

City of Carson City
Council Meeting Minutes
January 16, 2024
652 Williams Street
Carson City, Michigan 48811

PRE-APPROVED

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm

Meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present at roll call: McCrackin, Keiffer, Hauck, Gage, Miller, Parmenter and Kapustka.
Members Absent: None

Others in attendance: Pam Hagerman, Mark Crawfis, Nate Plath, Chris Johnston, John Bradley, Tom Haradine, Joni Jegla, and Nan Hagerman.

Moved by Parmenter, supported by Gage to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Public Comments: None given

Department reports:

Mark reported that he had a breakdown going to assist a fire in Hubbardston. Water pump, serpentine belt.

Been busy again with Academy, and December parades.

Nate, snow has been keeping the guys busy, they also had some equipment failures over the weekend with all the snow. The new lift station is coming along good, been decided that a trial start will be put off till the generator is in place and up and running. April is the target date. The new system is ready to run a test, just not comfortable with not having the generator in place.

Parmenter asked if there is anything we could do to help elderly when the city plows the snow at the end of their driveways. Nate stated that he has always done that but recently has not been able to do this. P. Hagerman stated that it is a liability. Parmenter asked what if they paid for this service? Kapustka replied they will look into what possibilities we can come up with.

P. Hagerman reported that DTE just reached out to them about the noise study they performed. Now they would like to meet with the city to go over their findings from the reports. P. Hagerman reached out to Bonnie Walthorn, and Virginia Bohlen letting them know about them wanting to meet again, and will keep them posted on a date and time.

She has applied for a 1% coronavirus kick back that is based on our state revenue sharing. This is something new the state has put out there. The deadline to apply is March 31, 2024 won't know if awarded till after that time.

Martin Electric was here checking on the generator on December 20, 2023 and that he had noticed it had been down since October 28th. P. Hagerman has asked him to get her a quote for a monitoring system, that will notify them if it does go down.

Moved by Parmenter, supported by Miller to approve December 19, 2023 Minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by Keiffer, supported by Gage, to approve December bills as presented. Motion carried.

Resolution #1-2024

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT TAXPAYERS & NON-RESIDENT TAXPAYERS TO PROTEST IN WRITING BY LETTER OR EMAIL FOR BOARD OF REVIEW.

MOTION BY: McCrackin SUPPORTED BY: Parmenter TO ADOPT THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION:

TO ADOPT THE GOVERNING BODY OF CARSON CITY TO PERMIT RESIDENT TAXPAYERS & NON-RESIDENT TAXPAYERS TO FILE A PROTEST TO THE BOARD OF REVIEW IN WRITING BY LETTER OR EMAIL WITHOUT PERSONAL APPEARANCE.

THE VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE RESOLUTION BEING AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: 6

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 0

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

DATED: January 16, 2024

CERTIFICATION

AS THE CITY COMPTROLLER FOR, CARSON CITY MONTCALM COUNTY, MICHIGAN I CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A TRUE AND COMPLETE COPY OF RESOLUTION # 1-2024 ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF CARSON CITY AT ITS REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF JANUARY 16, 2024.

s// Nan Hagerman, COMPTROLLER

RESOLUTION #2-2024

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT ALTERNATE START DATES FOR MARCH 2024, JULY 2024 AND DECEMBER 2024 BOARD OF REVIEW

MOTION BY: Miller SUPPORTED BY: Gage TO ADOPT THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION:

TO ADOPT THE ALTERNATE, START DATES AS FOLLOWS:

FOR THE MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW, SECOND MEETING IN MARCH WHICH CAN BE EITHER TUESDAY OR THE WEDNESDAY FOLLOWING THE SECOND MONDAY IN MARCH

FOR THE JULY BOARD OF REVIEW, AN ALTERNATE DATE DURING THE WEEK OF THE 3RD MONDAY IN JULY

FOR THE DECEMBER BOARD OF REVIEW, AN ALTERNATE DATE DURING THE WEEK OF THE 2ND MONDAY IN DECEMBER

THE VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE RESOLUTION BEING AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: 6

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 0

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

DATED: January 16, 2024

CERTIFICATION

AS THE CITY COMPTROLLER FOR CARSON CITY, MONTCALM COUNTY, MICHIGAN I CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A TRUE AND COMPLETE COPY OF RESOLUTION #2 -2024 ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF CARSON CITY AT ITS REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF JANUARY 16, 2024.

ss// Nan Hagerman, Comptroller

RESOLUTION #3-2024

CARSON CITY HOUSEHOLD INCOME STANDARDS TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR A POVERTY EXEMPTION

MOTION BY: Keiffer SUPPORTED BY: Parmenter TO ADOPT THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION:

(PA 390 OF 1994 STATES THAT THE POVERTY EXEMPTION GUIDELINES ESTABLISHED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE LOCAL ASSESSING UNIT SHALL INCLUDE AN ASSET LEVEL TEST)

CARSON CITY HAS ADOPTED THE FOLLOWING STANDARDS FOR THE **2024** YEAR, FOR A HOUSEHOLD TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR A POVERTY EXEMPTION. BELOW IS THE CHART FOR SIZE OF FAMILY.

SIZE OF FAMILY	POVERTY GUIDELINES
1.	\$14,580
2.	\$19,720
3.	\$24,860
4.	\$30,000
5.	\$35,140
6.	\$40,280
7.	\$45,420
8.	\$50,560
FOR EACH ADDITIONAL	\$5,140

THE ASSET THRESHOLD FOR CARSON CITY IS \$25,000 FOR ONE PERSON LIVING IN THE HOUSEHOLD AND \$35,000 FOR TWO OR MORE PEOPLE LIVING IN THE HOUSEHOLD.

EXAMPLES OF ASSETS ARE (THIS IS NOT AN EXHAUSTIVE LIST):

- A SECOND HOME, LAND, VEHICLES (LARGER THAN THE "FOOTPRINT" FOR THE HOME)
- RECREATIONAL VEHICLES SUCH AS CAMPERS, BOATS, AND ATVs
- BUILDINGS OTHER THAN RESIDENCE
- JEWELRY, ARTWORK, ANTIQUES
- BANK ACCOUNTS (OVER \$5,000) OR STOCKS
- MONEY RECEIVED FROM THE SALE OF PROPERTY, STOCKS, BONDS, CAR, OR HOUSE
- GIFTS, LOANS, LUMP-SUM INHERITANCES
- FEDERAL NON-CASH BENEFITS PROGRAM SUCH AS MEDICARE, MEDICAID, FOOD STAMPS

THE VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE RESOLUTION BEING AS FOLLOWS"

YEAS: 6 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED. DATED: January 16, 2024

AS CITY COMPTROLLER FOR CARSON CITY, MONTCALM COUNTY, MICHIGAN I CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A TRUE & COMPLETE COPY OF RESOLUTION #3-2024 ADOPTED BY CARSON CITY COUNCIL OF CARSON CITY AT ITS REGULAR MEETING OF JAN. 16, 2024.

s//Nan Hagerman, COMPTROLLER

RESOLUTION #4-2024 PARTIAL POVERTY EXEMPTION GUIDELINES:

MOTION BY: Gage SUPPORTED BY: McCrackin TO ADOPT THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION:

STATE TAX COMMISSION POLICY REGARDING REQUESTS FOR PERCENTAGE REDUCTIONS IN TAXABLE VALUE FOR POVERTY EXEMPTIONS UNDER MCL 211.7u Public Act 253 of 2020 amended MCL 211.7u related to poverty exemptions.

PA 253 of 2020 lists the specific percentage reductions in taxable value that may be used by the board of review in granting a poverty exemption.

MCL 211.7u(5) states that if a person claiming the poverty exemption meets all eligibility requirements, the board of review shall grant the poverty exemption, in whole or in part, as follows:

1. A full exemption equal to a 100% reduction in taxable value for the year in which the exemption is granted; or
2. A partial exemption equal to a 75% reduction in taxable value for the year in which the exemption is granted if between \$1.00 to \$2,500 over Income/Asset Test; or
2. A partial exemption equal to a 50% reduction in taxable value for the year in which the exemption is granted if between \$2,501 to \$3,200 over Income/Asset Test; or
3. A partial exemption equal to a 25% reduction in taxable value for the year in which the exemption is granted if between \$3,201 to \$4,500 over Income/Asset Test

No other method of calculating taxable value may be utilized, except for those percentage reductions specifically authorized in statute, or any other percentage reduction approved by the State Tax Commission. The Commission shall use the following process for the filing, review, and approval of local assessing unit requests to utilize a percentage reduction in taxable value when approving poverty exemptions under MCL 211.7u:

1. A local assessing unit that wants to use any other percentage reduction(s) in taxable value other than the reductions specifically authorized in statute must obtain permission for use of such percentage reduction(s) by filing Form 5738, Request for Approval of Percentage Reduction in Taxable Value for Poverty Exemptions Under MCL 211.7u with the State Tax Commission.

2. The local assessing unit must indicate on the Form the specific percentage reduction(s) in taxable value requested and an explanation of how the requested percentage reduction(s) will be calculated and applied when granting a poverty exemption. Based on case law, calculations that utilize any of the following are not permitted:

a. A limitation on the maximum value of the principal residence eligible to receive an exemption.

b. A requirement that the principal residence must be owned for a certain number of years before a claim for exemption can be made.

c. A limitation on the number of years an exemption can be claimed and received.

THE VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE RESOLUTION BEING AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: 6

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 0

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED. DATED: January 16, 2024

CERTIFICATION

AS THE CITY COMPTROLLER FOR CARSON CITY MONTCALM COUNTY, MICHIGAN I CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A TRUE AND COMPLETE COPY OF RESOLUTION #4-2024 ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF CARSON CITY AT ITS REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF JANUARY 16, 2024.

ss// Nan Hagerman, COMPTROLLER

Motion by Miller , supported by McCrackin to nominate Chad Parmenter as Mayor Pro-tem for the 2024 calendar year. Have no further nominations. Motion carried. With Parmenter Abstaining.

Motion by Keiffer, supported by Gage to appoint Tom Wilson as City Attorney for the 2024 Calendar year. Motion carried.

Motion by Keiffer, supported by Gage to appoint Spicer Group as City Engineer for the 2024 calendar year. Motion carried.

Motion by Keiffer, supported by Miller to have the Daily News be the Cities paper of advertising for the 2024 calendar year. Motion carried.

Motion by Keiffer, supported by McCrackin to increase the election Chair pay from \$15.00 to \$21.22, and the Election inspectors from \$13.00 to \$17.00. Motion carried.

Motion by Keiffer, supported by Parmenter to increase the contribution to the Fire Chief's retirement by \$2400.00 making the total amount for a calendar year \$4800.00. Amendment by Keiffer, supported by McCrackin to change the increase to \$6000.00 to be effective immediately. Motion carried.

John Bradley just curious if the new generator at the lift station will have a monitoring system as well.

Chris Johnston reported that the county commissioners elected a new Vice Chairman Charlie Mahar. Set meeting dates for 2nd & 4th Monday at 4:00pm.

Keiffer asked about the outcome with the allowing Nate access to the cameras? P. Hagerman stated that she put that in her update and the response from Risk Management. Kurt also had a question on a bill, but Neil stated that it is too late bills have already been approved.

McCrackin would like to have put on the City sign when John Moolenaar or his staff are in attendance.

McCrackin asked Mayor Kapustka if he had looked at the new committee list, and if he is okay with it? Kapustka said yes, McCrackin responded she is not, and she is going to make a motion to separate. In past years that we have always voted on the appointments to committees, why has this changed? McCrackin also stated it is very frustrating to her when she has a

conversation with the Mayor, and the Administrator the first week of January, and all we talked about was we were going to have a Personnel committee prior to the January Council meeting. A week goes by and the administrator contacts me that there is too much to talk about and they would have to postpone the personnel committee and have it next month. That same day I received an email with the committee list from the City Administrator and not once in our conversation was it mentioned she had combined the two committees. I feel every year we have always voted on the committees, Personnel is about policies, handbooks it's about interview's, and Finance is Finance.

Also had another issue emailed to me regarding a Personnel issue. I was emailed it because I was the chairman for that committee. Would like to request having a Personnel meeting next week.

Hauck also agreed and commented that in the past we have always voted on the committees. If you look at the current committees all the chairpersons are men. Isn't this discrimination?

Kapustka stated we will vote on the current motion and will ask look into further with MML, and Risk Management.

Motion by McCrackin, supported by Hauck that the Finance & the Personnel committee continue to stay separate committees.

Motion carried.

McCrackin let the Council know she will be gone for the Police Committee, would request Hauck to sit in for her.

Miller wanted to see if the issue with the compactors have been fixed. Nate reported that they think people are breaking the seal for the safety sensor, and shutting them down. There were a couple other quirks and working through them.

Motion by Hauck, supported by Miller, to have the Personnel committee seek 3 bids for time clocks, and report back to council. Motion carried.

Parmenter voiced his concerns with making motions when topics are not on the agenda. Hauck replied the training with MML stated that this was permitted.

Kapustka stated that the Police chief resigned effective January 15, 2024. Will have a police committee on Thursday January 18, 2024 at 4:00 pm.

Public Comments: None were given.

Motion by Miller, supported by McCrackin to adjourn at 6:53pm. Motion carried.