**Village of Cement City**

**Council Meeting Minutes**

November 10, 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: 4 Citizens present. Members present: James Ellis, Michael Gavett, Bill Bendele, Larry Babinger, and Mel Cure. Clerk Carol Ladd, and Treasurer Chari Cure, were present.

**Departments**

Police: Sgt. Niles presented a report and asked if the council had any questions.

Fire: No Representative. Bendele updated council that the mini pumper that is normally housed in the fire barn has been traded in for a ladder truck. Bendele stated that the AFB chiefs meetings take place on the same night and time as the village meeting.

Public Participation-None.

**Minutes Reviewed**-Regular Meeting minutes of the 10-13-11 were read. Motion made by Gavett, second by Cure to accept the Regular minutes with correction to reflect Babinger’s comment that the paying of the Lueker bill should not set a precedent to pay unauthorized bills in the future. Ayes by Gavett, Ellis, Babinger, and Cure. Bendele, nay. Motion passed.

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

**Presentation of Existing Bills**-

Council inquired if DPW Supervisor Steve Fletcher had resigned. Clerk stated that a key, a badge, and a weather radio had been returned and left at the office. A letter of resignation was not received. Gavett reported that Fletcher had told him that his new employer had him sign an agreement that he would not work for another employer. Clerk to add note to employee file.

Ellis questioned the bill from The Exponent and stated that the Village did not make request for the October minutes to be published and should not be responsible for the bill. Bendele stated that he sent the email to the Exponent for information only. Clerk to send a letter to The Exponent stating that the council will not pay the bill and to ask the paper to only accept village requests from the Clerk or the President. Motion made by Cure, second by Gavett to pay existing bills with the exception of The Exponent bill. Ayes all, motion passed. Bendele asked that non-emergency expenditures be presented and approved by the entire council rather than a Presidential approval. He used the welder and grinder purchases as examples of tools that were purchased that should have been discussed by all. Babinger stated that he was embarrassed and disgusted that the minutes were sent to the Exponent without approval. He said the intent was not in the best interest of the village.

**Staff Progress Reports-**

Zoning: Trumble reported that during his regular rounds he directed several residents on the need for building permits. He also documented several addresses with inoperable cars. Trumble brought in an example of an application for re-roofs from Columbia Township which may be an easier form for residents to fill out.

Building: No report.

DPW: Bendele looked at the drain/culvert and recommends crushed concrete and will provide it when it becomes available. Bendele recommends cleaning out the culvert and a backhoe will be required. He stated it is not emergent but needs to be a part of future plans. Bendele also recommends some attention to the berm at the Thorp property.

Cure stated that the church sign is complete and looks nice.

**Old Business**

Gavett reported on the decision by the Brooklyn Council to deny the sharing of services between Brooklyn and Cement City. Gavett recommends moving forward with other local municipalities, Addison, for example. Addison’s regular meetings are the 1st Monday’s of each month.

**New Business**

Motion made by Gavett, second by Babinger to proceed with a Tree lighting ceremony and a visit from Santa on December 3rd and to allow for up to $300 in expenditures. Ayes all, motion carried. Niles offered to assist Santa to the Hall.

Patty Lueker resigned as Deputy Treasurer and offered to discuss her reasons in private. The Council thanked Patty for her service.

Bendele read a letter from Shawn Surque stating that he does not want to help with road/bridge research that was requested of him. He gave additional resources (Roadsoft website) that may help to guide the village. Babinger stated that the village needs to look into these resources and to continue with a 5 year plan.

**Good & Welfare**

Motion made by Ellis, second by Gavett to adjourn. Ayes by all, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Submitted by Carol Ladd, Clerk

Approved by James Ellis, President