

**CITY OF YALE
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
February 13, 2023**

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Brenda Krzak.

Present: Council members Tammy Hazel, Patti Kendzierski, Brenda Krzak, Sharon Krosnicki, Shelley O'Brien, Colton Middleton, and Josh Jedrzejczak. City Manager Lorrelei Natke and City Clerk Ashley Aldea

Absent:

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all

23-023 P Motion by Hazel, seconded by Jedrzejczak to approve the agenda as presented. **PASSED**

23-024 P Motion by Hazel, seconded by Kendzierski to approve the minutes of January 9, 2023 as presented. **PASSED**

23-025 P Motion by Kendzierski, seconded by Krosnicki to approve bills and draw checks for the same. *Roll call vote, Ayes: Hazel, Jedrzejczak, Kendzierski, Krosnicki, Middleton, and O'Brien. Nays: none.* **PASSED**

Public Comments on agenda items -

Joyce Hoist, 92 Westmore Loop- Submitted into record, a statement about her opposition to bringing a dispensary to the City of Yale.

Elizabeth Dabney, 212 S Kennefic- Owner of CJ's Restaurant, is opposed to bring marijuana businesses to Yale without putting it to a vote of the people.

Reagan Majcher, Yale High School Student- Bringing a dispensary to Yale will bring fear and negatively affect the city and it's reputation..

Sherrie Kleitch, 324 Park Ave- Inquired on the likelihood that Yale could support 2 dispensaries, especially since the residents of the City seem to be divided about having one.

Makayla McLelland, Yale High School Student- Bringing marijuana businesses to Yale would cause a bad name for the city.

Suzie Gardner, 105 Fourth St- Voiced her opposition to bringing marijuana businesses to Yale. Reminded council that the former county sheriff and prosecutor came and spoke against bringing marijuana to the City.

Michele Siegel, 12980 Metcalf Rd- Son is an addict, his addiction progressed from smoking marijuana. Marijuana businesses should not be allowed within the City.

Bill McMurtrie, Brockway Twp Supervisor- Lagoon expansion and road use/maintenance need to be considered before any decisions are made about Oatman Road property.

Kurt Sutton, Superintendent of Yale Schools- Spoke on how increasing access by bringing marijuana businesses to the City would negatively affect the area.

Greg Gardner, 101 E. Mechanic St- Opposes both marijuana grow facilities as well as dispensaries, but if council is considering bringing in these businesses, please allow the residents to vote upon it.

Joyce Hortop, 1 Spring St- Believes marijuana facilities would be a detriment to the City, and crime rates would rise.

Mary Smith, Yale Hardware- Inquired upon existing marijuana ordinances that the City has adopted. Believes that Yale should be the odd one out and not allow a dispensary within the city like other municipalities have allowed.

Eric Kleitch, 324 Park Ave- Believes that bringing marijuana facilities to the city would eliminate the sense of safety and community that his family moved to Yale for. Encouraged Council to allow residents to vote upon the issue.

Mark Abraham, 5291 Parker Rd- Agrees that city residents should be able to vote on marijuana issues that have been brought up by the residents. No one under 21 would even be allowed to step foot upon the premises of any licensed/regulating facility. State licensed facilities are not contributing to increased crime. The state does have some rules and regulations on licensed facilities, those are the minimum. The City could layer on any additional rules, regulations, that they deem necessary.

- 23-026** P Motion by O'Brien, seconded by Hazel to approve having a property appraisal completed on the City of Yale Oatman Road property for a cost of \$3,000.00. *Roll call vote, Ayes: Jedrzejczak, Kendzierski, Krosnicki, Middleton, O'Brien, and Hazel. Nays: none. PASSED*
- 23-027** P Motion by O'Brien, seconded by Jedrzejczak to approve hiring Shannon Preister for temporary clerical support at a rate of \$20.00 per hour. *Roll call vote, Ayes: Kendzierski, Krosnicki, Middleton, O'Brien, Hazel, and Jedrzejczak. Nays: none. PASSED*
- 23-028** F Motion by O'Brien, seconded by Jedrzejczak to approve hiring a seasonal DPW park maintenance employee at the rate of \$15.00 per hour. *Roll call vote, Ayes: Krosnicki, Middleton, O'Brien, Hazel, Kendzierski, Jedrzejczak and Kendzierski. Nays: none. PASSED*
- 23-029** P Motion by Hazel, seconded by Kendzierski to approve a water meter replacement policy, at the cost of \$400.00. *Roll call vote, Ayes: Middleton, O'Brien, Hazel, Jedrzejczak, Kendzierski, and Krosnicki. Nays: None. PASSED*
- 23-030** P Motion by O'Brien, seconded by Hazel to form a committee to review an amendment of Ordinance 191 for adult-use provisioning centers, as well as investigate the possibility and plausibility of holding an election for that purpose. *Roll call vote, Ayes: O'Brien, Hazel, Jedrzejczak, and Middleton, Nays: Kendzierski, and Krosnicki. PASSED*
*** (Committee to be made up of four members: Council member Hazel, Council Member O'Brien, Eric Kleitch, and Sherrie Kleitch.)*
- 23-031** P Motion by O'Brien, seconded by Jedrzejczak to approve obtaining 2 credit cards for use by City employees. *Roll call vote, Ayes: Hazel, Jedrzejczak, Kendzierski, Krosnicki, Middleton, and O'Brien. Nays: None. PASSED*

City Manager's Report- There have been two sewer emergencies to note, one on Clarence Street and the other on .

Reiterated to both council and community members that maintains open availability for addressing any questions/concerns

Public Comments in General -

Mary Smith, Yale Hardware- Came to meetings some time ago to request signs be placed at city limits prohibiting engine braking. That still hasn't been done.

Bill McMurtrie, Brockway Twp Supervisor- Doesn't understand the logic of Yale City Council. The appraisal of Oatman Road property shouldn't be done after receiving a bid(s) on the property.

Mark Abraham, 5291 Parker Rd- Although he agrees the citizens of Yale should be able to vote, he is interested in bringing an agricultural business to the Oatman Rd property and is unable to wait much longer before he won't be able to utilize the property this year. In regard to the use of the property, he only needs half of it so the rest could be reserved for future lagoon expansion/city use.

Liz Dabney, S Kennefic St- Reiterated that despite what her personal feelings are about marijuana, she just hopes that the community would get to vote upon it.

Eric Kleitch, 324 Park Ave- Argued that marijuana use does indeed lead to addiction.

Final Comments -

Jedrzejczak- Not a marijuana user himself, but City Council needs to be realistic about the issue. It's likely that within a short time, access will be even greater than it is now.

O'Brien- Thanks to the public that attended the meeting and voiced their opinions.

Middleton- It is very important that City Council hears from the community, so please continue to attend meetings and voice your opinions.

Krosnicki- Thanks to the public for attending the meeting. Again spoke on her passion for improving the City of Yale park.

Kendzierski- Inquired about the status of the generator sale.

23-032 P Motion by Kendzierski, seconded by Hazel to adjourn @ 8:59 PM. PASSED

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of minutes of a meeting of the City Council of the City of Yale, County of St. Clair, State of Michigan, held on the 13th day of February 2023, and that said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meetings Act, being Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976.

Ashley E. Aldea, City Clerk

