EDWARDSBURG VILLAGE COUNCIL MINUTES
July 18, 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.

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

Public Comments:

- Karee Krause, Director of Cass County Veterans Affairs attend the meeting to introduce herself and the what the program has to offer to Veterans in Cass County.
- Bryce Wentz approached the council in regard to using Gunn Park for EYSA 5-U soccer. The council is open to the idea but would like to look into parking arrangements.
- Don Samuels, 69140 Maple Street, has some concerns with the new sidewalk being installed on Maple Street. The tree roots were ground out for the new sidewalk, and he is concerned that it will cause the tree in his front yard to die. The DPW will look into the issue.
- 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 Van Hulle to approve the minutes of the 06/20/22 Regular board meeting. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approval of Revenue/Expenditure Report: Motion made by Van Hulle, seconded by Penny to approve the Revenue/Expenditure Report for the period of 04/01/2022 to 06/30/22 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 #35877-35959, grand total of $59,381.71. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: The June 2022 (unaudited) report indicated that for the month receipts totaled $153654.46 and the status of the certificates of deposit and savings accounts.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Presidents Report: The Village has been given the opportunity to enroll in the Michigan Homeowner Assistance Fund through the Michigan State housing Development Authority. Becoming a MIHAF partner will allow Village residents to apply for financial assistance with delinquent mortgage/housing payments, delinquent property taxes, as well as utility payments. The Village Council has given Clerk Ralph the okay to enroll in this program.

Invoices for Approval: None

DPW Report: Rich Low submitted a report, read by President Peak:

- Railroad spur line on Maple Street has been removed in preparation for paving. Cass County Road Commission says paving will start the end of August.
- Sidewalks have been removed on Maple and the DPW is working to get them all poured in the next week or two.
- The exploratory locating has been done for the US 12 stop light project for MDOT.
- The Pilot study is in its second week and results are looking great, the survey company is scheduled to start the 26th of July to begin the process of laying out the iron plant.
- We received only one (1) quote for the required tower repairs, requests were sent to eight (8) contractors.

Cemetery Board: None

Enforcement Officer/Zoning Administrator: None

Building/Electrical/Plumbing/Mechanical Reports: Building Permits: 4 permits issued; $445.00 fees collected. Electrical Permits: 1 permit issued; $160.00 fees collected. Plumbing & Mechanical Permits: 1 permit issued; $240.00 fees collected.

Police Board: Police Chief Doug Westrick provided the statistics for the month of June 2022 within the village, they are as follows: Calls for Service totaled 157, total Traffic Crashes 3.

Ambulance Board: Ambulance Administrator Dennis Closson provided the Agency Activity Summary report for the month of June 2022. Total number of incidents was 102. Edwardsburg 21, Ontwa 53, Milton 1, Mason 1, Jefferson 4, Porter 1, Dowagiac 4, Niles Twp. 2, Cassopolis 8, LaGrange 1, Howard Twp. 1, Bertrand Twp. 2, Sturgis 2, and Watervliet 1.

Fire Board: None

Parks Administrator: None

Water Commissioner: None

Street Administrator: Street Administrator Bidwell reported that due to the storm damage and clean up in the northern townships of the County the Cass County Road Commission is running a little behind schedule. As mentioned in the DPW report, the paving projects for the Village will be done the end of August.

Building & Grounds: None

Equipment Supervisor: Motion made by Bidwell, seconded by Van Hulle to purchase a 2nd set of cordless tools for the garage not to exceed $700.00 (641-850-970), a lockable tool chest for the water truck (generator and vacuum) not to exceed $500.00 (591-552-970) and an electric cement mixer not to exceed $500.00 (101-276-970). A total not to exceed $1,700.00. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

Recycling/Refuse Administrator: None

Planning Commission: The Planning Commission met on Tuesday June 28th and began the process of amending to the Permit Ordinance. They will meet again on Tuesday, July 26th at 6:00 p.m. to complete the amendments.

Chamber of Commerce: July Chamber meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 3rd at noon. The Fall Festival/Business Expo will be held on Saturday, September 17th at the Fire Station from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

ARPA Funds: The Council discussed possible uses of the $130,099.83 American Rescue Plan funds that the Village received. No decision was made.

Adjournment: With no objection President Peak adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Annual Audit the week of August 1st.**
- **Next board meeting will be on Monday, August 15, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Paula S. Ralph, Clerk
Village of Edwardsburg