



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

**CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
Minutes for February 6, 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, Amy Barnhard, Herm Becker, Candice Dault, Jeff Murchison, Lori Shears, Brian Miller

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: City Manager Storms, CEDAM Fellow Stafford

Guest sign-in: Rich Dault, Suzy Kozlowski, Gerald Kozlowski, Marva Shears

Via Zoom: None

2. Approval of Agenda

Approval of the agenda for February 6, 2024, as presented.

Motion by Dault, **Seconded** by Becker 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. Public Hearing

Motion by Becker, **Seconded** by Dault to open the Public Hearing

Roll Call: Becker, Dault, Shears, Barnhard, Murchison, Anuci, Miller

Public Hearing to consider Code of Ordinance No. 2024-01; An ordinance to amend the City of White Cloud Code of Ordinances, Chapter 117 Marihuana Licensing Board,

Amendment of Section 117.05, Title XI, Chapter 117, entitled “Board Composition and Eligibility.”

- Paragraph 1 is amended and reads in its entirety as follows: The Board shall be comprised of three (3) members and an alternate, each of whom shall be appointed by the mayor and confirmed by the City Council.
- The Board shall elect from among its members a Chair and any other officer deemed necessary. The term of office for such officer(s) shall be one year.
[The remainder of Section 117.05 is unchanged]

Amendment of Section 117.07, Title XI, Chapter 117, entitled “Powers, Duties and Procedures” amended as follows:

- Paragraph 1 is amended and reads in its entirety as follows: The Board shall meet as needed.
- Paragraph 3 (c) is rescinded
- Paragraph 4 (b) is rescinded

- [The remainder of Section 117.07 is unchanged]

No comments received.

Motion by Shears, **Seconded** by Dault to Close the Public Hearing.
Roll Call: Becker, Dault, Shears, Barnhard, Murchison, Anuci, Miller

C. Public Comment

None

D. Approval of Minutes

1. Approval of the Regular Council meeting Minutes from January 9, 2024.

Motion by Dault, **Seconded** by Shears to approve the regular meeting minutes of January 9, 2024.

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

E. Reserved Time

Gerald Kozlowski: Litter, A Pervasive Problem, And the Need to Address It.

- a) Council members were all given a packet made by Gerald that he read through addressing his opinion and sharing awareness of the widespread litter problem.

F. Unfinished Business

None

G. New Business

1. Ordinance 2024-01 Amend Code of Ordinances, Chapter 117

An ordinance to amend the Marihuana Licensing Board Ordinance from a 7 member to a 3 member, to change the board makeup to elect a Chair and to change the board from meeting quarterly to meeting as needed.

Motion by Dault, **Seconded** by Anuci to adopt Ordinance 2024-01.

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

No-None Absent-None Abstained-None **Motion Carried**

2. Fire Department budget for White Cloud City Council appropriation

White Cloud Area Fire Department, Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Proposed budget was presented to City Council to receive.

Motion by Dault, **Seconded** by Shears to receive the White Cloud Area Fire Department Proposed 2024/2025 Budget appropriations as presented.

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

No-None Absent-None Abstained-None **Motion Carried**

3. Social Media Policy amendment

An amendment to the City of White Cloud social media policy to add “The City of White Cloud as a public body may simply turn off comment features on its social media pages. The social media pages of public bodies, or likely more accurately – the interactive features of those pages (the comment threads) are not traditional public forms and, therefore, the public body in control of the forum may simply close it at any time”.

Motion by Shears, **Seconded** by Anuci to approve the addition to the Social Media Policy.

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

4. Resolution 2024-07 January 2024 expenditures

A resolution to approve the January 2024 expenditures in the amount of \$150,852.78.

Motion by Dault, **Seconded** by Anuci to adopt Resolution 2024-07, January expenses.

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

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

Motion Carried

5. Resolution 2024-08 Poverty Exemption Guidelines

A resolution establishing guidelines for granting poverty exemptions from property taxes pursuant to MCL 211.7u and establishing beginning date for the Board of Review.

Motion by Dault , **Seconded** by Shears to adopt Resolution 2024-08.

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

Motion Carried

6. Resolution 2024-09 MI PAR Plan Risk Reduction Grant

A resolution to approve applying to Michigan Township Participating Plan Risk Reduction Grant for security cameras for the DPW building.

Motion by Dault , **Seconded** by Becker to adopt Resolution 2024-09.

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

Motion Carried

7. Resolution 2024-10 Consumers Energy Grant Application

A resolution to approve submitting an application to Consumers Energy Foundation Grant Program for the “Put Your Town on the Map” Grant.

Motion by Dault , **Seconded** by Anuci to adopt Resolution 2024-10.

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

Motion Carried

8. Resolution 2024-11 FACF Spring Grant

A resolution to approve submitting a grant application to Fremont Area Community Foundation (FACF), Spring Round, Community and Economic Development for wayfinding signs.

Motion by Shears, **Seconded** by Dault to adopt Resolution 2024-11.

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

Motion Carried

9. Planning Commission Resignation

January 24, 2024, Christine Tiernan resigned from the planning commission for health reasons. Her term ends 12/31/2026; this leaves a vacant seat that will need to be filled.

Motion by Dault , **Seconded** by Anuci to approve Christine Tiernan’s resignation from Planning Commission.

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

Motion Carried

10. Newaygo County Equalization Contract

The City currently holds a contract with the NC Equalization Department for equalization services. The contracts are renewed every five years and 2024 marks the beginning of a new five-year cycle. The EQ Department maintains names, addresses, conducts land divisions and combinations, creates new legal descriptions, maintains tax map layers, prints various assessing reports, prepares tax databases, and prints tax bills.

Motion by Dault, **Seconded** by Anuci to approve Newaygo County Equalization contract.

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

Motion Carried

Due to this being a contract and money requiring a roll call vote, Dault **rescinds** her **motion**, **supported** by Anuci.

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

Motion Carried

Motion by Dault, **Seconded** by Anuci to approve the 5-year contract with Newaygo County Equalization.

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

No-None Absent-None Abstained-None

Motion Carried

11. WC Dam Rehab Bids

The City Council was presented with the bids received for the WC Dam Rehabilitation project. Tridonn Construction Company out of Muskegon was the low bidder with a bid of \$74,800.00. Holland Engineering did a phone interview with Tridonn regarding their bid and looked at some of the projects they have completed and found that Tridonn Construction appears to be qualified to complete the project for the price submitted.

Motion by Dault, **Seconded** by Becker to accept the Tridonn Construction bid.

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

No-None Absent-None Abstained-None

Motion Carried

12. CEDAM Placemaking Project Landscape Contractor selection

CEDAM Fellow Stafford's recommendation for the landscape contractor to be used for the Placemaking project is Barton's Cutting Edge LLC. There were four bids. The project plan is to install a mural, pavers, planters, and benches next to Bill Hamilton's building at the corner of Wilcox and Benson. The project has received \$10,000.00 from MEDC and will need to be completed by the end of July 2024. If Bartons is unable to schedule the project, the second recommendation would be to work with New Horizons Landscaping from Big Rapids.

Motion by Dault, **Seconded** by Shears to accept Barton's Cutting Edge bid for the CEDAM project.

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

No-None Absent-None Abstained-None

Motion Carried

H. Closed Session

Closed Session pursuant to MCL 15.268(1)(a) to consider a periodic personnel evaluation of a public officer, employee, staff member, or individual agent, if the named person requests a closed hearing. A person requesting a closed hearing may rescind the request at any time, in which case the matter at issue shall be considered after the rescission only in open session.

1. Motion & Vote to enter closed session

Motion by Murchison, **Seconded** by Becker to enter closed session.

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

I. Action Item

1. City Manager Compensation

Recommendation from City Council to maintain April Storms as City Manager and the recommendation for compensation beginning at the contract year of July 1st, 2024, for a 3.5% increase in wage.

Motion by Becker, **Seconded** by Shears to accept the recommendation of a 3.5% increase in compensation and retain Storms as City Manager effective July 1st.

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

No-None Absent-None Abstained-None

Motion Carried

J. Correspondence

1. Police Department report
2. DPW report

- 3. CEDAM Fellow report
- 4. Zoning report
- 5. City Manager report/Treasurer report
- 6. River Country Chamber of Commerce update
 - Working on a summer event at the Airport the Saturday before the Father's Day Fly-In.
- 7. White Cloud Sherman Utility Authority January packet
 - A budget meeting has been scheduled

Received

K. Public Comment

None

L. Council Member Comments

Becker, Miller

Received

M. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned by Mayor Miller at 8:14 p.m.


Motion by Becker, **Seconded** by Dault to adjourn.

Vote: Ayes-All No-None Absent-None

Motion Carried



Brian J. Miller, Mayor



Kelli Arnold, Clerk

Approved on 3/5/24