EDWARDSBURG VILLAGE COUNCIL MINUTES
September 20, 2021

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 VanHulle.

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

Public Comments: Ontwa Township Trustee Jeff Kozinski presented the Elkhart Road Multi-Purpose Connector Path Project to the Village Council. The project would add a bike/walking path one mile long from May Street into the Village. The Village would be responsible for the 3 tenths of a mile in the Village limits. The council will need to discuss where the funds would come from to pay for the project before moving forward.

Former Street Superintendent Chris Powers addressed the council regarding vacation time he feels he should have been paid for when he resigned. President Peak explained that the two weeks of vacation time he was given in January of 2021 was for that current year and he did not stay the entire year so per Village policy, his unused vacation time was pro-rated based on the number of months he did work in 2021.

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 Stoner to approve the minutes of the 8/16/2021 Regular board meeting. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approval of Revenue/Expenditure Report: Motion made by Penny, seconded by Bidwell to approve the Revenue/Expenditure Report for the period of 04/01/2021 to 8/31/2021 as presented. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approval of Check Register Report: Motion made by VanHulle, seconded by Hughes to approve the Check Register Report checks #35100-35180. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: The August 2021 (unaudited) report indicated that for the month receipts totaled $107,621.48, and the status of the certificates of deposit and savings accounts.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Presidents Report: None

Invoices for Approval: Motion made by Bidwell, supported by Hughes to pay Peerless Midwest $1,678.00 (591-553-818) for service work on the VPN Router. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

Cemetery Board: Cemetery board met on Tuesday, September 14th. There are two trees in the cemetery that need to be taken down. Motion made by Penny, supported by Bidwell to pay Brown's Tree Service to take down the two trees and grind the stumps for $2,000.00 (101-276-818.100, 101-276-818.200). Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

Enforcement Officer/Zoning Administrator: None

Building/Electrical/Plumbing/Mechanical Reports: Building Permits: 2 permits issued; $1,455.00 fees collected. Electrical Permits: 1 permit issued; $201.00 fees collected. Mechanical & Plumbing Permits: 2 permits issued; $465.00 fees collected.

Police Board: Police Chief Doug Westrick provided the statistics for the month of August 2021 within the village, they are as follows: Calls for Service totaled 161, total Traffic Crashes 2. A complete transcript of the police board minutes can be found at www.edwardsburg.net

Ambulance Board: Ambulance Administrator Dennis Closson provided the Agency Activity Summary report for the month of August 2021. Total number of incidents was 95. Edwardsburg 23, Ontwa 43, Mason 1, Jefferson 6, Porter 1, Dowagiac 5, Cassopolis 1, Pokagon 2, Volinia 1, Niles City 6, Sturgis 1, Three Rivers 3, St. Joseph 1, and other 1. A complete transcript of the ambulance board minutes can be found at www.edwardsburgambulance.org

Fire Board: Jacque Tighe gave an update from the fire board meeting. Visit the Edwardsburg Fire Department website at www.firedepartment.net/directory/michigan/cass-county/edwardsburg/edwardsburg-fire-department

Parks Administrator: Administrator Hughes reported that the Village is currently working on plans to do some improvements to Gunn Park. We have met with Blake Winstead from EGLE to get some ideas and learn what will be allowed. Village resident Jill Boepple is willing to apply for a DNR grant in the spring on behalf of the Village.

Water Commissioner: A letter with a short survey will be mailed out to all the Village water customers the week of October 11th with a return due date of October 29th regarding the Village moving forward with an iron filtration plant.

Street Administrator: None

Building & Grounds: None

Equipment Supervisor: None

Recycling/Refuse Administrator: None

Planning Commission: None

Chamber of Commerce: Next meeting is Wednesday, October 6th.

NEW BUSINESS

Authority to open CD's at G.W. Jones: Motion made by VanHulle, supported by Stoner to give Treasurer Meryl Christensen the authority to open CD's on behalf of the Village of Edwardsburg at G.W. Jones Exchange Bank. All in favor. Motion carried.

Establish Halloween Hours: The Village Council has set the 2021 Halloween hours for Sunday, October 31st from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Adjournment: With no objection President Peak adjourned the meeting at 8:17.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Next board meeting will be on Monday, October 18, 2021, at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula S. Ralph, Clerk
Village of Edwardsburg