

VILLAGE OF CALEDONIA

County of Kent, Michigan

Village Council Meeting Minutes

For Monday August 8th, 2022 7:00 p.m.

250 S. Maple St. SE

Caledonia, MI 49316

Meeting was called to order by President Lindsey at 7:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Members present were; Miller, Soest, Hahn and Lindsey. Also present was the Manager and Treasurer. Absent were Erskine, Schuler and Neil.

Jessica Niles communicated about lack of response on tree issues, her and her neighbors next door with concerns of the silver maple tree in their front yard causing damage. And read a letter from those neighbors, the Boyce.

Jeff Niles spoke in regards to a photo showing that there had been a sidewalk in 1976 that had been removed, due to the tree at 335 Pleasant St.

Eric Speers provided information regarding lack of response regarding trees and trimming.

Communications were provided regarding sidewalks, a memo regarding bills, proposals from Flies & Vanderbrink of the Church Street property and a copy of the code of ethics to be signed and turned in.

No inquiry of conflicts of interest were heard. But a possibility may arise.

There was a motion by Miller, supported by Soest; to approve the agenda minutes of the July 11th, 2022 meeting, treasurers report and approval to pay the bills, Motion passed unanimously.

The makeup of, and past minutes of the "Tree Board" were provided. It was announced that the Tree Board Chair had resigned and President Lindsey asked that a possible appointment for the position be placed on the September meeting.

Jon Moxey gave an update on Kinsey Street and problems with Legacy Village.

The manager reported that the ARPA/SAM.gov will still not issue the unique identifier for the village. He also reported on the lack of applicants for the open position at the DPW and reported on general DPW activity.

The manager was presenting information in the silver maple tree located at 335 Pleasant St. to the council when he was interrupted by Eric Speers and the audience began conversation with council. Jessica Niles offered to pay for their own sidewalk. Chuck Swift spoke about the tree. Council woman Soest and Hahn both expressed that they too have trees in their right of way they would like removed and the manager brought up his concern of conflict of interest if the two council women voted on this item. Motion by Soest, to have Woodland Tree Service remove the tree at 335 Pleasant removed, supported by Hahn. Soest and Hahn voted Yay. Lindsey and Miller voted Nay. Motioned failed. President Lindsey spoke of getting village staff and officials to meet and discuss this tree and others. Jessica Niles continued to speak of the danger and liability of the tree and Jessica Niles stated she would be consulting with an attorney about a civil lawsuit. Motion by Lindsey, supported by Miller to try and convene the Tree Board.

Under public comment, Chuck Swift spoke of the need for the Tree Board to be more active and involved.

Judy Swift spoke of the village's Church Street property and giving it to an adjacent property owner.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30p.m.

Jeffrey D. Thornton, Village Clerk

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'J.D. Thornton', is written below the printed name.