

VILLAGE OF CALEDONIA

County of Kent, Michigan

Village Council Meeting Minutes

For Monday February 13th 2023 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; Soest, Hahn, Miller, Schuler, Lindsey, also present was Treasurer Eardley and Manager Thornton. Trustees Erskine and Niles were absent

A communication was provided for a meeting being held on February 22nd for information on the Caledonia M-37 Corridor Sub Area Plan being hosted by Caledonia Township.

The President reported the emergency need to purchase a replacement snow plow for the one-ton dump truck and that Blizzard snow plows are no longer made and that the plow has been damaged several times, repaired several times and deemed unrepairable now. The manager reported that he had contacted the Kent County Road Commission and several DPW departments to find what they recommended for a replacement snow plow and the decision was made to go with a western and that bill was in tonight's bills. Moved by Schuler, supported by Soest to approve the consent agenda (with the addition of rescinding a previous action under new business) minutes of the January 9th meeting, treasurers report and pay the bills

Miller reported on Cal Comm. School board will met and Dr. Martin had received a special accolade, May 2nd will be a special Bond election and that a fence will be going up on school property.

President Lindsey reported that the township had hosted a meeting for MDOT to gather public input on future design of an improved M37 from 76th to 92nd streets, that was well attended. She also reported that the township was holding an event to gather public input on the development of land along M37 between Auto Zone and the American Legion.

The manager reported that a replacement for the open DPW position would soon be starting. The manager reported that the village is awaiting the arrival of the replacement water trailer that our insurance company had settled on. The units cost is \$12,645 with the villages cost only being that of the deductible of \$250.

The manager reported on winter time activities and equipment status.

The manager reported of a possible scheduling conflicts with the April council meeting falling on the Monday immediately following Easter Sunday. it was discussed that some families may be out of town and only arriving back the day before and wondering if it would be sufficient time for all information to be provided and absorbed prior to that meeting. Moved by Schuler supported by Hahn to change the April meeting date to April 17th motion passed unanimously.

The manager provided information on a sidewalk grant opportunity for the village and that he would be further investigating. The council accepted the information provided by the manger as fulfilling the councils directive to find a grant.

The manager reported that in tonight's bills was a renewal of the tractor lease with Burnip's. for the New Holland tractor. He wanted to bring this to the council's attention because he tried to obtain a similar government lease through John Deere and was unsuccessful in that John Deere normally does outright sales. He also stated that employees are more aware of their activities with the tractor to hopefully keep down any additional costs as we have seen in the past.

The manager discussed the open meeting/break room at the DPW that Council has approved past improvements on and that it was getting to be time that we could make the room available for public use along with the villages use. The step Next Step would be to purchase folding tables and folding chairs for the space.

The manager reported that our current IT service provider, vc3 Had notified the village that they will no longer be providing services on the pay as you go premise and that they were now requiring a formal service contract in order to continue services. The amount provided by vc3 is \$4,800 per year for the first three years. The manager contacted a local provider Core Tech Incorporated which is a local Grand Rapids based company their pricing came in at \$5,940 per year for comparison. It was recommended by the manager to enter into an agreement with vc3 for continuing IT services. It was moved by Miller, supported by Schuler to enter into an agreement with vc3 for IT services. Motion passed unanimously.

The president announced that there was an error made in her January appointments and that of the public service director and that it is not an appointed position per The Villages attorney and that is a hired position . Motion by Lindsey, supported by Miller to resend the action of January of appointing Jeff Thornton as a public service director. Motion passed unanimously.

Manager Thornton read from the village ordinances that states that the public service director is indeed an appointed position Citing, chapter 2 Section 2.9 that the public service director is to be appointed annually. Which conflicts with the previous information provided. He also read chapter 2 Section 2.5.

The president called for an ad hoc committee to be created consisting of citizens Kim Peters and Eric Speers along with Karen Hahn, Jeff Thornton and Jennifer Lindsey to look further into this matter. Schuler moved to continue the manager's compensation for doing the additional duties of public service director through May 8th,, And then before that time the ad hoc committee should meet and compose recommendations. Supported by Karen Hahn. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Jeffrey D. Thornton, Village Clerk

