

**CITY OF REED CITY**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS**  
**February 13, 2023**

Mayor Meinert called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. in Council Chambers, 227 E. Lincoln Avenue, Reed City, Michigan.

**Present** Mayor, Roger Meinert. Council Members: David Belden, Dan Burchett, Trevor Guiles, Russell Nehmer and Brad Nixon. Nicole Woodside was absent. City Attorney, David Porteous and City Manager, Rich Saladin, were also in attendance. Department Heads attending were, Curt Brackenrich, Rich Rehkopf, Barbara Westerburg and Fire Chief, Jeff Stein. The meeting was opened with the pledge to the flag. There were citizens in the audience.

**Agenda** Motion by Burchett, seconded by Nehmer, **CARRIED**, to approve the Agenda as amended with the additions under Audience: No. 4 Craig Brockette, IT switchover, Unfinished Business: No. 2. Beer Festival update and request to use Rambadt Park, and New Business: No. 10. Veteran's Memorial Park Car Show. Affirmed by voice vote.

**Minutes** Motion by Belden, seconded by Burchett, **CARRIED**, to accept the minutes of the January 9, 2023 regular meeting as presented. Affirmed by voice vote.

**Bills** Motion by Burchett, seconded by Nixon, **CARRIED**, to approve paying bills as presented for payment for a grand total approved amount of \$260,586.83. Roll call vote. Voting yes were, Nixon, Meinert, Guiles, Burchett, Nehmer and Belden.

**Audience** Erin Carrier, resident, addressed council regarding the change in refuse company and that the new company, Republic Services, will not offer recycle services unless 100 residents sign up for it. Ms. Carrier called the company several times and was told she was not on the list until she called the local Michigan number who confirmed she was on the list. She is concerned how many other people called and assume they were put on the list and that curbside recycle will not be available due to an inaccurate list. Ms. Carrier called the neighboring towns, Big Rapids, Ewart and Cadillac, to inquire of their trash and recycle services to their residents and the cost. She would like to see the city do more to make sure that the residents are environmentally friendly and she would like to see curbside recycle mandatory throughout the city and included on the monthly utility bill. Ms. Carrier state she does not utilize the local recycle center because it is not practical for her.

Alanna McBee, Chamber Director, appeared to request council waive the Depot rental fee the last Tuesday of each month for the Reed City Connect group. Alanna explained this is a small business networking group for business owners and organizations to network, find resources and expand their business. Council was unable to approve her request based on the current Depot rental policy. No action was taken.

Craig Brockette, of the City of Big Rapids, IT Department, updated council on the progress of the upgrades to the building systems. Currently, everyone has migrated to the government cloud. The network portion of the upgrade is coming along smoothly and the firewall has been converted over. Craig is working with Point Broadband to convert the multiple internet connects at the Police Dept. to a single connection. Fiber has been pulled between the Police Dept. and the Fire Dept. through City Hall. Hard wire wiring has been done to install wifi throughout. Point Broadband will be contacting the City Manager later in the week to schedule a time to meet regarding the phone system.

Jeffrey Stein, Fire Chief, provided a handout containing a photo of each individual apparatus and information detailing each apparatus. Chief Stein also described different scenarios and what vehicle would be need for each scenario, their function and how they would be used.

Reports Chief Jeffrey Stein, Fire Dept., Police Chief Christopher Lockhart, Rich Rehkopf, DPW, and Curt Brackenrich, WWTP, filed written reports. Barb Westerburg provided by email, Financial Reports including a Revenue/Expenditure Report as of December 31, 2022.

Motion by Nehmer, seconded by Belden, **CARRIED**, to approve the Department Head reports as submitted. Affirmed by voice vote.

Tender 2 Extensive discussion took place on the three bid results for Partial Frame Rail Replacement, New Frame Rail Replacement and Re-furb/Re-Chassis of the Fire Department 1996 Tender 2. Chief Stein described the components of each bid and his recommendation. A brand new truck with a larger pump was also discussed which Chief Stein indicated would help our ISO rating. A representative of Allied Fire Sales was in the audience and answered questions from council members. The City Manager and City Attorney stressed it really comes down to crunching numbers – what can the city afford. There are Charter provisions that limited the amount of debt the city can take on absent of a general vote from the people. The most that could be financed would be around \$300,000. It was suggested to go back to the townships and rework what those dollars are. Chief Stein filed the paperwork for a USDA grant and has not heard back on that. The discussion ended with, there needs to be specifications, and where would the funds come from. No action was taken by council.

Beer Festival Alanna McBee, Chamber Director, updated council on the Beer Festival plans. In June of 2022, Council had previously taken action to allow for the Beer Festival in September of 2022 to be held at the Westerburg Park. The Chamber is now requesting the use of Rambadt Park on Saturday, April 22, 2023 from 12:00 P.M. until 5:00 P.M. Council member were concerned with the campground being used for this event as well as parking, the disc golf course would need to be shut down and that the event has already been advertised on Facebook by the Brewery. Alanna explained, they had meet with Deanna Murphy, Chief Lockhart, the City Manager and DPW Superintendent on site to discuss the event. Due to it being the first Beer Festival, Alanna does not expect more than 15 or 16 breweries and maybe a couple of food trucks. They would need to set up the fencing a couple of days prior to the event. A food truck waiver would be needed as it would be on City property. Council requested a written plan and map of the event be submitted to council for review **prior** to council action.

Resolution Motion by Nixon, seconded by Belden, **CARRIED**, to approve Resolution 2023-02, a Resolution For Authorized Bank Signatures. Roll call vote. Voting yes were, Burchett, Nixon, Nehmer, Belden, Meinert and Guiles.

**CITY OF REED CITY  
RESOLUTION FOR AUTHORIZED BANK SIGNATURES  
Resolution No. 2023-02**

**BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED** by the Reed City Council that the following individuals are authorized signatures at the various banks and saving institutions affecting City business:

Mayor	Roger W. Meinert
Mayor Pro-Tem	Trevor Guiles
City Clerk	Amye Hensel
City Treasurer	Barbara J. Westerburg

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that two signatures are required on all checking accounts, and one signature required on transfers from savings accounts for the City of Reed City.

Resolution Motion by Belden, seconded by Nehmer, **CARRIED**, to approve Huntington Bank Master Signature Card, Resolution to Open and Maintain a Bank Account and Authority as presented. Roll call vote. Voting yes were, Meinert, Belden, Nehmer, Guiles, Burchett and Nixon.

Lease Motion by Belden, seconded by Nehmer, **CARRIED**, to approve the amendment to the Boy Scout Lease, Permitted Alterations And Improvements To Leased Property, striking out the last sentence in Item No. 2 and authorize the City Manager to sign. Roll call vote. Voting yes were, Guiles, Nixon, Belden, Burchett, Meinert and Nehmer.

- Treasurer Motion by Nixon, seconded by Nehmer, **CARRIED**, to approve the appointment of Kadee Kidd for the position of City Treasurer, with the beginning pay rate of Step 1 of the step system. Roll call vote. Voting yes were, Nixon, Meinert, Guiles, Burchett, Nehmer and Belden.
- Trees Motion by Guiles, seconded by Burchett, **CARRIED**, to approve the bid from Wirth Construction and Landscaping in the amount of \$11,938.00 for 30 trees and planting. Roll call vote. Voting yes were, Burchett, Nehmer, Belden, Guiles, Nixon and Meinert.
- Truck #131 Motion by Guiles, seconded by Nixon, **CARRIED**, to authorize the Department of Public Works to seek bids for the sale of the 1995 Truck #131. Affirmed by voice vote.
- Sidewalk Conn Motion by Guiles, seconded by Burchett, **CARRIED**, to approve the City Manager’s recommendation by changing the course of the trail connection by putting the sidewalk just on the west side of the Chestnut bridge. Affirmed by voice vote.
- Budget Amend Motion by Guiles, seconded by Nehmer, **CARRIED**, to approve Budget Amendment as presented by the City Treasurer. Roll call vote. Voting yes, Nehmer, Meinert, Guiles, Belden, Nixon and Burchett.

**RESOLUTION FOR BUDGET AMENDMENTS**

DATE: February 13, 2023

Resolution by the City Council to Amend the 2022/2023 fund/department budgets as follows:

<u>FUND/ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>PRESENT BUDGET</u>	<u>ACTUAL TO DATE</u>	<u>ESTIMATED YEAR END</u>	<u>AMENDED BUDGET</u>	<u>INCREASE (DECREASE)</u>
1. <b>Fund #591 Water Fund</b>					
<u>Expenditures (by Department)</u>					
Dept.#542 Production - Water	522,225	227,665	528,225	528,225	6,000
				-	-
<u>Total Increase in Expenditures</u>					<u>\$ 6,000</u>
<u>Revenues (by account)</u>					
#529 Federal Grants	-	-	6,000	6,000	6,000
				-	-
<u>Total Increase in Revenues</u>					<u>\$ 6,000</u>

Reason:

Increase the water revenues and expenditures by \$6,000 for the Wellhead Protection Program federal grant received.

The City approved an engineering contract with Fleis & Vandenbrink on 6/20/22 for \$12,000. The current budget

in production-water should be sufficient to cover our match of \$6,000.

- Chamber The Chamber of Commerce presented an incentive program for sponsorship packages which included free use of the Depot Conference room as part of the packages. The current policy does not allow for this type of free rental. Council members ask questions of the Chamber Director but took no action on the proposal.
- Car Show Motion by Guiles, seconded by Nixon, **CARRIED**, to approve the street closure for the Veteran’s Car Show on July 15, 2023 from 7:00 A.M. until 4:00 P.M. for West Upton from Chestnut Street to the bank, Higbee Street from the Surveyor’s Title alleyway to the property line of the Old Rugged Cross, and to allow the social district to be open in this area from 10:00 A.M. until 3:00 P.M. Affirmed by voice vote.

Consent Motion by Guiles, seconded by Nehmer, **CARRIED**, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Affirmed by voice vote.

City Manager Rich Saladin submitted a written report and highlighted the following:

- Rich included in the packet an update from Fleis & VandenBrink on the EGLE FY23 Water System Improvements project.
- Commented on the amazing staff here at the city. Everyone gets along and works very well together, but the work ethic and the commitment to the city is stellar. Very blessed to live in a small town with such responsive and community service oriented staff.
- Spoke on the recycling and trash pick up. He spoke with the city contact at Republic Services and there is a list of 46 people there for recycling which is about 6% of the Reed City population. There are approximately 330 people who signed up for carts and the rest of the residents use the bag system. The former company, American Waste, had 48 people utilizing the recycle system. Rich also spoke with the President of the Recycle Center and he indicated they are open every day but are more than willing to try new hours. If there is a need to be open for a couple hours in the evening they would be willing to give that a try.

Mayor Mayor Meinert reported on the following;

- Mayor Meinert acknowledged two Boys Scouts from Troop #74 in the audience and explained the boys were in attendance as part of criteria to earn their Citizenship in the Community Merit Badge.
- Reminded Russ Nehmer he is appointed to review bills prior to the March council meeting.

Council Russ Nehmer, thanked Jackie, the City Clerk for all of her hard work over the years and wished her success in her retirement.

Dan Burchett gave an update on the dog park and reported that a grant has been submitted for the fencing and hopefully will hear back on that shortly.

Trevor Guiles thanked Jackie for the amazing job she has done over the years for the city, the community and council, and hopes she will enjoy her retirement.

Brad Nixon advised members he would be absent at the March meeting as he will be returning from vacation on that date.

David Belden thanked Jackie for everything she has done and commented it was a pleasure working with her and to have fun.

Audience Sally Momany, County Commissioner, reported the Annex has been completely shut down and is now for sale and is currently listed with local realtor Jerry Garner. The County has hired a new Building Inspector, Aaron Holsworth. After several complaints, an audit/investigation showed the building department was assessing fees which should not have been assessed. The County will be reimbursing approximately \$25,000 in incorrect/wrong fees.

Adjourn Mayor Meinert adjourned the meeting at 8:49 P.M.