

**AMENDED (2-17-2025) CITY OF CARO COUNCIL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MINUTES**

**February 6, 2025, 6:00 P.M.
Council Chambers, 317 S. State St., Caro, MI 48723**

Mayor Karen Snider called the Committee of the Whole Meeting of the City Council to order February 6, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

Present: Mayor Karen Snider, City Council: Emily Campbell, Gregory Hutchison, Charlotte Kish, Doreen Oedy, Heidi Parker, and Jill White.

Others: Scott Czasak – City Manager, Jana Brown – Deputy City Clerk, Brian Newcomb – Chief of Police, Tuscola County Fair Board – Neil Jackson, Dale Will, Jim Will, Mike Joslyn and other guests.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

BUSINESS ITEMS:

1. Camping Ordinance

Neil Jackson gave a presentation to the council which included the following topics:

- History of the request for changes to city ordinance regarding camping at the fairgrounds.
- Information regarding the Fair Boards' payment of waste disposal, water and electricity.
- Grants application and uses.
- Various events utilizing the camping facilities.
- Locations and number of camping spaces.
- Time frames campers occupy camping spaces.

The City Manager provided information regarding the current ordinance affecting the camping situation. He shared his intent to work closely with the City Attorney on potential amendments to the ordinance. The City Manager will keep the Council informed and provide further updates as soon as more information becomes available.

2. Light Pole Policy

The City Manager notified the Council of his intent to develop a policy for the usage of downtown light poles by nonprofits. He will be collaborating with the City Attorney on this issue as well to assure potential issues are addressed regarding liability. Once a draft is available, he will bring the issue back to the Council.

3. Code Enforcement Officer Position

The City Manager informed the Council of his intention to explore the addition of a **part time** code enforcement officer position in the upcoming budget. Currently, Fire Chief Randy Heckroth is responsible for code enforcement services; however, due to the high volume of fire and medical calls, he is unable to dedicate the necessary time to effectively manage code enforcement duties.

This issue will be placed on the agenda for the February 17th meeting.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS:

Jill White asked for an update on reconstruction of the farmer's market bus stop. The City Manager verified the insurance company is working with a contractor who is set to start dependent on the weather.

Jill White requested an update on buildings at LJ's Garage property. The City Manager will be contacting the owner to discuss his construction progress.

**Motion by White, seconded by Oedy to adjourn the meeting at 6:52 p.m.
Motion carried.**

Jana Brown
Deputy City Clerk