

# VILLAGE OF CALEDONIA

County of Kent, Michigan

## **Village Council Meeting Minutes**

For Monday December 12<sup>th</sup>, 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.

The appropriate oaths of office were applied to trustees, the president, treasurer and clerk.

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

A letter was provided by Doug Hopkins of Imperial Municipal Services announcing the sale of the company to long time employee Rick Sparks.

Moved by Schuller, supported by Soest to approve the consent agenda minutes of the November 14<sup>th</sup> meeting, treasurers report and pay the bills. With Erskine requesting the addition of sidewalks under old business. Motion passed unanimously.

Jon Moxey gave an update on Kinsey Street finalization along with other activities including helping with inspections for site plan and occupancy certificates.

Miller reported on Cal Comm. School board activities and its new board.

President Lindsey reported on the most recent township board meeting. She also thanked workers, participants and attendees for making this years Christmas in Caledonia a wonderful event although there were some hiccups and as it always seems that there is always room for improvement. She expressed concerns with the lack of help and safety concerns with preparade traffic and spectator safety during the parade.

The manager spoke of the village's manpower shortage and the difficulty getting prospects to either pass the physical or drug test. He reminded everyone that snow will soon be upon us and odd / even parking will be soon a challenge. The manger brought to the attention that he too had safety concerns with the parade with spectators closing in on the route and reaching out and touching participants. It was asked if candy was a problem? And the manager said that there were several contributing factors including darkness, candy, density of viewers, basically in one block, etc. The manager reported that solar panels were needed for the speed radar signs and it was explained that our batteries that we have need to be continually changed due to the amount of use that they are receiving

After some discussion, motion by Miller, supported by Schuller to award fence repair project to Fence Consultants of West Michigan in the amount of \$3312.00 over Superior Fence's amount of \$3,689.17.

The president stated that this subject of sidewalks had been discussed several times regarding Mr. Erskine wishing for the village to repair/replace sidewalks at the village's expense. Lindsey reminded council of documents that had been provided by the attorney. Erskine interjected that in all of the years this it the first time that the attorney had something to say about not using public funds on sidewalks. The manger produced minutes of the meeting when the ordinance was adopted along with documents from the attorney stating criteria that was included in the ordinance. Moved by Schuller to direct the manger to research and look for sidewalk grants and what is required to apply for them. Motion supported by Niles. Motion passed with Erskine being a dissenting vote.

Mr. Hall of the Michigan Department of Treasury was in attendance and presented a summary of the 2021-2022 audit and answered questions. He had found no cause for concern or alarm and felt the village is managing its monies appropriately and are being fiscally responsible.

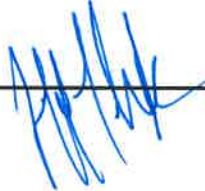
Moved by Lindsey, supported by Schuller to receive and file the 21-22 audit. Motion passed unanimously

Several council members commented on the Christmas in Caledonia event and wished Happy Holidays. Mr. Niles took a moment to speak on his family's past history of being on council and his aspirations of continuing his family's legacy by proudly serving the community.

Meeting was adjourned at 8p.m.

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Jeffrey D. Thornton, Village Clerk

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'J. Thornton', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is somewhat stylized and scribbled.