates and times for City Council as presented.

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

3. Resolution 2016-22 Poverty Exemption for 2017

A resolution establishing the guidelines for granting of poverty exemptions from property taxes and establishing a beginning date for Board of Review was present to Council for consideration and approval.

Motion by Becker, **Seconded** by Murchison to approve Resolution 2016-22 Poverty Exemption for 2017 as presented.

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

4. Resolution 2016-23 White River Emergency Evacuation Plan for Dam

Abby Watkins, from Newaygo County Emergency Services, worked with Kalkofen to update this plan. This plan covers what to do and who to contact in case of emergencies involving the dam.

Motion by Murchison, **Seconded** by Stewart to approve Resolution 2016-23 White River Emergency Evacuation Plan for Dam as presented.

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

5. Resolution 2016-24 State Highway Right of Way

The City of White Cloud has to file an annual Right of Way permit with the State so that the City can do work on the State Right of Ways.

Motion by Becker, **Seconded** by Murchison to approve Resolution 2016-24 State Highway Right of Way as presented.

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

6. DPW Truck Purchase

The DPW Supervisor found a used 1997 Dodge pickup with low miles and a plow. This truck will be used as a supplement to the City’s current snow removal equipment. The truck will also save wear and tear on the City’s backhoe by carry road patch material. The City has purchased this truck.

7. Joint Fire Board Ordinance

Kalkofen presented Council with the semi-final draft of the Joint Fire Board Ordinance. She asked that Council look over the document and give her any feedback that they might have. The Committee will meet one more time to finalize the document and will then be brought to the entities involved for approval.

8. MERS Service Credit Purchase

Kalkofen presented a letter from MERS about Service Credit Purchase. Council decided not to limit employees’ ability to purchase service credits through the MERS retirement system.

9. North Central Cooperative Release of Right of Way

When North Central Cooperative purchased the property in the Industrial Park it was discussed that the City would need to grant them an “above ground access easement” to be able to connect to the railway system. Kalkofen requested from Council to exercise a “Release of Right of Way” with North Central Cooperative and grant the City Manager to execute the document.

Motion by Becker, **Seconded** by Chandler to allow the City Manager to exercise a “Release of Right of Way” with North Central Cooperative and to execute the document.

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

10. Approval of the FY 2015-16 Audit

Motion by Murchison, **Seconded** by Becker to approve the City of White Cloud’s Financial Audit for FY 2015/16

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

K. Public Comment: - None

L. Council Member Comments – Received

M. Committee, Board and Authority Minutes - None

N. Correspondence

1. Michigan County Unemployment Ranking (October)

O. Adjournment

Motion by Murchison, **Seconded** by Becker to adjourn the meeting at 7:04 P.M.

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



Don Barnhard, Mayor



Hilary Davis Deputy Clerk/Treasurer
Approved on January 9, 2017