**Village of Cement City**

**Council Meeting Minutes**

January 14, 2016 7:00 p.m. Village Hall Regular Meeting

The regular meeting of the Cement City Village Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. with the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance. Attendance: 14 Citizens present. Members present: Mel Cure, Patty Buvia, Cathy Senkewitz, James Ellis, and Larry Babinger. Clerk Carol Ladd, Treasurer Chari Cure and DPW Tim Wheaton were present.

**Departments**

Police: Chief Elwell reported on police activity.

Fire: Bill Bendele asked for a show of support for the Addison Fire Department Annual Family Combat Challenge. A collection will be taken after the meeting to make a Gold Sponsor $100 donation for this worthwhile cause.

**Guest Speaker-** Larry Richardson spoke on behalf of the Lenawee County NAACP chapter. He offered to answer any questions that have come up since their last visit. Fred Lucas, village lawyer, spoke on behalf of the council thanking them for their attendance and clarifying that the council has no issue with the NAACP and said the village is willing to work with citizens who are making progress on the mutual agreement.

**Minutes Reviewed**-

Regular Meeting minutes of the 12-10-15 meeting were read. Motion made by Senkewitz, second by Buvia to accept the Regular minutes. Ayes all, motion passed.

**Receipt of Treasurer’s Report**-Report reviewed by all. Motion made by Senkewitz, second by Buvia to accept the December Report subject to audit. Ayes by all, motion passed.

**Presentation of Existing Bills**- Motion made by Senkewitz, second by Babinger to pay existing bills. Ayes by all. Motion passed.

**Staff Progress Reports-**

Zoning: Cure reported that a zoning permit was submitted.

Building: Wheaton updated council on winterization efforts and holiday décor clean-up.

Planning: Cure called for a meeting of the planning committee to shore up zoning ordinance.

**Old Business**

The Boyd’s are scheduled to meet with the Building Inspector for an Occupancy Permit on Saturday.

Treasurer to compile a chart of potential banks and fees for banking in order for a decision to be made about our bank accounts.

**New Business**

Wheaton asked for a closed session to discuss a matter. Council referred to Lucas who stated that there are specific criteria that had to be met to close the session. Wheaton offered the information at the public meeting. He stated that a representative of Columbia Schools approached him in regards to the vacant land (soccer field) across from the former Miller Elementary school. He asked the council if they would like to make a reasonable offer on the land. Lucas offered a strategy of leasing the land with right to first refusal with a benefit to the school that the land will be maintained by the village. The parcel is about 4 acres. Ellis suggested offering a low price. Wheaton stated that he had been told that agricultural property is valued at around $3,700/acre. Senkewitz advocated that there would be an additional cost to the village to maintain the premises. Cure tabled the discussion for further thought and asked to revisit the idea next month.

**Public Participation**

None.

**Good & Welfare**

Motion made by Ellis, second by Cure to adjourn. Ayes by all, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Submitted by Carol Ladd, Clerk

Approved by Mel Cure, President