EDWARDSBURG VILLAGE COUNCIL MINUTES

September 16, 2019

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, Jay Penny, Laura Hughes, and Kellen VanHulle.

Pledge of Allegiance:

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

Public Comments: 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

Resident Nathan Hutchison 26830 Hamilton Street (14-091-100-026-00) would like the board to abandon the alley between his property and that of Lowell Harmon 26802 Hamilton Street (14-091-100-024-00). Mr. Hutchison has approached the council several times regarding this issue. President Mackling said he will contact the village attorney for guidance on this matter.

Approval of Minutes: Motion made by Tighe, seconded by Bidwell to approve the minutes of the 8/19/19 Regular board meeting. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approval of Revenue/Expenditure Report: Motion made by VanHulle, seconded by Peak to approve the Revenue/Expenditure Report for the period of 04/01/19 to 8/31/2019 as presented. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approval of Check Register Report: Motion made by Peak, seconded by Bidwell to approve the Check Register Report checks #33414 - 33494. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: The August 2019 (unaudited) report indicated that for the month receipts totaled $78,373.99, and the status of the certificates of deposit and savings accounts.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Marihuana Ordinance Development: Work continues on the ordinance and a special meeting to complete the ordinance was scheduled for Thursday, September 26th at 7:00 p.m. Motion by Tighe, supported by VanHulle to hold a public hearing for the Marihuana Ordinance at the October Village Council Meeting, Monday, October 21st at 7:15 p.m. All in favor. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Presidents Report: None

Cemetery Board: Cemetery board met on September 10th for their quarterly meeting. The board discussed ways to make the cemetery more user friendly. There are some tree's that need to be removed. Some of the suggestions were to purchase a sign board where maps can be posted, name the drives and find a new way to mark the rows. The sextons want to remind everyone that they will be stripping the graves to prepare for winter. There will be a two week period from October 31st to November 18th for individuals to remove personal belongings from the graves.

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, $77.00 fees collected.

Police Board: Did not meet but Representative VanHulle provided the statistics for the month of August 2019 within the village, they are as follows: Calls for Service totaled 247, total Traffic Crashes 2. 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 July 2019. Total number of incidents was 121. Edwardsburg 23, Ontwa 58, Milton 3, Mason 2, Jefferson 4, Calvin 1, Porter 1, Dowagiac 4, Niles Twp. 1, Kalamazoo 1, Cassopolis 5, Howard Twp. 3, City of Niles 8, Bremen 7. The month of August total number of incidents was 104. Edwardsburg 29, Ontwa 38, Mason 2, Jefferson 3, Porter 5, Dowagiac 3, Niles Twp. 2, Mishawaka 1, Cassopolis 3, LaGrange 2, Howard Twp. 2, Village of Marcellus 1, City of Niles 5, Bremen 8. Representative Tighe reported that Life Care is pulling out of Cass County. Central Cass Ambulance Authority held a special meeting to discuss options. The Edwardsburg Ambulance will hold a special meeting on Tuesday, September 24th to discuss what role, if any they play. A complete transcript of the ambulance board minutes can be found at www.edwardsburgambulance.org

Parks Administrator: None

Water Commissioner: Motion made by Peak, supported by Bidwell to pay $703.00 (591-205-925) to the State of Michigan for special water testing. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

Motion made by Bidwell, supported by Hughes to pay $550.00 (591-553-930) to Peerless to test both pumps on September 20th. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

We were informed by DEQ that we need to have a level measuring devices installed in pump #2. Waiting for a price from Peerless.

Motion made by Tighe, supported by VanHulle to hold a public hearing on Monday, October 21st at 7:30 to adopt a new Water Rate Resolution. All in favor. Motion carried.

Street Administrator: Rich has been talking and meeting with contractors to come up with a plan on what can be done with Section Street next year. Jacque would like the Street Department to look into striping Elkhart Road & Cass Street yet this year.

Building & Grounds: Only one bid was turned in for office cleaning by Susie's Home & Office Cleaning, Suellen Hawks. The bid was for $75.00 per cleaning, services would be done every two weeks and would require a three year contract. Suellen currently cleans the office. Motion made by VanHulle, supported by Bidwell to accept the bid. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

Equipment Supervisor: Equipment Supervisor Bidwell was happy to announce that the new leaf vacuum has been delivered.

Recycling/Refuse Administrator: None

Planning Commission: Next meeting is Tuesday, September 24th at 7:00.

Chamber of Commerce: Chamber Discovery Expo, Thursday, September 26th from 3:00 – 7:00 at the Edwardsburg Fire Station.

NEW BUSINESS

Fireworks Ordinance 2019-02: Changes were discussed to the draft, Kellen will update the ordinance for the October 21st Village Council Meeting.

Ontwa Township Clean-Up: Motion made by Bidwell, supported by Hughes to approve the use of Village Employee & Equipment for Ontwa Township Clean-Up. All in favor. Motion carried.

Establish Halloween Hours: Motion made by Tighe, supported by Peak to set Trick-or-treat hours from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, October 31st. All in favor. Motion carried.

Adjournment: Motion made by VanHulle, seconded by Tighe to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:35 p.m. All in favor. Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Chamber Discovery Expo, Thursday, September 26th from 3:00 – 7:00
- Ontwa Township Clean-Up Saturday, September 28th from 8 to 2:00

Respectfully submitted,

Paula S. Ralph, Clerk
Village of Edwardsburg