

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CARO CITY COUNCIL
February 2, 2026, 6:30 P.M.
Council Chambers, 317 S. State St., Caro, MI 48723

Mayor Karen Snider called the regular meeting of the City Council to order on February 2, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

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

Absent: None

Others: Scott Czasak – City Manager, Rita Papp – City Clerk, Tammy Ries – City Treasurer, and other guests.

AGENDA APPROVAL

26-M-20

Motion by White, seconded by Riley, to approve the agenda as presented with addition of Communications, #3 – Email from Evan Osentoski.

Motion Carried.

PRESENTATION: Mike Carpenter, Rowe Engineering – 2026 Sidewalk Bids

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Charter Communications – Upcoming Changes
2. Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes – January 20, 2026
3. Email from Evan Osentoski

PUBLIC COMMENTS – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Collen Russell – Supported the placement of the Lion Head Drinking Fountain and the Reallocations of funds.

Mandy Knox – Supported the placement of the Lion Head Drinking Fountain.

Bobby Fulmer – Supported the placement of the Lion Head Drinking Fountain.

Sean Smith - Supported the placement of the Lion Head Drinking Fountain and the Reallocation of Funds.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Regular Council Meeting Minutes – January 20, 2026
2. Invoices

26-M-21

Motion by Parker, seconded by White, to approve the consent agenda as presented including invoices.

Motion Carried.

REGULAR AGENDA: (action required)

1. 2026 Sidewalk Bids

26-M-22

Motion by White, seconded by Riley, to award the 2026 Sidewalk Replacement project to AJ Remus & Son for the bid amount of \$219,407.50, pending final approval of the special assessment.

Roll call vote: Campbell – yes, Kish – no, Oedy – yes, Parker – yes, Riley – yes, White – yes, Mayor Snider – no.

Motion carried.

2. Budget Line-Item Adjustment Request – Printing & Publications

26-M-23

Motion by Kish, seconded by Campbell, to approve an increase to a budgeted expense line within the Clerk’s Department General Fund, 101-260-900-000, Printing & Publication, in the amount of \$10,000.00, increasing the total budget from \$15,000.00 to \$25,000.00, to be funded from General Fund.

Motion carried

3. Lion Head Drinking Fountain – Bieth Park – Councilor White

26-M-24

Motion by White, seconded by Riley, to place the Lion Head Drinking Fountain in Bieth Park.

Motion carried

4. Parks & Recreation Capital Improvements Reallocation Request – Councilor White

26-M-25

Motion by Oedy, seconded by Parker, to approve the request from Parks & Recreation Committee to reallocate \$45,000.00 to: \$3,500.00 for picnic tables, \$16,000.00 for shade, \$10,000.00 for Lion Head Drinking Fountain, \$500.00 for Pickle Ball Equipment, \$15,000.00 for Kayak Launch Feasibility Study.

Roll call vote: Kish – no, Oedy – yes, Parker – yes, Riley – yes, White – yes, Campbell – yes, Mayor Snider – no.

Motion carried

5. Investment Maturing

26-M-26

Motion by Oedy, seconded by Campbell, to keep the CDARS at Independent Bank in the amount of \$539,702.82 for 52 weeks at 3.30%.

Roll call vote: Oedy – yes, Parker – yes, Riley – yes, White – yes, Campbell – yes, Kish – yes, Mayor Snider – yes.

Motion carried

6. Schedule Committee of the Whole Meeting

Committee of the Whole Meeting is scheduled for February 19, 2026 at 6:30 p.m.

ITEMS POSTPONED:

COMMITTEE/LIAISON POSITION REPORTS: None

MAYOR'S REPORT – Written report submitted.

MANAGER'S REPORT – Written report submitted.

Update given on the repair status of the Strand Theater, Read a statement regarding Sugar Tree Property Taxes.

CLERK'S REPORT – Written report submitted.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT:

Sean Smith – Thanked DPW for the improvements in the parks. Thanked Fire Department for the Gingerbread Festival Santa event and the Drop the Beet event. Thanked Council for the reallocation request.

Tanya Batchke – Thanked Council for approving the reallocation request.

Bob Eschenbacher – Inquired on the WWTP project & the Van Geisen Property.

Scott Czasak, City Manager – Update was given on the WWTP project and the Van Geisen Property.

Councilor Doreen Oedy – Commented on the Valentines that are appearing in business's windows.

Councilor Emily Campbell – Inquired on the building on M24/M81.

Bobby Fulmer – Thanked Council for the approval of the Lion Head Drinking Fountain.

Susan Holder – Commented that Gypsy Thrift started the Valentines and thanked Council for the Lion Head Drinking Fountain.

26-M-27

Motion by Riley, seconded by White, to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Motion carried.



Rita Papp, MiPMC2
City Clerk