**EDMORE VILLAGE COUNCIL**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**UNAPPROVED JOURNAL OF MINUTES**

**July 14, 2025**

1. **CALL TO ORDER**: The regular meeting of the Village of Edmore Council was called to order on Monday, July 14, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. by **President** **Chet Guild**.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **ROLL CALL**: Members present – **Colburn, Griswold, Kanine, McParland, Moore, Pierce, Guild.** Absent – None. Also present: **Mark Borden** – Village Manager, **Shirley Drain** – Village Treasurer, **Kerri Peterson** – Village Clerk.
4. **APPRECIATION CEREMONY/PLAQUE PRSENTATION FOR CARM DRAIN – “THE OLD FENCE RIDER”:** Carm was hospitalized this past week so was unable to attend. **President Guild** presented Carm with is appreciation plaque at the hospital in a small, private ceremony. The plaque will be mounted at the museum tomorrow. It will be by the big rock that's out there.
5. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**: **Griswold moved to approve the agenda. Supported by McParland. VOICE VOTE: ALL YES: MOTION PASSED 7-0.**
6. **PUBLIC COMMENTS: AGENDA ITEMS: None.**
7. **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**:
8. **MANAGER: Mark Borden (Police, Code Enforcement, DPW, DDA): Borden** reported on **COMMITTEES: DDA:** The DDA meets July 15th. Phil Garcia and/or Alex Halsey will update the DDA Board on the Flea Market held at the Bag Factory every Friday in June. **DPW ACTIVITIES**: They are just about to wrap up that ARPA funded manhole at the South end of 1st St. The Manhole was installed late last week, and the paving crew should be here tomorrow to finish. The detour will be back up for a day or two and then that will be done. Mowing continues, along with other summer activities. They also repaired a water leak. **CODE ENFORCEMENT: 315 S. Fifth St** - We had our court date on June 6th, and the magistrate strongly suggested that the property needed to be cleaned up or we were all going to end up back in court. Mr. Kinsey, the property owner, and his son did most of the work cleaning up the property. There are pictures of front yard, backyard and both side yards. They had 30 days to get it cleaned up. On Monday, July 7th, it was completely clean. Other than some oxygen canisters in a rack in the front yard, rather than the blue barrels that they were previously stored in. It’s a rack designed for those canisters. **830 S. First St** – A citation was issued on May 9th for dogs running at large. The dog’s owner challenged the citation, and an informal hearing was set for June 27, 2025. The dog’s owner did not appear for the hearing, so the citation stands. No new complaints so it appears the violation has been corrected. **126 S. Brown St –** Ongoing. They have several items that were brought here from a property that was sold out of town and the owner is in the process of selling off those items. Contact has been made with him a few times to check on his progress. There were two complaints about burning at that property. There was a meeting with the owner, and we talked about that as well. He was burning some yard waste and possibly some trash, but he's no longer burning the trash. **518 & 526 E. Gilson St -** 518 E Gilson and 526 E Gilson are sharing a dumpster in the backyard of 518 E Gilson. That property has been in violation for a while. They've gotten a lot of the yard cleaned up and are throwing away a lot of the junk in the dumpster. 526 is being cleaned up as well. 518 still has vehicles in violation. **812 S. 1st Street -** There was a fifth wheel being used for living quarters at 812 S 1st St. The village was notified by a neighbor of the situation, and the homeowner at 812 S 1st St. was contacted. A few days later they moved the fifth wheel.  **MUSEUM DONATION:** MCC will be here later this week to take some of the larger items, they've already moved a lot of the smaller items and they're in the process of taking an inventory of everything that it's going to end up with them over at MCC**. EDMORE FAMILY DENTISTRY:** They converted from our municipal water supply to their own well back in May. They have gotten half the equation done. The dentist was on vacation for one week in June and then their office was closed for the week of 4th of July, so he hasn't had time to review the sewer documents that our attorneys prepared. **CMS INTERNET from Mt. Pleasant:** CMS has made a request for a permit to run fiber lines all through town. They want to run the infrastructure, so that if anyone would like to become a customer, all they must do is run it from the street or the sidewalk up to their house or their business. They don't have a government grant to do this. This is a business decision to come in and be a competitor in the fiber industry here in Edmore. We met with the owner and the outside operations manager. This is their 29th community that they'll be running fiber. They have a big presence in Mount Pleasant. They just finished up in Shepherd. They told us they'd be here about a year running the fiber. Not all day, every day. The Metro Act allows them to do this. We can't block it. They’re allowed to do this, but we can put some restrictions on when they work and hours of operation because the risk is hitting water lines or sewer lines or gas lines. It's all underground, so that means 600 Miss Dig tickets will be called in and Andy and his crew must go out and locate all our utilities at every location, all through town. It’s a big project. **PINNACLE – CANNABIS RETAILER IN EDMORE:** Pinnacle’s home company is closing all their stores in Michigan. The Pinnacle store downtown will be closing on August 31st. We will be attempting to market for another retailer. We have two retail licenses available, and we'll be down to 1 retailer. We get state tax revenue from the retail operations for cannabis, not from the grow operations.
9. **PRESIDENT**: **President Guild**: **None.**
10. **TREASURER’S REPORT**: **Shirley** **Drain**
11. **TREASURERS** **REPORT** **& COMMENTS:** **Drain**: The books are balanced with the bank. All ELF loans are current. Cash balances look good.
12. **APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF BILLS**: **Motion by Kanine to pay the bills. Supported by Griswold. ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Colburn, Griswold, Kanine, McParland, Moore, Pierce, Guild. MOTION PASSED 7-0.**
13. **COMMITTEE REPORTS:** None.
14. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**:
15. **REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING June 09, 2025:** **Motion by McParland to accept the minutes as printed. Supported by Kanine. VOICE VOTE: ALL YES: MOTION PASSED 7-0.**
16. **OLD BUSINESS**
17. **DISCUSS THE UPCOMING PAINTING PROJECT FOR THE OUTSIDE OF THE WATER TOWER:** The cost to paint the tower any different color with a logo is $43,744. The price is the same for any other color and/or design. This is due to design work and the coats of paint required to cover the existing paint. There is no charge if we repaint what we have now. There would not be an extra charge if we used the same color, removed the logo, and kept the lettering the same. The would be a slight charge if we removed the logo and moved the Edmore lettering up to the center portion of the bowl for symmetry. Discussion took place. **Motion by McParland to repaint the water tower and leave it as is. Supported by Colburn. ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Colburn, Griswold, Kanine, McParland, Moore, Pierce. NO: Guild. MOTION PASSED 6-1.**
18. **CONSIDER APPROVAL TO CREATE A WATER TOWER FUND AND TRANSFER FUNDS FROM THE GENERAL FUND: Drain** spoke to the council and asked for a Restricted Water Tower fund to be put in place to begin saving for the future replacement of the water tower. She would like to open the fund with $200,000 and move $50-$60,000 per year of our retail cannabis tax revenue funds and place them in this account. **Motion by McParland to accept our treasurer’s request to create a Restricted Water Tower Fund for the future water tower replacement beginning with $200,000. Supported by Moore. ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Colburn, Griswold, Kanine, McParland, Moore, Pierce, Guild. MOTION PASSED 7-0.**
19. **NEW BUSINESS**
20. **CONSIDER APPLICATION FROM THE POTATO FESTIVAL COMMITTEE FOR THE 2025 POTATO FESTIVAL:** All items are in order for this year’s Potato Festival application. **Motion by Pierce to approve the Special Event and Parade Permit for the Edmore Potato Festival. Supported by McParland. VOICE VOTE: ALL YES: MOTION PASSED 7-0.**
21. **RESOLUTION OF INTENT TO VACATE ONE BLOCK OF NORWAY STREET FROM 10TH STREET WEST ONE BLOCK:** The process necessary to vacate this one block includes passing a resolution. This resolution is the Village’s Intent to Vacate. On August 11, 2025, a Public Hearing will be held, followed by passing one more resolution if the council chooses to do so after the Public Hearing. This will be the resolution to vacate the one block of Norway Street. **Gloria Burr** spoke to the council and asked that they consider fixing the road before vacating it due to it being used and maintained by the village for over 30 years. The council sympathizes with Burr and the street committee will discuss options further. **Motion by McParland to move forward with adopting Resolution 2025-0714, Declaration of intent to vacate and abandon the portion of Norway Street west of North Tenth Street in the plat of Preston & Co’s addition to Edmore. Supported by Moore. ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Colburn, Griswold, Kanine, McParland, Moore, Pierce, Guild. MOTION PASSED 7-0.**
22. **CONSIDER REQUEST FROM GLEANER’S LIFE INSURANCE SOCIETY TO INSTALL A BENCH IN THE PARK AS PART OF A COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT:** The Gleaner’s Life Insurance Society is an organization involved with community projects. They have asked to purchase a bench to be placed in Curtis Park, preferably on the southeast corner. They have also asked if the DPW would assemble and install the bench. **Motion by Kanine to allow the bench to be purchased and for it to be installed by the DPW at Curtis Park. Supported by Colburn. VOICE VOTE: ALL YES: MOTION PASSED 7-0.**
23. **APPROVE THE COUNTY OF MONTCALM RECYCLING SITE HOSTING AGREEMENT:** The County recently drafted an agreement, which has been approved by the county commissioners, and they have asked that all host sites sign the agreement. **McParland moved to sign the County of Montcalm Recycling Site Hosting Agreement. Supported by Griswold. ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Colburn, Griswold, Kanine, McParland, Moore, Pierce, Guild. MOTION PASSED 7-0.**
24. **CONSIDER APPRIVAL OF THE CONTRACT TO USE SHERWOOD AUCTION SERVICES FOR MUSEUM ITEMS NOT ACQUIRED BY OTHER MUSEUMS:** Discussion took place on how to handle the remaining items left at the museum after the college is finished removing the items they want. **Motion by Colburn to allow Borden to use Sherwood Auction Services if the need arises for an auction and it is at no cost to the Village. Supported by Kanine. VOICE VOTE: ALL YES: MOTION PASSED 7-0.**
25. **CONSIDER PROPOSALS FOR CURTIS BUILDING POND – FOUNTAIN, LIGHTS, POND TREATMENT:** Discussion took place on the pond and what can be done. Also checking to see if it could possibly be a joint project to be paid for by the Village of Edmore, DDA, and Nita Curtis Foundation. Tabled.
26. **CONSIDER REQUEST TO VACATE CHERRY STREET FROM W. GILSON STREET TO W. PINE STREET:** Discussion took place. Tabled.

**Motion by Moore to go into closed session. Supported by Kanine. VOICE VOTE: ALL YES: MOTION PASSED 7-0.**

PRESIDENT GUILD CLOSED THE REGULAR MEETING AND OPENED THE CLOSED SESSION AT 8:15 P.M.

1. **CLOSED SESSION: MANAGER ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REVIEW:** DISCUSSION TOOK PLACE.

**Motion by Moore to end the closed session. Supported by Kanine. VOICE VOTE: ALL YES: MOTION PASSED 7-0.**

PRESIDENT GUILD CLOSED THE CLOSED SESSION AND REOPENED THE REGULAR MEETING AT 8:25 P.M.

1. Discussion took place. **Motion by McParland to extend Borden’s contract for one year and allow another 2.5% wage increase. Supported by Colburn. ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Colburn, Griswold, Kanine, McParland, Moore, Pierce, Guild. MOTION PASSED 7-0.**
2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.**
3. **COUNCIL COMMENTS: Pierce** stated she was disappointed in the lack of cleanup efforts after the last Potato Festival. **Kassey Mortensen** from the Potato Festival Committee explained that they addressed that issue immediately after the event and there was some confusion about where to put things. They have already discussed it this year with their committee and volunteers in preparation for the 2025 festival. **Peterson** asked about the bathrooms and water at the park and why there was no water by the pavilion and the bathrooms were locked when the pavilion was rented for an event on June 28th. **Borden** explained that there has been vandalism of the bathrooms, and they had to be locked. The DPW was to unlock the bathrooms for any reservation but that did not occur. They are looking into ways to handle this in the future, but vandalism is the issue. It is also happening at the trail bathrooms. Dwindled police presence it not helping the vandalism situation.
4. **ADJOURNMENT**: **President Guild called for adjournment. Motion by Griswold to adjourn. Supported by Colburn. VOICE VOTE: ALL YES: MOTION PASSED 7-0.**

**President Guild** adjourned the meeting at 8:53 p.m.

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**Village President Village Clerk**

**Approved for Publication**

 **NEXT MEETING: August 11, 2025**