**Village of Cement City**

**Council Meeting Minutes**

October 13, 2011 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: 10 Citizens present. Members present: James Ellis, Bill Bendele, Mel Cure, Mike Gavett, and Larry Babinger. Clerk Carol Ladd, Treasurer Chari Cure, and Deputy Treasurer Patty Lueker were present. Zoning Inspector Eric Trumble was absent. DPW Supv. Steve Fletcher was absent.

Clerk Ladd swore in the officers of the 2011 election including Mike Gavett (4 year term), Larry Babinger (4 year term), and James Ellis (2 year term). Certificates were presented. Nominations were made for office of President. Motion made by Babinger, second by Cure to nominate Jim Ellis for President. Motion made by Bendele, second by none, to nominate Mike Gavett for President. Motion made by Mike Gavett, second by Bendele to nominate Mel Cure for President. Discussion followed nomination period.

Clerk Ladd asked if there were any other comments and with none, asked if Ellis and Cure accepted nomination. Ellis accepted nomination. Cure declined nomination. Motion made by Bendele, second by Gavett to nominate Gavett for President. Gavett accepted nomination. Roll call vote on the nomination of Ellis for President: Cure, yes; Babinger, yes; Ellis, yes; Gavett, no; Bendele, no. Motion passed 3-2 to accept Ellis as President. Roll call vote on the nomination of Gavett for President: Cure, no; Babinger, no; Ellis, no; Gavett, yes; Bendele, yes. Motion failed 3-2 to accept Gavett as President. Motion made by Cure, second by Babinger to nominate Gavett as Vice President. Roll call vote: Cure, yes; Babinger, yes; Ellis, yes; Gavett, yes; Bendele, yes. Ayes all, motion passed to accept Gavett as Vice President.

**Departments**

Police: Chief Elwell reported that the Tigers won! And on police activity. Bendele asked why Columbia police were polling people in town if they have problems with the Iron Coffins. Elwell clarified if Bendele was asking a question or making a statement and offered to look at video footage if there are times and/or dates in question. He also asked Bendele to contact him prior to public meetings so that Elwell could be better equipped to answer the question. Vecelius noted an incident last Friday night where he was asked by police if he had a problem with the Motorcycle club and that he found it inappropriate as the current incident with a driver in the alleyway had nothing to do with the club. Elwell stated he will look into the matter but would have appreciated the heads up.

Fire: No Fire Representative.

Guest Speaker-None.

Complaints-A citizen asked if the council could demand that cats be nutured or licensed. Babinger said it is unlikely due to animal rights groups. Arnett also added that the state has no mandate for licensing cats so it is unlikely that the village can make such demand.

Public Participation-None.

**Minutes Reviewed-** Motion made by Cure, second by Gavett to accept the 9-8-11 minutes as presented. All Ayes, Motion Passed. Motion made by Cure, second by Gavett to accept the 9-19-11 Meeting minutes as presented. All Ayes, Motion Passed.

**Receipt of Treasurer’s Report-** Motion made by Cure, second by Gavett to accept the Treasurer’s Report subject to audit. All Ayes, Motion Passed.

**Presentation of Existing Bills**- Motion made by Gavett, second by Cure to pay existing bills with correction. Ayes all, Motion passed. Lueker asked if his bill was on the bills presented and was told that the topic was on the agenda under new business.

**Staff Progress Reports-**

Zoning: Eric Trumble submitted copies of the report for review. Babinger inquired as to the status of the Vicary Rd. re-roof and the Treasurer reported that the fee was collected and the permit issued.

Building: No report given. Ellis stated that he thought Steve doesn’t want to work for the village anymore as he has not responded to phone messages and has not reported for work for several weeks. Ellis suggests that action be taken to hire DPW help if there is no response from Fletcher by tomorrow. Vecelius suggests Ken Johns as a replacement. Bendele asked the Clerk to post the position in the Exponent if the position becomes open. Lueker also indicated interest in the job.

**Old Business**

Ellis presented recognition plaque to Cathy Senkewitz and thanked her for serving the public. Ellis presented a recognition plaque for the Hall honoring all of the past council members.

Motion made by Gavett, second by Cure to purchase a computer up to $1,000 for the Clerk. All Ayes, motion passed. Babinger recommends getting a quote from DigiLink. Clerk will explore options with Michigan Computer Supply.

Gavett thanked Donna Irelan and her team of helpers for a successful Cement City Days. Clerk to send Donna a thank you letter and post it in the upcoming newsletter. Clerk to send thank you letter to be published in the Exponent.

FOIA request was repealed.

**New Business**

A discussion took place on the Lueker bill as Don Lueker cleaned up a mess on his property that was left behind by our DPW crew. Babinger asked Lueker to accept an apology on behalf of the council. Lueker accepted. Motion made by Babinger, second by Ellis to pay the bill and to finish cleaning up the job. Babinger stressed that the village is not setting a precedence of paying unauthorized bills. Ayes all, motion passed.

Babinger met with Shawn Surque regarding the condition of the roads and bridge. Surque stated that the bridge was made of a material that made it okay for the current state. Clerk Ladd also verified that the bridge was inspected in April of 2010 and received clearance. Bendele to contact Ajax on suggestions for how to handle the speed bumps at the bridge.

Surque expressed concern for the berm of the roads and stated they are too high and allows for water to stay on the roads leading to deterioration. Bendele states our equipment and the right driver could better prepare the berm and will assist with the prioritizing of the roads. Babinger asked if Lueker would be able to do such job and Lueker stated he could with a little practice. Babinger suggests a boiler plate letter be sent to homeowner prior to the start of the work with a start and finish date. Bendele suggests doing one or two properties at a time and seeing the job done before moving on.

**Good & Welfare**

Motion to adjourn by Ellis, second by Cure. All ayes, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 9:09 p.m.

Submitted by Carol Ladd, Clerk Approved by James Ellis, President