EDWARDSBURG VILLAGE COUNCIL MINUTES

November 19, 2018

The meeting of the Edwardsburg Village Council was called to order at 7:00 pm by President Scott Mackling, those in attendance were Paula Ralph (Clerk), Lisa Withers (Treasurer) and Trustees Jacque Tighe, Dennis Peak, Terry Bidwell, Jim Meltinos, Laura Hughes.
Absent: Suellen Hawks

Pledge of Allegiance:

Approval of Agenda: Motion made by Meltinos, seconded by Bidwell to approve the agenda. All in favor. Motion carried

Public Comments: Resident Robert Parrish addressed the council in regards to street lighting. He has concerns about LED lighting. Village President Mackling explained that the village does not own the street lights, they belong to the electric company. Mr. Parrish is also concerned about the lighting at the marina

County Commissioner Roseann Marchetti provided the board with topics of interest within the county. A complete transcript of the minutes can be found at www.casscountymi.org

- As a board member and secretary of the EDC, I am happy to report that the National Copper Building in Dowagiac was sold to an IT Company and they will use a part of the building to house a data center. There is a possibility of ten full time and three to four part time positions. Important about the sale is the IT company was looking for not only square footage but power and the building has a substation attached. Also look for a new partnership in Edwardsburg with the food pantry and Kinexus/workforce development. On the November 1, 2018 meeting the Board voted no on two courthouse proposals, approved an increase in the Cass-Van Buren health department allocation, and made appointments to the historical commission and EDC. There is a retirement reception for Diane Klapchuk, deputy treasurer on December 14, 2018 at the county building at 4:00 pm. Diane took over after Linda Pruett passed away and since the appointment of the new treasurer has been doing her training. Hope Anderson recommended hiring Cynthia Gill as the new deputy treasurer. Ms. Gill comes to us with a degree in accounting and an MBA and her appointment was approved at the November 15, 2018 meeting. At that meeting the Board approved a company, Civic Plus, to begin work on a new website. Civic Plus does government websites and we hope to have the new website up and running within the next six months.

- Wayne Beyea, of the School of planning Design and Construction at MSU, was head of the team that put together the Sustainable Built Environment Initiative for Cassopolis and I recently emailed him and they are willing to help us to move forward with the same type of project. I discussed the project briefly with the Edwardsburg Chamber of Commerce at their last meeting and I believe we can get the community on board. The Chamber is already willing to help as well as a number of residents who have told me they would be glad to help. There is a cost, $7500.00 which goes to MSU but does not have to be paid up front. The Chamber has set aside $1500.00 for the project. I asked the township to budget for it and I ask that you, the Village to do so as well. The amount is up to you, but I believe we can get donations for not only a portion of the MSU fee but for anything else like mailings and snacks. I do not intend to propose the grand scale that Cass did. I am talking to you tonight so there will be time for you all to discuss it. There are two application deadlines, March 15 and September 15. Letters of support will also be required, but that will not be a problem. At the next EDC meeting, the Edwardsburg project will be discussed and our administrator has said she will help.

Approval of Minutes: Motion made by Bidwell, seconded by Tighe to approve the minutes of the 10/15/18 Regular board meeting. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approval of Revenue/Expenditure Report: Motion made by Tighe, seconded by Bidwell to approve the Revenue/Expenditure Report for the period of 04/01/18 to 10/31/18 as presented. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approval of Check Register Report: Motion made by Peak, seconded by Tighe to approve the Check Register Report checks #32684-32770. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: The October 2018 (unaudited) report indicated that for the month receipts totaled $77,766.05, and the status of the certificates of deposit and savings accounts. Motion by Tighe, supported by Hughes to approve sending an extra payment for wastewater assessment of $150,000.00 as suggested by the treasurer. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion carried. Motion by Tighe, supported by Bidwell to approve reinvesting the CD that came due at Greater Niles Federal Credit Union at 1.75% if possible. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Presidents Report: President Mackling read a resignation letter from councilman Jim Meltinos. Motion by Tighe, supported by Bidwell to accept Jim Meltinos' letter of resignation. All in favor. Motion carried.

Cemetery Board: Next meeting is December 11, 2018.

Enforcement Officer/Zoning Administrator: Mr. Krempec gave an update on current and previous violations, what has been done and what further action is being taken.

Building/Electrical/Plumbing/Mechanical Reports: Building Permits: 1 permit issued, $146.00 fees collected, Zoning Permits: 1 permit issued, $25.00 fees collected, Electrical Permits: 1 permit issued, $160.00 fees collected, Plumbing Permits: 1 permit issued, $302.00 fees collected.

Police Board: Representative Meltinos provided the statistics for the month of October 2018 within the village, they are as follows: Calls for Service totaled 202, total Traffic Crashes 13. Year-to-date figures, Calls for Service 1,710 and Traffic Crashes 94, with the remaining stats 0. A complete transcript of the police board minutes can be found at www.edwardsburg.net

Fire Board: None

Ambulance Board: Representative Hughes provided the Agency Activity Summary report for the month of October 2018. Total number of incidents was 70. Edwardsburg 20, Ontwa 29, Milton 1, Mason 1, Jefferson 1, Porter 1, Dowagiac 4, Niles Twp. 1, Cassopolis 4, City of Niles 5, City of Buchanan 1, Bremen 1, and Other 1. A complete transcript of the ambulance board minutes can be found at www.edwardsburgambulance.org

Parks Administrator: None

Water Commissioner: None

Street Administrator: Motion by Peak, supported by Bidwell to approve the purchase of 120 tons of ice control sand from Aggregate Industries for $642.00 (60% 202-478-782 and 40% 203-478-782). Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion carried. We're having issues with the leaf vac.

Building & Grounds: Terry Bidwell brought down his gas powered power washer for the street department to use over the winter.

Equipment Supervisor: None

Recycling/Refuse Administrator: None

Planning Commission: Continues to meet regularly to review the IPMC and other village ordinances. They will meet on Tuesday, January 29th, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

Chamber of Commerce: Next meeting is December 5th. Annual Cookie Walk will be on Thursday, December 6th from 3:00 to 6:00. Annual Dinner is March 16th at 6:00 held at Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church.

NEW BUSINESS

Oath of Office: Clerk Ralph swore in council members elected in the November 6, 2018 General Election. Re-elected were Terry Bidwell, Laura Hughes, and Jacque Tighe. Newly elected was Kellen VanHulle.

Budget Amendments: Fines & Costs is a new line item. Also added, per the auditor, were GL numbers to handle the monies for the loan, purchase and payment of the new snow plow.

	Orginial Budget	Amended Budget	Change
101-320-656	$ -	$ 100.00	$ 100.00
101-320-957	$ -	$ 100.00	$ 100.00
641-000-001	$ -	$ 170,775.48	$ 170,775.48
641-000-300	$ -	$ 170,775.48	$ 170,775.48
641-000-142	$ -	$ 170,775.48	$ 170,775.48

Motion made by Tighe, supported by Peak to approve the budget amendments. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

Employee Health Insurance 2019: The cost of health insurance was reduced by 1.74% as of January 2019.

Scheduled Work Session: Saturday, December 15th at 9:30 am

Adjournment: Motion made by Peak, seconded by Tighe to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:01 p.m. All in favor. Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Village office closed Thursday, November 22nd and Friday, November 23rd.
- Cemetery Board Meeting Tuesday, December 11th @ 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula S. Ralph, Clerk
Village of Edwardsburg