

**CITY OF COLOMA**  
**Regular Commission Meeting**  
**July 10, 2023**

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

Visitors: Rachel Edwards, Todd Bohle, Roger Jordan (Fire Board), Mary Harrison, Kristen Chism, Harold Bragg, Chana Kniebes, Tom Wolfram, Cindy Massey.

**Pledge:** Commissioner Smith led the Pledge of Allegiance to the USA Flag. Pledge.

**Approval of Agenda: Motion by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Hicks to approve the agenda. Yes: Balkin, Clements, Freitag, Hicks, Smith, Churchill, Mayor Hammond. No: NONE. MOTION CARRIED.** Agenda Approval.

**Approval of Minutes: Commissioner Hicks motioned, seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve the Regular Commission Meeting minutes from June 26, 2023. Yes: Balkin, Clements, Freitag, Hicks, Churchill, Smith, Mayor Hammond. No: NONE. MOTION CARRIED.** Minutes Approval.

**Comments from Citizens and Visitors:** Cindy Massey and Tom Wolfram are concerned about all the strangers, trash and parking associated with the proposed Splash Pad. Massey says that she just found out about the Splash Pad and everyone in the neighborhood of Timberbrook is against it. Mayor Hammond and Linda Freitag stated that the meetings for the Splash Pad were very publicly advertised and an advertisement went out in every water bill. Massey asked why it could not be put in Lions Park or Coloma Township and why changing rooms are not included in the plan. Jamie Balkin stated that the Splash Pad is part of a plan to be put in phases and to be patient as all the details were worked. Cindy Massey is also concerned with neighbors lapping the sidewalk and that no one enforces it. Commissioner Freitag pushed the advice to call the police when you see it happening. Splash Pad Complaint

Chana Kniebes reminded the public that there is still time sign up for the golf outing. Kniebes also shared that there is a ribbon cutting at the Main Street Oasis in Watervliet on Thursday, July 13. Main Street Oasis Ribbon Cutting

Kristin Chism from Great Start Collaborative has spoken with Coloma Library for interest to put interactive story boards in one of the parks in the City of Coloma. Commissioner Freitag made the motion, supported by Commissioner Hicks second to approve the placement of the story boards in one of the City parks. **Yes: Balkin, Clements, Freitag, Hicks, Churchill, Smith, Mayor Hammond. No: NONE. MOTION CARRIED.**

**Story Boards  
Motion  
Approval.**

**Special Recognition, Commendations, Etc:** None.

**Unfinished Business:** Roger Jordan from the North Berrien Fire Rescue Department notified the price increase on the new fire apparatus engine and drivetrain changes from a L9 450 HP to X12 500 HP at a cost of \$55,594. Payette Sales and Service Inc has noted that this is an industry-wide issue that affects many of the department's peers in the industry. The department needs to submit a Change Order now to accept the recommended motor, ask for the originally requested motor and continue with the build order. If no change order is submitted the truck order will be placed on hold and could be delayed or cost additional costs. The other supervisors are not pleased with the cost either. Approval needed to still go ahead with the order for the fire truck. **Commissioner Freitag motioned, second by Commissioner Clements to approve the change of fire apparatus engine and drivetrain change from the L9 450 HP to X12 500 HP at the city's cost of \$55,594. Yes: Balkin, Clements, Freitag, Hicks, Churchill, Smith, Mayor Hammond. No: NONE. MOTION CARRIED.**

**North Berrien  
Fire Rescue  
Department  
Motion  
Approval.**

**New Business:** Fred Reeves wants to step up to replace Bill Smith on Board of Review. He will be taking training for that on July 11. **Commissioner Hicks motioned, seconded by Commissioner Freitag to approve the nomination of Fred Reeves on Board of Review. Yes: Balkin, Clements, Freitag, Hicks, Churchill, Smith, Mayor Hammond. No: NONE. MOTION CARRIED.**

**Board of  
Review  
Appointment  
Motion  
Approval.**

Commissioner Balkin shared that the Paw Paw Lake Rotary Club is hosting a Brew Fest on July 23 at the Knights of Columbus Hall in support of our City of Coloma Splash Pad. Mayor Hammond commented that we have received two additional donations towards the splash pad.

**Brew & Wine**

**Finance/Insurance:** None.

**Public Works:** Commissioner Freitag shared the public works crews doing a great job picking up brush.

**Public Works.**

**Police:** None.

**Clerk:** Rachel Edwards listed election workers for the upcoming August 8<sup>th</sup>. **Commissioner Balkin motioned, Commissioner Freitag seconded to approve election workers for the August 8, 2023 Election.. Yes: Balkin, Churchill, Freitag, Hicks, Smith, Mayor Hammond. No: NONE. Abstain: Clements. MOTION CARRIED.**

**Election Workers Motional Approval.**

**Ordinance:** None.

**Fire Board:** None.

**Communications:** Jamie Balkin states that a full schedule will soon be posted for Glad Peach Festival.

Glad Peach.

**Correspondence:** Jason Hicks wants to congratulate the Clements family on her new baby.

New Baby.

**Adjournment:** Motion by Commissioner Hicks, seconded by Commissioner Clements to adjourn at 8:30 PM. Voice vote. MOTION CARRIED.

**Adjournment.**

Respectfully submitted,

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Rachel Edwards

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Marsha Hammond, Mayor