

**READING CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY December 12, 2023
City Hall Council Chambers**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY MAYOR MATTHEWS AT 6:30 P.M.

ROLL CALL: Matthews, George, Penney and VanCamp Kimberly Blythe, Manager/Clerk/Treasurer, Sergeant Cooley

Absent: Matz (Excused)

Guest: Rakisha Hugenell

PLEDGE TO ALLEGIANCE

CONSENT AGENDA

-Penney moved, VanCamp seconded to approve the Consent Agenda, which includes the minutes from the Regular Meeting of November 2023, Treasurer's Report and Financial Statements for October 2023, Payment of operating bills for November 2023 for \$308,581.72, Library Boad Report for September 2023 and TIFA Packet/Report for November 2023.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Yeas- George, VanCamp, Penney and Matthews, Nays- None. Absent-Matz
Motion Carried (4-0)

FIRST CALL TO PUBLIC

Mark Wiley, Chair Hillsdale County Commissioners spoke about their most recent commissioner meeting and the adoption of the 2024 Budget, and agreement with a third party for employee retirement benefits, spoke about an RFP for the Opioid Crisis and that funds they have received for that need to be used, also shared that there no updates on the MICHINDOH Aquifer, but did give an update on the progress of the renovations at Court House.

Correspondence

Hillsdale County Economic Development Partnership

The Correspondence included information regarding the City's Investment in Economic Development and the partnership as well as services provided by the Hillsdale EDP.

Hillsdale County Equalization & Land Information

The Correspondence from the Hillsdale County Equalization & Land Information Office was regarding the updated imagery for the County's GIS, and if we are interested in a 3-inch resolution as opposed to the 6-inch resolution covered by the fees from the GIS system.

-VanCamp moved, George seconded to approve to participate with Reading Township on paying an additional \$1800 for the sharper three" resolution for the ten square miles in Reading Township and the City.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Yeas- George, VanCamp, Penney and Matthews, Nays- None. Absent-Matz
Motion Carried (4-0)

This \$1800 is for four square miles to cover the four sections of the city. This participation and the sharper resolution will help with several of the City Departments, such as Assessing, Zoning, Police Department, Public Works, Code Enforcement as well as assist with commercial industrial and residential property development.

OLD BUSINESS/ONGOING BUSINESS

**Michigan/Strong/East/Lynn Street Project-
Updates-Loan Application to USDA & MEDC Grant Requirements**

It was the consensus of the Council to continue to move forward with the USDA Loan, as well as the updated grant requirement from MEDC for the City's matching funds that will be \$1,322,000 which is approximately \$407,326.10 higher than the original Grant Application. This is due to the additional \$2.4 Million Dollar increase in project cost. City Engineer, City Attorney, Bonding Attorney and Staff will all be working on the check list from USDA for the loan requirements to get bidding documents prepared to re-bid this project in February 2024, project completion is still set for December 31, 2024.

Ordinance 2023-01-Use & Occupancy Permit – Resolution for Permit Fees

-Penney moved, VanCamp seconded to approve Resolution 2023-13 to set the application and inspection fees for obtaining a Use & Occupancy Permit from the City.

The council had adopted the Ordinance at the last meeting of November 2023, but had not adopted the fee structure for the permit application.

NEW BUSINESS

Alvarez Cultivation- MRTMA License Renewal

-Penney moved, VanCamp seconded to approve the application for renewal from Alvarez Cultivation for their Adult Use License (MRTMA) from April 14, 2024- April 14, 2025, provided that they are open to the public and up and running normal business hours as of the renewal date of April 14, 2024.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Yeas- George, VanCamp, Penney and Matthews, Nays- None. Absent-Matz
Motion Carried (4-0)

Re-Appointment to Library Board

-VanCamp moved, George seconded to re-appoint Geraldine Kerspilo to a three-year term on the Library Board beginning January 1, 2024, and ending December 31, 2026. Motion Carried (4-0)

Re-Appointments to Planning Commission/TIFA Board

VanCamp moved, Matthews seconded to re-appoint Frank Oddou and Adrien Miller to the Planning Commission/TIFA Board to three year terms beginning on January 1, 2024, and expiring on December 31, 2026. Motion Carried (4-0)

January 2024 Meeting Date

-Penney moved, VanCamp seconded to set the January 2024 meeting date as January 9, 2024, at 6:30pm. Motion Carried (4-0)

Fire Department Budget Money

-Penney, moved, VanCamp seconded to approve Budget allocation of \$15,000 to the Fire Department Budget for the 2023/2024 Fiscal Year.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Yeas- George, VanCamp, Penney and Matthews, Nays- None. Absent-Matz
Motion Carried (4-0)

The \$15,000 allocation approval is the remaining funds of the \$35,000 for the Fire Departments Fiscal Year of July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024.

-Next meeting will be Tuesday, January 9, 2024, at 6:30 pm

SECOND CALL TO PUBLIC:

Rakesha Hugenell was addressing the issue of two-hour parking and business owners parking out front for safety when closing as opposed to parking out back.

-Penney moved, VanCamp seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion Carried (4-0)
The meeting adjourned at 7:16 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberly Blythe, City Manager/Clerk/Treasurer