EDWARDSBURG VILLAGE COUNCIL MINUTES
November 21, 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, Laura Hughes and Kellen Van Hulle.

Oath of Office: Clerk Ralph swore in council members elected in the November 8, 2022 General Election. Re-elected were Terry Bidwell, Sam Garwood (who finished out a term for Debb Martin), Laura Hughes and Kellen Van Hulle.

Approval of Agenda: Motion made by Bidwell, seconded by Hughes to approve the agenda as presented. 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.

Approval of Minutes: Motion made by Stoner, seconded by Hughes to approve the minutes of the 10/17/2022 Regular Boad Meeting. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approval of Revenue/Expenditure Report: Motion made by Bidwell, seconded by Stoner to approve the Revenue/Expenditure Report for the period of 04/01/2022 to 10/31/22 as presented. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approval of Check Register Report: Motion made by Van Hulle, seconded by Bidwell to approve the Check Register Report checks #36216-36303, grand total of $87,119.01. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: The October 2022 (unaudited) report indicated that for the month receipts totaled $138,435.71 and the status of the certificates of deposit and savings accounts.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Village Manager: A Village Manager will be considered when doing the 2023-2024 Budget.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Presidents Report: President Peak suggested giving the 4 full time employees a $1,000.00 bonus as well as Treasurer Christensen and Zoning Administrator Dawn Bolock a $500.00 bonus this year. The monies will come from the ARPA funds. Motion was made by Garwood, supported by Van Hulle to support the Presidents suggestion. After discussion a roll call vote was taken. Garwood-yes, Stoner-no, Bidwell-no, Penny-yes, Hughes-yes and Van Hulle-yes. Motion carried.

Invoices for Approval: Motion made by Bidwell, supported by Garwood to pay Kotz Sangster Wysocki P.C. $5,724.72 (101-104-826) for legal fees. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

DPW Report: Getting paving quotes for Davis Street from Elkhart Road to M-62 and Church Street from Cass Street to First Street. The building at the tower that was used by EGLE is being decommissioned and they will turn it over to the Village. The building will require extensive work to be able to use for equipment.

Cemetery Board: None

Enforcement Officer/Zoning Administrator: None

Building/Electrical/Plumbing/Mechanical Reports: Building Permits: 1 permit issued; $115.00 collected. Plumbing & Mechanical Permits: 2 permits issued; $586.00 fees collected.

Police Board: Police Chief Doug Westrick provided the statistics for the month of October 2022 within the village, they are as follows: Calls for Service totaled 0, total Traffic Crashes 4.

Ambulance Board: Ambulance Administrator Dennis Closson provided the Agency Activity Summary report for the month of October 2022. Total number of incidents was 110. Edwardsburg 22, Ontwa 59, Mason 5, Jefferson 2, Calvin 1, Porter 2, Dowagiac 2, Niles Twp. 3, Cassopolis 5, Howard Twp. 2, Niles City 4, Sturgis 2, other 1.

Fire Board: None

Parks Administrator: None

Water Commissioner: Frank Williams with Peerless Midwest gave an update on the Iron Filtration Plant. They are answering questions from EGLE, part of the permitting process.

- Motion made by Penny, supported by Van Hulle to pay Peerless Midwest, Inc. $870.00 (591-553-930) for annual well & pump maintenance. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

- Motion made by Penny, supported by Stoner to pay BW/Cook $3,687.00 (591-553-930) for a wall mount gas heater at the well field. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

- Motion made by Penny, supported by Hughes to pay Ferguson $332.00 (591-552-740) to restock water parts inventory. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

Street Administrator: None

Building & Grounds: Motion made by Van Hulle, supported by Bidwell to pay Dan Tobin, Tobin Landscaping $400.00 (101-266-970) for eight (8) concrete barriers for the parking lot. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

Equipment Supervisor: Motion made by Bidwell, supported by Stoner to pay Truck & Trailer, Inc. not to exceed $800.00 (641-850-930) for cutting edges for the snowplow. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

Recycling/Refuse Administrator: None

Planning Commission: A public hearing was held at the October 25th meeting of the Planning Commission. The purpose of the hearing was to take action on an application to rezone a portion of property (14-091-105-054-00) from residential to commercial for the purpose of building a library and to approve an application for a land split to set aside the property to be rezoned and to offer opportunity for citizen input. Both applications were approved by the Village Planning Commission. It then went on to the County Planning Commission on Wednesday, November 16th and was approved there also. It was brought back to the Village Council for approval at this meeting. Motion made by Stoner, supported by Hughes to follow the Village and County Planning Commission's recommendations to approve the land split and rezoning. All in favor. Motion carried.

Chamber of Commerce: The cookie walk and tree lighting will be held on Thursday, December 1st starting at 4:00 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

Designate Funds for Police Department: Last month the Village Council approved giving the police department $11,000.00 towards the purchase of a new vehicle. Motion made by Bidwell, seconded by Van Hulle that those funds will come out of 101-000-478.

Designate ARPA Funds: Motion made by Van Hulle, seconded by Hughes to designate $66,196.77 to Motor Vehicle, Capital Outlay (641-850-970) to cover the cost of the mini excavator, the trailer for the mini excavator and partial payment of the Ford Dump Truck. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

GW Jones Checking Account: Motion made by Garwood, supported by Bidwell to give Van Hulle the approval to meet with GW Jones Bank and set up a new checking account. All in favor. Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Village office closed Thursday, November 24th and Friday, November 25th.
- Cemetery Board Meeting Tuesday, December 13th @ 4:00 p.m.
- Next Village Council Meeting – Monday, December 19th @ 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula S. Ralph, Clerk
Village of Edwardsburg