

# City of Potterville

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319 N. Nelson St. ♦ PO Box 488 ♦ Potterville, MI 48876 ♦ Phone: (517) 645-7641  
Fax: (517) 645-7810 ♦ www.pottervillemi.org

The City Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor Lenneman on Thursday, November 16, 2023, at 6:00 pm at City Hall and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Roll Call:** Present: Mayor Lenneman, Deputy Mayor Potter, Member Connor, Member Nichols, and Member Ranshaw.

**Absent:** Member Pulda and Member Sweeney.

**Approval of Agenda:** Motion by Member Nichols. Supported by Member Connor. Vote: Unanimous. Motion Carried (5-0).

**Approval of Minutes from October 19, 2023:** Motion by Deputy Mayor Potter. Supported by Member Ranshaw. Vote: Unanimous. Motion Carried (5-0).

**Approval of Bills:** Motion to pay General Bills in the amount of \$247,066.84 by Member Nichols. Supported by Member Connor. Roll Call Vote: Unanimous. Motion Carried (5-0).

**City Manager's Report:** Manager's report is in the November 16, 2023, Council packet.

**Public Comment on Agenda Items:** Resident Dewaine Watson shared his opposition to the water increase and he feels like there was not enough notice of public hearing. Resident Bryan Titus said he opposed a 15 % water increase and asked how the City was addressing the Fry amendment. Resident Joey Staszuk asked why an increase in the water rate when inflation was already impacting the people so much.

**Department Reports:** Chief Barry shared the officers are attending training.

**New Business:**

**Open Public Hearing – Resolution No. 2023-1116-16, New Water Utility Fee Rates & Tap Fee:** Motion Member Ranshaw. Supported by Member Potter. Vote: Unanimous. Motion Carried (5-0).

- **Resident Brian Titus** opposes the increase and would like to see Fry amendment removed. Would like to make sure the water money is not funding other City items.
- **Resident Dewaine Watson** voiced his concern regarding the timing of the posting of the notice and people are in hard times and thinks the City should tighten the budget and find savings to fund project.
- **Resident Katherine Bussard** encourages the Council to look for other alternative financial solutions to funding the water project. Bussard feels the community is already struggling with costs.

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**Close Public Hearing – Resolution No. 2023-1116-16, New Water Utility Fee Rates & Tap Fee:**  
Motion Mayor Lenneman. Supported by Member Connor. Vote: Unanimous. Motion Carried (5-0).

**Baker Tilly Municipal Advisors, LLC, presents Draft Water Rates analysis by Andy Campbell, CPA, Director.** Mr. Campbell shared a power point with information on the Unrestricted and RRI Cash & Investments, User Rate Revenue, Operating Expenses, Current Debt Payments, and Cash Flow Analysis. Overall cash balances are trending in a positive direction. The inflationary rate increases implemented but still need increased. The current debt payments are level for the foreseeable future. The current cash flow is in a good position, but not enough to pay for expected debt payments for USDA project.

**Resolution No. 2023-1116-16, New Water Utility Fee Rates & Tap Fee Police Purchase Policy:**  
Motion to table by Member Potters. Supported by Member Ranshaw. Vote: Unanimous. Motion Carried (5-0).

**Water Tower AWWA Inspection Proposal:** Motion by Mayor Lenneman. Supported by Deputy Mayor Potter. Roll Call Vote: Unanimous. Motion Carried (5-0).

**2024 Road Maintenance Bid Acceptance:** Motion by Member Connor. Supported by Member Nichols. Roll Call Vote: Unanimous. Motion Carried (5-0).

**Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items:** Resident Katherine Bussard asks the Council to consider having a workshop discussion for the community on the water project rate increase. Resident Bryant Titus speaks of concerns of the speed of drivers on Vermontville Hwy and thanks the Council for tabling the issue for more information to be shared. Resident Joey Staszuk asked additional questions on the water project.

**Communications from Mayor and Council:** Mayor Lenneman reminded everyone that on December 2 about the Christmas Parade at 6 pm and Fill a Cop Car 10 am -1 pm.

**Excuse Absent Members:** Motion to excuse Member Pulda and Member Sweeney by Deputy Mayor Potter and Supported by Member Ranshaw Vote: Unanimous. Motion Carried (5-0).

**Next Regular Meeting:** December 21, 2023

**Meeting Adjourned:** 7:55 pm

Respectfully Submitted by:

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*Becky Dolman*

City Clerk

Approved 12/21/2023