EDWARDSBURG VILLAGE COUNCIL MINUTES
September 19, 2022

The meeting of the Edwardsburg Village Council was called to order at 7:00 pm by President Dennis Peak, those in attendance were Paula Ralph (Clerk), Meryl Christensen (Treasurer), and Trustees Sam Garwood, Nancy Stoner, Terry Bidwell, Jay Penny, and Laura Hughes
Absent: Trustee Kellen Van Hulle.

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

Public Comments:

- Edwardsburg School Board Candidate Jonathan Anderstrom attend the meeting to introduce himself and answer any questions the community may have.
- 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.

Approval of Minutes: Motion made by Bidwell, seconded by Hughes to approve the minutes of the 08/15/22 Regular board meeting with one spelling correction to Jason's Auto. It should have been spelled Jayson's Auto. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approval of Revenue/Expenditure Report: Motion made by Penny, seconded by Hughes to approve the Revenue/Expenditure Report for the period of 04/01/2022 to 08/31/22 as presented. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approval of Check Register Report: Motion made by Bidwell, seconded by Hughes to approve the Check Register Report checks #360323-36131, grand total of $242,171.78. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: The August 2022 (unaudited) report indicated that for the month receipts totaled $124,841.26 and the status of the certificates of deposit and savings accounts.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Frank Williams with Peerless Midwest gave an update on the Iron Filtration Plant. Plans are ready to be sent to EGLE. After EGLE approval/permitting we will break ground for the plant.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Presidents Report: The connector path from May Street to the Village is still in the early stages. The committee is looking into grant funding.

Invoices for Approval: None

DPW Report: Rich Low submitted a report, read by President Peak: Leaf pickup will begin October 17th – December 11th. Street paving has been completed. Fall hydrant flushing will be October 6th & 7th and will be done at night.

Cemetery Board: Met on September 13th but did not have a quorum. Motion made by Penny, seconded by Stoner to approve the purchase of a roll door for the "chapel" side of the shed in the cemetery. The door will be purchased at Menard's for $400.00 (101-276-930). Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

Enforcement Officer/Zoning Administrator: None

Building/Electrical/Plumbing/Mechanical Reports: Building Permits: 6 permits issued; $1,006.65 fees collected. Electrical Permits: 1 permit issued; $160.00 fees collected. Plumbing & Mechanical Permits: 3 permits issued; $435.00 fees collected.

Police Board: Police Chief Doug Westrick provided the statistics for the month of August 2022 within the village, they are as follows: Calls for Service totaled 210, total Traffic Crashes 2.

Ambulance Board: Ambulance Administrator Dennis Closson provided the Agency Activity Summary report for the month of August 2022. Total number of incidents was 100. Edwardsburg 21, Ontwa 47, Mason 5, Jefferson 3, Porter 2, Dowagiac 2, Niles Twp. 4, Cassopolis 5, Howard Twp. 1, Niles City 2, Buchanan Twp. 1, Sturgis 1, other 4, St. Joseph 1, and Watervliet 1.

Fire Board: None

Parks Administrator: EYSA seems to be going well.

Water Commissioner: None

Street Administrator:

- Motion made by Bidwell, seconded by Stoner to pay Brown's Tree Service $2,600.00 (203-463-818) to remove large tree and grind stump on the corner of Hamilton and Cass Street. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

- Motion made by Bidwell, seconded by Hughes to pay Ferguson Waterworks $392.00 (202-463-782) for paving risers. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion carried.
- Motion made by Bidwell, supported by Garwood, to pay Rathco Safety Supply $1,091.13 for 1-stop sign, 6-30MPH signs, 12-25MPH signs and 6-14'posts (202-474-782 & 203-474-782). Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion carried.
- Motion made by Bidwell, supported by Garwood to purchase some safety signs (Worker's Ahead) for $500.00 from Amazon (641-850-740). Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

Building & Grounds: None

Equipment Supervisor: Motion made by Bidwell, supported by Stoner to approve the purchase of a mini excavator from Bobcat of Michiana for $51,149.41. This includes a 24' tooth bucket and a 30' smooth bucket. Also approved is the purchase of a 7-ton equipment trailer for $6,800.00. All coming out of 641-850-970. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

Recycling/Refuse Administrator: None

Planning Commission: Will meet on Tuesday, September 27th at 6:00 p.m.

Chamber of Commerce: None

NEW BUSINESS

Building Permit Fees: The Village discussed adopting the Bureau of Construction Codes Permit and Inspection Fee Schedule. Established Under the Stille-Derossett-Hale State Construction Code Act, 1972 PA 230 MCL 125.1501 ET SEQ. This will replace our current Building Permit Fees dated 1/28/2013. This will make us current with municipalities in the State. Motion made by Bidwell to adopt the new fees, supported by Stoner. Roll Call Vote. All in favor. Motion Carried.

Begin discussion on the pros & cons of a Village manager: Clerk Ralph encouraged the Council members to research the pros & cons of having a Village Manager. This will be an ongoing discussion.

Establish Halloween Hours – Monday, October 31st (Last Year – 6:00 - 7:30 pm): The Village Council established the same Halloween hours as last year.

Adjournment: With no objection President Peak adjourned the meeting at 8:12 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:
Next board meeting will be on Monday, October 17, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula S. Ralph, Clerk
Village of Edwardsburg