

VILLAGE OF CALEDONIA

County of Kent, Michigan

MINUTES

Village Council Meeting

September 8, 2025, 7:00 p.m.

250 S. Maple St. SE, Caledonia, MI

1. **Call to Order** – 7:01 p.m.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Roll Call:** Niles, Daley, Soest, Lindsey, Miller, Schuler, Erskine
4. **Brief public comment on agenda items (2 minutes)**
5. **Communications** - None
6. **Inquiry of Conflict of Interest** - None
7. **Approval of consent and regular agenda***
8. **Consent Agenda.** (*One Motion Accepts All*)
 - a. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes for August 11, 2025 Council Meeting
 - b. Approval of Special Meeting Minutes for August 27, 2025 Council Meeting
 - c. Treasurer report
 - d. Payment of bills

Motion by Schuler to approve with added agenda items, 2nd by Miller
Vote: All Ayes
9. **Reports from Council, Staff and Consultants**
 - a. Engineers & Consultants – *Fleis & Vanden Brink, Infrastructure Alternatives*
 - Parks & Rec plan, still waiting on township; Kinsey St II has passed some environmental clearances construction set to begin in 2027, DNR passport grant still waiting to hear back, KCRC road projects are a good thing to get done before winter
 - b. Liaisons – *School Board, Township*
 - School Board meeting: 8/18 meeting was full and had to create space for overflow, as of Thursday 9/4 there is a tentative teacher contract, gave a bond update, Superintendent mid-year review was done
 - Township meeting: a local resident spoke on grass clippings being dumped on Emmons trail, who is responsible for picking up the area, Employee health benefits were discussed
 - c. Other Committees
 - Sidewalk Committee: Quote for trimming/cutting tripping hazards came in at \$9,500.00 which is below the fiscal year budgeted amount. Starting in Glen Valley and then parts of Emmons.
 - Tree Committee: added a few more trees to remove and trim since the quotes were sent in
 - Branding Committee: will meet Wednesday 9/10 at 5:30
 - d. DPW Foreman Report
 - Glen Valley tree trimming is in process, planted mums in downtown landscape areas, baskets are coming down this week
 - e. Manager Report
 - We made the EGLE permit deadline, Joel (a contractor for the drain repairs) said that they are going to be doing erosion repair on the areas that they are clearing, CFE driveway project will start in spring 2026
10. **Discussion Item(s)** - None
11. **Unfinished Business**
 - a. MDOT Purchase

Motion by Miller, 2nd by Schuler to approve Resolution R12-25, the purchase contract with MDOT for a portion of M-37 and easement to expand the road
Vote: All Ayes

- b. Employee Handbook
Motion by Miller to approve the employee handbook, 2nd by Schuler
Vote: All Ayes
- c. Short term / Long term Disability
Motion to table by Miller, 2nd by Niles
Vote: All Ayes

12. New Business

- a. Purchase Request: Tree Removal/Pruning
Add 2 tree removals on Vine and Main and 2 tree branches on Emmons to the list for removal
Motion by Erskine to approve Wise Owl to spend up to \$12,500 for the cost of the tree trimming and cuttings, 2nd by Niles
Vote: All Ayes
- b. Purchase Request: Road Work by Kent County Road Commission
Motion by Schuler to approve KCRC to complete the road work on Dobber Wenger and Kaechele with project costs not to exceed \$39,000; 2nd by Miller
Vote: All Ayes
- c. Ordinance to Amend the Zoning Ordinance of the Village of Caledonia, Short Term Rentals
Motion by Miller to approve the addition of the Short-Term Rental ordinance code, 2nd by Schuler
Vote: Erskine, Yes; Schuler, Yes; Miller, Yes; Lindsey, Yes; Soest, Yes; Daley, Yes
Niles, No
Ordinance 25-10 passed
- d. Ordinance to Amend Section 8.3 of the Village code
Motion by Miller to approve the amended changes to Section 8.3 of Village code regarding Noxious Growth and Grass Maintenance, 2nd by Soest
Vote: All Ayes
Ordinance 25-11 passed
- e. Garage Door quote / repair
Motion by Miller to approve repairs done by Zylstra in the amount of \$2,405, 2nd by Niles
Vote: All Ayes

13. Extended Public Comment (3 minutes)

- a. Comments by: Michael Sheer and Spike Baird

14. Manager Comments

- a. Appreciate everyone's work on the ordinances and getting stuff done

15. Village Council Comments and Announcements

- a. Erskine – none
- b. Schuler – thank you everyone for coming and participating
- c. Miller – thank you for coming
- d. Niles – thank you for coming, congrats to Caledonia Football
- e. Daley – none
- f. Soest – when we have events, we have to send people to park farther away but no one wants to walk, this trailhead would be an ideal place for handicap parking
- g. Lindsey – all we've done is applied for a grant, thank you all for coming, and for your hard work and dedication to the village

16. Adjournment – 8:36 p.m.

Motion by Miller, 2nd by Niles

Vote: All Ayes

*Any council member shall have the right to add items to the regular agenda.