

**READING CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, June 11, 2024
City Hall Council Chambers**

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

PLEDGE TO ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL: Matthews, George, VanCamp and Penney, Chief Stolberg and Kimberly Blythe, City Manager/Clerk/Treasurer all present.

Absent: Matz (Excused)

-Penney moved, George seconded to excuse Councilor Matz from the meeting. Motion Carried (4-0)

Guest: Jeremiah and Kala Stebleton, Kari Jo Rinard, and Steve Nemith

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

-VanCamp moved, Penney seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion Carried (4-0)

FIRST CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Mark Wiley, County Commissioner was in attendance to give an update on the Commissioners latest meeting. He shared that Michigan Works reported that Hillsdale County's unemployment rate is lower than this time in 2023, that MSUE gave an update on the bird flu and how it could affect County fairs for 2024 but feel that it should not be an issue for Hillsdale County Fair. Mr. Wiley mentioned sending a flyer regarding the proposal for the 800 MHz Radio Project and millage proposal as well as the Medical Care Facility and Emergency will have millage proposals on the ballot as well.

Public Hearing-2024/2025 Budget/Millage/Rate Schedules

Mayor Matthews called the public hearing to order at 6:45pm. The hearing is regarding the FY 2024/2025 Budget; citizens had the opportunity to ask questions regarding the upcoming budget and proposed expenditures and estimated revenues. Also, as part of the budget process the water, sewer and refuse rate schedules were discussed. There is a requirement by USDA to increase the water rates for an expected revenue based on the estimated loan value for the MELS Project. There are also minimal increases for sewer and refuse. There was discussion of the 2024 tax millage rate of 12.3206, which is lower than last year, due to an increase in the 2024 Taxable Value of the City, the Headlee Rollback, and Truth in Taxation.

VanCamp moved; Penney seconded to close public hearing at 6:51 pm. Motion Carried (4-0)

CONSENT AGENDA

Penney moved, VanCamp seconded to approve the Consent Agenda, which includes the minutes from the Regular Meeting of May 14, 2024, Treasurer's Report and Financial Statements for April 2024, Library Board minutes March 2024, TIFA/Planning Commission Packet May 2024 and payment of operating bills for May 2024 in the amount of \$203,151.10.

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

Communications to Council

None at this time

OLD BUSINESS/ONGOING BUSINESS

MELS Project Updates

Award Construction Bid for MELS Project

-Penney moved, George seconded to approve the recommendation from MT Engineering that Meade Brothers Excavating, Inc., be awarded the project, subject to USDA-RD, MEDC and MDOT review and approval.

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

Meade Brothers Excavating, LLC submitted a construction bid in the amount of \$4,097,532.56 that included both the cost for all construction within the right of way as well as the replacement of private service lines from the curb stop to eighteen inches within inside the home.

Marihuana Ordinance #2019-02 Amendments

The City Attorney sent over the amendments to the ordinance, Council reviewed them and after discussion regarding the amendments, there were questions regarding some of the verbiage in the amended ordinance. It was the consensus of the Council to table it until July's Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

F/y 2024/2025 Budget:

-Penney moved, VanCamp seconded to adopt Resolution 2024-06 the Fiscal Year 2024/2025 Activity Budget as well as the Salary Schedule as presented.

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

2024 Tax Millage Rate:

-VanCamp moved, George seconded to set the 2024 millage Rate at 12.3206 mills.

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

Water, Sewer, and Refuse 2024/2025 Rate Schedules:

-VanCamp moved, Penney seconded to adopt Resolution 2024-07 for the water, sewer and refuse rate schedule for the 2024/2025 fiscal year to become effective July 1, 2024.

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

Currently there are no changes to the Cemetery Rate Schedule as well as the Miscellaneous Rate Schedule.

CB&T Checking & Savings Accounts- ICS Account:

-Penney, VanCamp seconded to allow Kimberly Blythe, City Manager/Clerk/Treasurer, to work with Century Bank & Trust to move all the City's Funds with Century Bank & Trust, with exception of the Tax Account and MELS Project Checking Account, into an ICS (Insured Cash Sweep) Account.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Yeas- George, VanCamp, Penney, and Matthews,

Nays- None, Absent-Matz. Motion Carried (4-0)

June 19th Proclamation:

-VanCamp moved, Penney seconded to ratify the Mayor's Proclamation of June 19th, as Juneteenth. Motion Carried (4-0)

Special Meeting-

-VanCamp moved, Matthews seconded to set a Special Meeting for Thursday, June 27, 2024, at 6:00 pm. Motion Carried (4-0)

This meeting will be to approve the CIP Plan after the Planning Commission Hearing on the Plan, any budget adjustments for 2023/2024, adopting the TIFA Budget and Fire Department Budget, Employee Vacation Extension/Payout Approval, and any MELS Project items needing to be approved or discussed.

Informational Items Presented-

Proposed-Capital Improvement Plan-Hearing by the PC June 24, 2024
August Primary Election Commission Meeting-Monday, July 15, 2024, at 4pm
August Primary-Public Accuracy Test- Monday, July 22, 2024, at 4pm
Next Regular Meeting is set for Tuesday, July 9, 2024, at 6:30 pm City Hall Council Chambers

SECOND CALL TO PUBLIC:

No Comments

-VanCamp moved, Penney seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion Carried (4-0)
The meeting adjourned at 7:18pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberly Blythe, City Manager/Clerk/Treasurer