

CITY OF COLOMA
Regular Commission Meeting
June 12, 2023

The meeting was called to order at Coloma City Hall at 7:30 pm by Mayor Hammond.
Present: Balkin, Clements, Freitag, Hicks, Churchill, Mayor Hammond, Clerk Clements
Absent: Smith

Visitors: Todd Bohle, Bill Smith, Denise Donohoe, Harold Bragg, Jane Bergland-Hess,
Chana Kniebes

Pledge: Commissioner Balkin led the Pledge of Allegiance to the USA Flag. Pledge.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Commissioner Balkin, seconded by Commissioner Hicks to approve the agenda with the addition of credit card machine under Unfinished Business. Yes: Balkin, Clements, Freitag, Hicks, Churchill, Mayor Hammond. No: NONE. MOTION CARRIED. Agenda Approval.

Approval of Minutes: Commissioner Freitag motioned, seconded by Commissioner Hicks to approve the Regular Commission Meeting minutes from May 22, 2023. Yes: Balkin, Clements, Freitag, Hicks, Churchill, Mayor Hammond. No: NONE. MOTION CARRIED. Minutes Approval.

Comments from Citizens and Visitors: Harold Bragg commended the public works crew for clean up over the last several weeks. Mary Harrison is in Colorado this week for our 2024 NASA exhibit and Coloma was the only repeat library to receive the exhibit again. On behalf of the library, thank you to Mayor Hammond and our public works for repainting the lines in the parking lot. Harold also would like to show support for Coloma Community Schools and for the future of our community and future support of bonds needed for the school. Harold Bragg, city resident.

Bill Smith shared that latest publication of Michigan History has an article on the history of Tru Point from Coloma. Bill Smith, city resident.

Chana Kniebes reminded everyone of the upcoming 19th Annual Golf Outing on August 12, 2023 for the Annual Chamber Fundraiser. There is a Chamber meeting tomorrow at Coloma Township Hall. Next Tuesday, June 20 is the Deer Forest special at the North Berrien Historical Museum at 7:00PM. Chana Kniebes, Chamber Events.

Jane Berglund-Hess asked about the second utility pole on if it would be removed from her tree lawn. She also inquired about the neighbors ordinance complaints. Mayor Hammond commented the ordinance officer has been in contact with the resident. The shed has been condemned by our ordinance officer. It was recommended to contact the Sheriff's department regarding the animal control and dogs. Commissioner Hicks commented on his frustration with the dogs that caused him issues on confusion with his dogs. The ordinance citation was submitted and the resident had 30 days to comply.

Dana Berglund-Hess, city resident.

Special Recognition, Commendations, Etc.: Mayor Hammond shared an update from Thursday when city hall welcomed four groups of 2nd graders on there field trip around town. They had a mock commissioner meeting with the 2nd graders with a unanimous vote to approve the splashpad. They discussed what the city hall employees, public works and elected officials do. The 2nd graders got to take pictures with the equipment and public works employees and learn about what elected officials, public works and city employees do.

Coloma 2nd Graders City Hall Visit.

Unfinished Business: Mayor Hammond shared the GovCard proposal for the credit card machine for city hall to except credit cards for payments for utilities and taxes. The processing fees are billed separately from the payments and the terminal is a one time fee of \$495 and works with online payments.

Credit Card Machine.

Commissioner Hicks called a meeting on Monday, June 26 for the commissioners to discuss the proposal regarding the credit card machine at 6:45 PM at city hall.

Meeting June 26 at 6:45 PM to discuss credit card.

New Business: Commissioner Hicks motioned, supported by Commissioner Freitag for the city to collect taxes from residents for Lake Michigan College. **Yes: Balkin, Clements, Freitag, Hicks, Churchill, Mayor Hammond. No: NONE. MOTION CARRIED.**

Collect Taxes for LMC Motion Approval.

Commissioner Hicks motioned, supported by Commissioner Balkin for the city to collect taxes from residents for the Berrien RESA. **Yes: Balkin, Clements, Freitag, Hicks, Churchill, Mayor Hammond. No: NONE. MOTION CARRIED.**

Collect Taxes for RESA Motion Approval.

Mayor Hammond shared we interviewed 3 qualified candidates for the open Deputy Clerk position to train with Maureen before her retirement in September.

Commissioner Freitag motioned, supported by Commissioner Balkin to offer the position to Jennifer Schreier for the position at \$19/hour. Yes: Balkin, Clements, Freitag, Hicks, Churchill, Mayor Hammond. No: NONE. MOTION CARRIED.

**New City Hall
Employee
Motion
Approval.**

Finance/Insurance: None.

Public Works: Commissioner Freitag shared the public works shared the crew did an excellent job during spring clean up for the city residents. Todd Bohle shared that it was a long, hard week with clean up, but they did a great job. Mayor Hammond thanked the city residents for getting out items to the side of the road early in the week.

Police: None.

Clerk: Clerk shared that the city will be having a August Election for our Precinct at our polling location of Coloma Public Library on Tuesday, August 8 from 7 AM - 8 PM for the proposed Lake Michigan College Operation Millage renewal.

Ordinance: None.

Fire Board: None.

Communications: Commissioner Balkin and Clerk Clements shared that our new website is launched with a refreshed look and more options to share up to date information with our residents. The website is also much more user friendly for our commissioners and staff to use.

Correspondence: None.

Mayor Hammond would like to appoint Commissioners Clements, Balkin and Hicks to look into the short term rental revenue for the city.

Commisioner Hicks would like to congratulate the Coloma Class of 2023, his daughter being one of the graduates. Also like to congratulate the Coloma Varsity Girls Softball team on their District win this season.

Adjournment: Motion by Commissioner Hicks, seconded by Commissioner Freitag to adjourn at 8:10 PM. Voice vote. MOTION CARRIED.

Adjournment.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Clements, Clerk

Marsha Hammond, Mayor