

VILLAGE OF CALEDONIA

County of Kent, Michigan

Minutes - Village Council Meeting

June 10, 2024, 7:00 p.m.

250 S. Maple St. SE, Caledonia, MI

1. Call to order 7:01PM
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll call – Present: Lindsey, Erskine, Schuler, Soest, Hahn, Niles. Absent: Miller
4. Public comment on agenda items. Jeff Kusmierz – Citizen report on infrastructure and perspectives regarding – Village street repairs, Village curb & gutter degradation & preventative maintenance, Village considerations of selecting a Village resident for Village manager.
5. Communications – *accepted*
6. Inquiry of Conflict of Interest
7. Approval of consent and regular agenda, minutes of Regular meeting of May 13, 2024 and Budget meeting of May 20, 2024, Treasurer’s report, Payment of bills. Motion by Schuler, supported by Erskine. All ayes.
8. Reports from Village Council Committees - Enhancement Committee – Taste of Caledonia on Main Street in conjunction with Family Tavern car show on Wednesday, August 7th, 5-9PM
9. Reports from Council, Staff and Consultants
 - a. Fleis & VandenBrink – 5 Year Parks & Recreation Plan continued progress, MDOT Category B project construction due to start August – September 2024.
 - b. Township – Hired on call Firefighters.
 - c. DPW Foreman’s Report – Street maintenance, cutting grasses back, sidewalk reviews. Coordinating stump grinding, planting letters sent for tree selections. 2 tons cold patching was done on Friday. Cold patch is a temporary fix, (a couple months) it doesn’t seal tight enough for moisture prevention. Hot patch not used because we do not have a hot box. (One rented previously.) Hot patch is the only long-term fix because it seals. Hot box rental 1250.00 for 7 consecutive days, not including the hot patch material. Estimated staff could lay 2 ton per day. Erskine moves to rent the hot box now and patch it all. Supported by Niles. All ayes. Cleaned out storm drain on Church St full of debris placed there by several pre-teen boys.
 - d. Managers’ Report – Ordinance Code, updated version received, 230 & 250 S Maple parking lots completed. Caledonia Village Centre – potholes & irregular mowing concerns / noxious weeds have been conveyed to property owners. 250 Maple foyer LED lighting project has been completed. 250 Maple transition from a Type III to Type II well permit requiring several repairs, inspections & increased testing is in progress. Village office pylon sign project is on the “go slow to achieve the desired results” path. Dero Bike repair station has arrived. Elections this November. President & 3 Trustee positions on the ballot. July 23rd is deadline for submitting applications. “Cell phone lot” idea for dance parents will be floated during the summer to relieve parking pressure on Main Street. Encourage employees of downtown merchants and apartments to park in the back lots, leaving the street parking for customers.
 - e. Consultant Ryan Cotton’s Budget Report – Good news here. Budget is balanced. Sufficient funds to accomplish big projects & operating expenses, without increasing tax rate. Reviewed line-item budget specifics.
10. Unfinished business.
 - a. None
11. New business
 - a. Open public hearing on the FY 2024-2025 Budget @ 8:26PM. No public comment. Closed Public Hearing @ 8:27PM.
 - b. R10-24 Resolution to Establish FY24-25 Budget & Ad Valorem Property Tax Rate 7.944 mills. Motion by Soest, Supported by Schuler. Roll call: Lindsey, Erskine, Schuler, Soest, Hahn, Niles. All ayes. Motion passed.
 - c. R11-24 Resolution of Compensation for Village Officers & Employees FY24-25. Motion by Schuler, supported by Soest. Roll call: Lindsey, Erskine, Schuler, Soest, Hahn, Niles. All ayes. Motion passed.

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- d. R12-24 Resolution for Reimbursement Rates – mileage, lodging, meals. Motion by Schuler, supported by Soest. Roll call: Lindsey, Erskine, Schuler, Soest, Hahn, Niles. All ayes. Motion passed.
 - e. Authorization to Bind Coverage for the Annual Liability & Property Insurance - Motion by Schuler, supported by Hahn. All Ayes. Motion passed.
 - f. VC3 - Email Migration - June Deadline Motion by Schuler, supported by Soest. All Ayes. Motion passed.
 - g. Village sidewalk repair in front of Rossana’s Table - E Main Street. Quotes to lift rather than remove & replace. Motion to award to Power Lifting Concrete, up to \$1000.00 by Niles, supported by Schuler. All Ayes. Motion passed.
 - h. North Rodgers repairs – Peter Tierney of F&V weighed in, good treatment, the right treatment and a good price. Motion to accept Black Gold bid by Schuler, supported by Niles. All Ayes. Motion passed. Letters to be mailed to all businesses along that street advising of upcoming road closure when date is determined.
12. Extended Public Comments any topic (3 minutes+).
- *Jeff Kusmierz asked about DPW plan for continued 230 Maple parking lot treatments. Offered proposed resolutions & additional comments on Manager selection, favoring local candidates. Trustee Schuler moved to table these resolutions until reviewed by legal counsel. President Lindsey offered that we have multiple applications from local candidates.
- *Spike Baird – Parking downtown. 60%+ of our parking capacity is occupied by employees. “Cell phone lot” idea will contribute to relieving the pressure. Worth a try.
- *Lulu Brown of Caledonia KDL is offering free meals M-F 12:30-1:00 for kids ages 2-18 (or up to age 26 for people with disabilities) through Feeding America West Michigan. 120 people served the first week. Up to 60 people every day.
13. Manager comments – it was a good night. Thank you everybody for coming. Thank you, Council, for your good work.
14. Village Council member comments and announcements.
- Erskine – Call a Tree Board meeting to accomplish some tree work this FY as well as next. Trustee Niles was appointed to the Tree Board. By President Lindsey. Supported by Schuler. All Ayes.
- Schuler – Come to the Farmers Market on Saturday
- Niles – Thank the American Legion / Sons of the Legion for placing the flags at the cemetery for Memorial Day. Thank you, Trustee Soest, for placing flowers on graves. Thank you all for coming.
- Hahn – Thank you for coming. Thank you, Jeff K, for your suggestion, Ryan C for your guidance on budget, Lisa S for hard work as Interim Manager. If your neighbor is struggling in keeping their yards up, consider taking some time to help them out.
- Soest – The story behind the flowers... In 2008, her family was planning a funeral for her brother-in-law, her grandson suggested that they should place flowers on the graves of the babies. So that year, they did. Bringing to her attention that the old section of the cemetery no longer has living relatives to care for the graves. Every year since, has added roughly 100 flowers to her collection per year. This year, with the help of friends & family 1470 flowers were placed. They are short by 100 flowers and are taking donations. A best kept secret in the Village. (Thanks Jean!)
- President Lindsey. Thank you everyone for coming. I like to have the exchange and checking off items of concern. We are all working together. Glad that people are coming & taking an interest in what we are doing. We are doing the best we can for everyone in the Village. Thank you. I appreciate all of you.
15. Adjournment 9:13PM. Motion by Schuler, Supported by Niles.

Lisa Segard

Lisa Segard, Village Clerk