

VILLAGE OF CALEDONIA

County of Kent, Michigan

Village Council Rescheduled Meeting Minutes

For Tuesday, June 8th, 2021

Meeting was called to order by President Lindsey at 7:01 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Members present were; Neil, Schuler, Miller, Soest, Hahn, Erskine and Lindsey. Also present were Treasurer Erdley and Manager/Clerk Thornton

There was no public comment.

Communications – President Lindsey brought to the council’s attention that the MML 2021 Convention will be in Grand Rapids this year and encouraged all of council to participate if possible

No inquiry of conflict of interest were heard.

With a clarification of a video that Mr. VanGessel watched during his public comment along with transposed times and clarifying the purpose of the special meeting. Motion to approve the agenda, with corrections and remaining consent agenda consisting of Treasurer’s report. Moved by Schuler supported by Hahn. Motion passed.

Draft minutes of the Planning Commission minutes were provided.

Reports from Engineer and Consultants were received.

Miller and Schuler reported that they were not able to attend either the townships meeting or school boards.

Lindsey reported that there will be a fourth of July parade on July 3rd with evening fireworks and announced that Trustee Erskine was selected as this year’s Home Town Hero.

Manager Thornton reported to council the retirement of James Smith, a part-time employee in the DPW, who will be retiring from the village on June 10th of this month. President Lindsey inquired as to the search to fill our vacancy in the DPW and Thornton that with the help of the Finance committee he had current concise job descriptions developed and has worked with GRCC who has a type of DPW program to get the posting out to their students, staff and alumni along with about four or five other educational institutions. Lindsey encouraged working with Kim Peters, a community member who is an expert in HR.

Thornton also reported that the village is headed to overcome our website challenges by switching web development and webhosting capabilities with Pixelvine of Freeport. He also noted that our IT company has decided to get out of the website business. He stated he would provide information as to some of the websites that Pixelvine has done.

Thornton gave an update on the well for the DPW that it will be installed within the next two weeks at the South West corner of the building. We have received the price for the well but not yet for installing a 240v service.

Thornton wanted to let council know that Dobber Wenger may be closed on a Friday August 6th from 10am until 3pm, for a person that is attempting to set a Guinness world record attempt. He also let the Post Office and McDonalds know and see how this closure would affect them. Each stated that they would deal with it after hearing of the world record attempt. He also said that it is the responsibility of applicants to do notifications and it is stated right on the permit. Even with that he thought it best to notify the “major players” just to be safe.

Shirley Bruursema, Lance Werner and Vanessa Walstra, Representatives of Kent County District Library presented the KDL Annual Report at the Village of Caledonia.

A motion was made by Hahn, supported by Schuler, to a policy to allow for the payment of claims in the event of a regular meeting is cancelled, rescheduled or adjourned prior to paying the bills. Motion passed unanimously.

President Lindsey opened the public hearing on the 2021 Tax Millage Rate. No one spoke. The public hearing was closed.

Moved by Neil, supported by Erskine, to set the 2021 tax rate at 7.944 mills and authorize the clerk and president to sign.

President Lindsey opened the public hearing on the 2021-2022 budget. No one spoke. The public hearing was closed.

The budget was reviewed line by line with questions being asked and answered in regards the budgeted 2.5% wage increases effective first pay period of this new budget, budgeting for the occupancy of the vacant part of village hall, Kinsey Street reconstruction, etc.

Moved by Erskine, supported by Schuler, to adopt the FY 21-22 Budget (July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022) as follows:

	<u>Revenues</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>
Fund 101-General Fund	\$763,595	\$763,595
Fund 201-Major Street Fund	\$1,060619.64	\$1,060619.64
Fund 203-Local Street Fund	\$137,451	\$137,451
Fund 571 Sewer Fund	\$66,050	\$66,050

Motion passed unanimously.

Moved by Lindsey, supported by Erskine, to authorize the Treasurer to make final year end budget adjustments and any necessary adjustments to bring our accounting into compliance with GASB (Government Accounting Standards Board). Motion passed unanimously.

A request was made for an exception to Resolution R19-15 for employees with existing vacation balances, as was made in 2020. Moved by Schuler, supported by Erskine to Pay out at pre-April 2021 pay rates. Motion passed unanimously
Motion by Lindsey, supported by to pay out all employees, up to one week at the pre-approved (pre-April) and allow for the remainder to be rolled over. Motion passed unanimously.

After some discussion and clarification, a motion was made by Hahn and supported by Shuler, to authorize the manager to sign the lease with CFE, conditional of a Special land Use approval. Motion passed unanimously.

The mml property and liability insurance pool rate increased by \$290 for this renewal year and the village will receive a \$852 dividend return. Also noted was that any future increase due to the improvements at the WWTP will be passed on to the township. Moved by Hahn, supported by Erskine to renew our policy with the mml. Motion passed unanimously.

A resolution was presented for the opposition of SB 446 and HB4722 that will take any local control of short-term rentals away from local government. Moved by Lindsey, supported by Schuler to direct the manager to produce a similar resolution in opposition to HB4722 and SB446 as Grand Haven's. Motion passed unanimously.

There is a matter of monies owed to the village. Moved by Neil, supported by Erskine that the village manager is authorized to represent the Village in the small claims division of the district court with respect to those matters as to which the manger has direct and personal knowledge. Motion passed unanimously.

The village had received an offer to purchase approximately three acres of village property in the amount of \$321,000. Moved by Erskine to not sell village property, supported by Neil. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment-

Kim Peters spoke on the posting of vacant job positions and the generosity of the village council for employee compensation.

Chuck Swift spoke as to the vacation pay out action and encourage a policy to better manage it.

There were no comments by council or the manager.

Meeting adjourned at 9:48 p.m.

Jeffrey D. Thornton, Village Clerk