**Village of Cement City**

**Council Meeting Minutes**

June 14, 2012 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 Pledge of Allegiance. Attendance: 20 Citizens present. Members present: James Ellis, Larry Babinger, Bill Bendele, and Mel Cure. Clerk Carol Ladd and Treasurer Chari Cure, were present.

**Departments**

Police: Chief Elwell reported on police activity. Elwell warns of the retail selling of K2.

Bendele read a letter requesting the removal of the Columbia Township Police. The petition indicates that the request is being made due to the harassment of the people of Cement City. Bendele stated there are approximately 100 signatures from village residents and 30+ signatures from surrounding areas. Bendele presented signatures in a petition to Ellis. Ellis tabled the topic until further investigation.

Fire: Shaw reported that plans to relay an emergency whistle in the local areas is in the works for 4-5 area communities. A receiver and timer for automation in Cement City would cost around $3,000 including installation. Ellis to inquire with Woodstock Twp about absorbing the cost. Motion made by Babinger, second by Cure to purchase the system if Woodstock does not. Ayes by all, motion passed.

**Minutes Reviewed**-Regular Meeting minutes of the 5-10-12 meeting were read. Motion made by Cure, second by Babinger to accept the Regular minutes as presented. Ayes all, motion passed. Special Meeting minutes of the 5-10-12 meeting were read. Motion made by Cure, second by Babinger to accept the Special minutes as presented. Ayes all, motion passed.

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

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

**Staff Progress Reports-**

Zoning: Trumble submitted a written report.

Building: Wheaton reported on maintenance progress including an estimate for paint for the fire barn and precinct.

Motion made by Cure, second by Bendele to spend up to $800 for paint at B&B Hardware. Ayes by all, motion passed.

Motion made by Bendele, second by Babinger to purchase required repair parts for the bridge at a quoted cost of $653.40. Ayes by all, motion passed.

DPW: Tim reported on scrap metal refund from clean-up day.

**Old Business**

None.

**New Business**

The Treasurer reported on the Truth and Taxation Act and asked for a motion to approve the collection of taxes. Motion made by Babinger, second by Cure to allow for the collection of taxes. Ayes by all, motion passed.

The Treasurer reported on the need for a motion to continue the transfer of 25% of Major Street Funds to be transferred to the Local Street Funds. Motion made by Ellis, second by Babinger. Ayes by all, motion passed.

A discussion took place on the need to return to the original fee schedule for zoning and building needs as costs to the village increase. Babinger asked the Clerk to communicate to the citizens that fees will return to normal on September 1, 2012. The council had voted in a 50% reduction on fees approximately two years ago to have less of a burden on citizens looking to make home improvements.

Public Participation-Ellis reminded the public on the rules for the public participation section of the meeting asking that each person limits their comments to 3 minutes and refrain from interrupting.

Wittenberg, Woodstock St., called for the removal of Bendele citing section 5.3 of charter. Wittenberg says Bendele misrepresented the council when he interfered with the police on Memorial Day.

Corbin, Parker St., stated that the Police should have helped Donny out when his electric cart stopped working on Memorial Day. He also says that the money spent on the Police could be used at the park or for sidewalks.

Don Corbin, 400 Perrin stated he has no problem with the Iron Coffins and says he wonders if the police will continue to make unwarranted arrests. Babinger says the council is not behind the arrests and that the Police are handling the police work.

Branch, Lewis Rd., stated he thought there was an extraordinary amount of police in the area on Memorial Day and he thought something might be going down.

White, Ypsilanti, introduced himself stating he is an Iron Coffin and bas not police record or criminal record.

Ricochet, Toledo, introduced himself as Sgt. at Arms for the National Iron Coffins.

Bill Irvine, Vicary Rd, stated he was impressed with the repurposing of the old VFW and is in support of the Iron Coffins and Bill Bendele.

Bendele exited the meeting.

Querfeld, Peninsular St., stated that he thought the venue for the parade was inappropriate and calls for a more public collaboration and the forming of a committee of decision makers.

Rodney Arnett spoke on the need to address more pressing concerns in the village.

Mike Hunter, Devils Lake, stated he thought paying Columbia Twp. Police was a misuse of money since the county should be patrolling.

**Good & Welfare**

Motion made by Cure, second by Babinger to adjourn. Ayes by all, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Submitted by Carol Ladd, Clerk

Approved by James Ellis, President