EDWARDSBURG VILLAGE COUNCIL MINUTES

June 21, 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, and Laura Hughes.
Absent: Kellen VanHulle.

Approval of Agenda: Motion made by Bidwell, seconded by Stoner 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.

Chris Stackowicz, local artist did a presentation for the council on the All Aboard Mural project. The project will be funded by donations from the public and will be collected by the Uptown Improvement Association. No Village funds will be spent on the mural.

Approval of Minutes: Motion made by Bidwell, seconded by Hughes to approve the minutes of the 5/17/2021 Regular board meeting. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approval of Revenue/Expenditure Report: Motion made by Bidwell, seconded by Hughes to approve the Revenue/Expenditure Report for the period of 04/01/2021 to 5/31/2021 as presented. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approval of Check Register Report: Motion made by Stoner, seconded by Penny to approve the Check Register Report checks #34881-34956. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: The May 2021 (unaudited) report indicated that for the month receipts totaled $76,815.43, and the status of the certificates of deposit and savings accounts.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Alley Vacation: There was further discussion regarding the alley vacation. The clerk will need in writing, a letter from the property owners requesting the Village Council abandon the alleys. The property owners will also need a current survey of the property to turn in to Cass County to have their deeds updated. After this, the Village will need to pass a resolution that will also need to be turned in to Cass County.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Presidents Report: President Peak would like to begin the process of amending the Village Charter.

Invoices for Approval: Motion made by Hughes, supported by Stoner to pay Kotz Sangster Wysocki P.C. $215.00 (101-104-826) for legal fees. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion carried. Motion by Bidwell, supported by Hughes to pay Alexander Chemical $869.00 (591-205-925) for chlorine. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

Cemetery Board: Met on June 8th. There are some trees that need to be taken down, Brown's Tree Service has been contacted. The board would like to purchase a message board for the cemetery. Motion made by Stoner, supported by Hughes to purchase a message board not to exceed $1,500.00. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion carried. Complete Cemetery Board minutes can be found on the Village website.

Enforcement Officer/Zoning Administrator: The property at 68977 M-62 (Gateway Shopping Center) has been sold. The planned business operations are to include a fitness facility, martial arts studio, restaurant, massage/spa, and an additional space for lease. The restaurant is looking to obtain a liquor license. The only ones in escrow at the present time in Cass County are not for sale without the purchase of the building as well. They have consulted with the MLCC and feel confident zoning the building in a corridor improvement district would give them the best opportunity to obtain a developmental class C liquor license. All the other criteria required by the state of Michigan are met. Motion made by Bidwell, supported by Stoner to allow them to apply a liquor license contingent on the Village Planning Commission's approval. All in favor. Motion carried.

Building/Electrical/Plumbing/Mechanical Reports: Building Permits: 3 permits issued; $1,582.00 fees collected.

Police Board: Police Chief Doug Westrick provided the statistics for the month of May 2021 within the village, they are as follows: Calls for Service totaled 228, 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 May 2021. Total number of incidents was 95. Edwardsburg 21, Ontwa 36, Mason 2, Jefferson 1, Calvin 1, Dowagiac 7, Niles Twp. 2, Cassopolis 7, LaGrange 1, Howard Twp. 1, Niles City 4, Buchanan 1, Three Rivers 6, St. Joseph 2, and Watervliet 3. A complete transcript of the ambulance board minutes can be found at www.edwardsburgambulance.org

Fire Board: Fire report was provided by Jacque Tighe.

Parks Administrator: We will begin looking into DNR grants for next year.

Water Commissioner: A proposal by Williams & Works to update the Village water reliability study and general plan was presented. This is a study the Village is required to do every 5 years. Motion made by Bidwell, supported by Garwood to pay Williams & Works a total not to exceed a fee of $9,350.00. Roll call vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

Street Administrator: Street Administrator Bidwell announced that Elkhart Road repaving will begin on Monday, July 12th.

Building & Grounds: None

Equipment Supervisor: None

Recycling/Refuse Administrator: None

Planning Commission: Will meet on Tuesday, June 29th.

Chamber of Commerce: Will meet on Wednesday, July 7th.

NEW BUSINESS

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **The office will be closed Friday, July 2nd through Monday, July 5th.**
- **Next board meeting will be on Monday, July 19, 2021, at 7:00 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Paula S. Ralph, Clerk
Village of Edwardsburg