

**EDMORE VILLAGE COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
UNAPPROVED JOURNAL OF MINUTES
June 10, 2024**

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The regular meeting of the Village of Edmore Council was called to order on Monday, June 10, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. by **President Gloria Burr**.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **ROLL CALL:** Members present – **Colburn, Griswold, Guild, McParland, Moore, Pierce, Burr**. Also present: **Mark Borden** – Village Manager, **Shirley Drain** – Village Treasurer, **Kerri Peterson** – Village Clerk, **Deputy Trevor Lincoln** – Montcalm County Sheriff's Department.
4. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:** Motion by **Griswold** to approve the agenda. Supported by **Moore**. **VOICE VOTE: ALL YES: MOTION PASSED 7-0.**
5. **PUBLIC COMMENTS: AGENDA ITEMS:** None.
6. **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:**
 - A. **POLICE:** **Deputy Lincoln** reported there were 147 total hours, 13 total investigations, 1 arrests, 10 traffic stops with 10 verbal warnings issued, 4 subjects investigated, 86 property inspections, 4 liquor inspections, and 1356 total miles of patrol. Notable activities included on May 29th, a 21-year-old Blanchard man was arrested for Operating While Impaired. Contact was made with the man after he called Central Dispatch to report himself as a drunk driver. The man was contacted behind the wheel of his vehicle in the parking lot. After running the man through dexterity exercises and the administration of a preliminary breath test, he was arrested and lodged in the County jail. The man was charged with Operating While Having A High Blood Alcohol Content and for Possession of Open Intoxicants In A Motor Vehicle. There was a meeting between Borden and Tom Goerge had a meeting to discuss and clarify how the Sheriff's Office will assist with junk violations. Deputy Lincoln explained to the Council that after Village ordinance violation steps are taken, if nothing changes, Central Dispatch needs to be contacted to report the ordinance violation and they will send a County Officer to contact the resident in question with stipulations for clean-up. If still nothing changes, the County then takes it to court.
 - B. **MANAGER:** **Mark Borden (Code Enforcement, DPW, DDA):** Borden reported on **COMMITTEES:** None. **DEVELOPMENTS:** Dollar General construction began in late May with lot clearing. Work continues daily. Potential buyers made an offer in late May on the new home constructed in the 400 block of S. Second Street. **CODE ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS:** The primary focus in May has been on violations of our Grass and Noxious Weeds Ordinance. Andy estimated close to 50 door tags for violations as of 6-4-24. To date we have mowed over 20 properties that did not comply with our ordinance after they received notification of the violation. Borden received a call on 5-28-24 from a property owner in town that rents out his property. They were wondering why he got a bill from the Village for mowing his property instead of a phone call. They were informed we do not call people, we use door tags. There is an ongoing dispute about a fence between the property owners at 502 and 512 S. Second Street. **DPW ACTIVITIES:** Paving preparation for the asphalt overlay. Remove one foot of grass along the entire edge of roadways to be paved. Clean-up from asphalt grinding. May is a heavy mowing month. Mowing village properties and ordinance violations Foundations were formed and poured in the cemetery. Flags installed downtown. Veterans

flags installed at the cemetery. Water main flushing scheduled to start Sunday night, 6-9-24. Two burials – one full, one cremains. **MASTER PLAN:** We had our Public Meeting on May 20th for public comment related to the Master Plan. This was led by Molly Sherwood of Fleis and Vandenbrink. Once we pass the resolution, our plan is final and can be submitted with any future applications for funding including the \$10M dollar DWSRF application we will be filing in June. **GRANGER:** The order for the 30-yard-dumpster was cancelled and the container was not delivered. The board still feels that it would cause more trouble with people using it that are not supposed to. **GENERATORS:** We are still getting quotes from vendors for a generator at the DPW building. We have several quotes and will be meeting with Edmore Electric in the next couple weeks to discuss options. **TREES AND PLANTER POTS:** Tree trimming was scheduled for 6-6-2024. Woodland Tree Services were here on the 6th and trimmed the downtown trees. Higbee Landscaping was planting flowers around the downtown trees the week of 6-3-2024. They also planted trees in the vacant tree boxes per their proposal and the agreement. The staff at the hardware store told Higbee they didn't want a tree planted in front of their store because it would block their sign. Mr. Higbee did not plant a tree there and we were contacted. This has not been discussed with the owner of the hardware store as of 6-6-2024. Borden will be meeting with Mark from the hardware this week. **DWSRF: DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND:** This is the same \$10M dollar grant/loan opportunity we applied for last year. Fleis and Vandenbrink has offered to re-apply on behalf of the village at no cost to the village. Applications are due in June and F&V is ready to apply. **BAG FACTORY DUMPSTER:** The contract for trash removal at that location is with Waste Management. Up until last week we were contracted at \$189/month for a pick-up every other week. Phil made contact with us in late May to inform us the dumpster was overfilled and bags were on the ground. He stated Waste Management charges \$175 extra if it's too full and the lids won't close. This has happened more than once. He verified that it is all venue trash and not neighborhood trash. Waste Management was called after getting quotes from Granger and Republic. Waste Management offered a new contract at \$128.50 per month with a pick-up every week. **PART-TIME OFFICE POSITION:** Tracy posted the position on Indeed in mid to late May. WE had 100 applicants in the first two weeks. We had our first interview on Thursday 6-6-2024. Additional interviews are being scheduled. We hope to offer the position to one of the finalists by Friday, 6-21-2024 at the latest. The start date for our new employee will depend on the required notice time he or she must give their current employer. **WATER/SEWER SERVICE TO THE THREE PROPERTIES IN THE TOWNSHIP, WEST OF THE VILLAGE LIMITS:** We had our special council meeting on May 20, 2024. The council voted 4-1 to allow those three properties to install well and septic and to discontinue municipal water and sewer services once they had the well and septic in place. After our meeting, Adam Byrne at the Health Department and Jeff Dice were notified of the decision. On May 30th stops were made at the Home Township office and Edmore Family Dentistry to deliver written notification of the decision including authorization from the village for them to proceed with installing well and septic. Supervisor Cal Beach was not available, but when he returns they are going to sit down and go over the quotes they had gotten for the well and septic work. Dr. Kinser's office is working with the Health Department to determine whether or not the irrigation well on the property can be used for potable water. There will be a follow-up with the property owners in a few weeks with hope of establishing a timeline for anticipated completion dates.

- C. **PRESIDENTS: Gloria Burr:** The First Fridays event went on June 7th went well and had a good turnout. There was concern last summer that the First Fridays would interfere with people going to the Jamboree at the VFW on the same night. Both events took place last Friday and both seemed to have a good turnout.

7. **TREASURER'S REPORT: Shirley Drain**

- A. **TREASURER'S REPORT & COMMENTS: Drain:** No report from Tracy. The books did not balance. The bank shows \$21.25 more than we do. We will find it. Cash balances look good. Drain went on to state that the DDA budgeted rental income for \$25,000 for the year. They have already collected \$21,000 which is over 86% of their budget has been collected already.
- B. **APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF BILLS: Motion by McParland to pay the bills. Supported by Colburn. ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Colburn, Griswold, Guild, McParland, Moore, Pierce, Burr. MOTION PASSED 7-0.**

8. **COMMITTEE REPORTS:** None.

9. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

- A. **REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MAY 13, 2024:** Moore moved to accept the April 08, 2024 minutes as printed. Seconded by Griswold. **VOICE VOTE: ALL YES: MOTION PASSED 7-0.**
- B. **SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MAY 29, 2024:** Motion by Colburn to approve the May 29, 2024 minutes as printed. Supported by Pierce. **VOICE VOTE: ALL YES: MOTION PASSED 7-0.** Drain asked Peterson to check with the newspaper for their circulation numbers in our area to make sure we are following the State guidelines for printing of the minutes.

10. **OLD BUSINESS:** None.

11. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. **BIGG CANNA RENEWAL APPLICATION FOR CONSIDERATION:** Bigg Canna of Edmore, LLC, is a Cannabis business here in Edmore growing recreational marijuana. They have a Grower Class C status as indicated on their application. There have been no changes in ownership or management since last year's renewal in 2023. They are in compliance with the state regulations and with all local ordinances. **Motion by Guild to approve the renewal application for Bigg Canna of Edmore, LLC, at 109 Sunrise Street. Supported by McParland. ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Colburn, Griswold, Guild, McParland, Moore, Pierce, Burr. MOTION PASSED 7-0.**

B. **EDMORE POTATO FESTIVAL EVENT/PARADE APPLICATION FOR CONSIDERATION:** Kasey Mortensen was in attendance to answer any questions. This year's Potato Festival is September 20th-22nd. All the required paperwork has been submitted and includes all the details for the weekend festivities. This year there will be a laser light show in lieu of fireworks, so we do not need a fireworks permit. **Mortensen** informed the council the plan is to have a schedule made public by the first of July. Some discussion took place on the flyers. It was suggested that there be more flyers made and distributed to more of the surrounding areas. The council complimented Mortensen on how great of a job their team is doing on the festival. **McParland moved to approve the Edmore Potato Festival's 2024 event/parade application for September 20th-22nd. Supported by Moore. ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Colburn, Griswold, Guild, McParland, Moore, Pierce, Burr. MOTION PASSED 7-0.**

C. **ADOPTION OF MASTER PLAN VIA MAJORITY VOTE ON THE MASTER PLAN RESOLUTION:** We had our Public Meeting on May 20th for public comment related to the Master Plan. This was led by Molly Sherwood of Fleis and Vandenbrink. Once we pass the resolution, our plan is final and can be submitted with any future applications for funding including the \$10m dollar DWSRF application we will be filing in June. **Motion by Guild to adopt the resolution of the draft**

Master Plan for 2024-2029. Supported by McParland. ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Colburn, Griswold, Guild, McParland, Moore, Pierce, Burr. MOTION PASSED 7-0.

D. CONSIDER RATE INCREASE FOR MOWING PROPERTIES IN VIOLATION OF THE GRASS AND NOXIOUS WEEDS ORDINANCE NO. 240-87 AS AMENDED (JULY 12, 2021): Our current rate for mowing properties in violation of our Noxious Weeds Ordinance is \$100 per hour. This charge is to cover the cost of our staff and equipment used. The current state equipment rate for the mower we use is \$82 per hour. Recommendation is to raise the rate to \$150 for the first hour, for the first offense (billed at \$37.50 every 15 minutes after the first hour). Raise the rate for the second offense to \$200 for the first hour and \$50 per 15 minutes beyond the first hour. Discussion took place on how many are repeat offenders versus just once. There are some who just don't mow and let the DPW mow it. The offender then gets billed and if not paid it goes on their taxes. The Village doesn't really have a choice because of the state requirements on rates and our costs. **Guild moved to increase the rates for mowing properties in violation of the grass and noxious weeds ordinance no. 240-87 as amended (July 12, 2021) to \$150 for the first hour, first offense; and \$200 for the first hour, second offense. Supported by Moore. ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Colburn, Griswold, Guild, McParland, Moore, Pierce, Burr. MOTION PASSED 7-0.**

E. NOTIFICATION TO VILLAGE COUNCIL – MANAGER BORDEN'S CONTRACT EXPIRES JULY 9, 2024: A Personnel Committee meeting was set for 6-19-2024 @3:30 p.m.

12. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** **Matt Murray** introduced himself to the council as a candidate for Montcalm County Commissioner.
13. **COUNCIL COMMENTS:** **None.**
14. **ADJOURNMENT:** Motion by Griswold to adjourn. Supported by McParland. VOICE VOTE: ALL YES: MOTION PASSED 7-0.

President Burr adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Village President

Village Clerk

Approved for Publication

NEXT MEETING: July 08, 2024