

**EDMORE VILLAGE COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION
UNAPPROVED JOURNAL OF MINUTES
March 13, 2023**

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The regular session of the Village of Edmore Council was called to order on Monday, March 13, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. by **President Gloria Burr**.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **ROLL CALL:** Members present – **Colburn, Griswold, Guild, McParland, Moore, Rasmussen, Burr**. Also present: **Justin Lakamper** – Village Manager, **Shirley Drain** – Village Treasurer, **Kerri Peterson** – Village Clerk.
4. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:** **Guild** moved to approve the agenda as printed. Seconded by **Rasmussen**. **VOICE VOTE: ALL YES: MOTION PASSED 7-0.**
5. **PUBLIC COMMENTS: AGENDA ITEMS:** None.
6. **DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**
 - A. **POLICE: Deputy Tanis** (absent)The report from the Montcalm County Sheriff's Office showed 148 service hours during which there were 12 total investigations, 3 arrests, 40 traffic stops, 6 citations issued, and 34 verbal warnings issued. Highlights included on February 8th, a fraud investigation was initiated in the 500 block of West Gilson Street. The investigation revealed the victim was contacted, via text messaging, asking him to call a supplied telephone number because his EBT account had been hacked. The victim did and provide his ET card information. Later in the week, after having provided that information, the victim learned funds were taken from his EBT account without his authorization. The victim was required to report the incident to the police before a new card could be supplied to him. There are no known suspects currently. The remainder of the month was quiet.
 - B. **FINANCE: Burr** reported for Tracy. Close to having the year end closed. Have also continued to work on organizing the vault and paperwork.
 - C. **DDA: Lakamper** reported the DDA did not meet this month. We have purchased 13 large planter boxes to be placed on the downtown sidewalks this spring. They have been delivered and I will be working with the DDA on finding the appropriate vendor to fill them with flowers. Vicki Moulter of Vicki's Flowers will be hosting a wedding expo at the marketplace on March 25th. The DDA will also host a table to advertise the Marketplace as a wedding venue. The is no meeting scheduled currently.
 - D. **DPW: Burr** reported for Andy. We plowed and did sidewalks multiple times. We have been servicing equipment. We had a water main break on a 4" main on First Street south of Forest, which we repaired last Saturday.
 - E. **MANAGERS: Lakamper** reported. **COMMITTEES: ELF:** The ELF committee has met twice to discuss an application for \$150,000 from Edmore Property, LLC. **POLICE:** The police committee has met to discuss options going forward. Currently, the options we have discussed have been starting a department, contracting with a different police agency, working with the Township, or not providing additional coverage. **ORDINANCE:** The ordinance committee did not meet to further discuss the option of increasing the allowable number of microbusinesses in town from zero to one. **PARKS AND REC:** I would like to meet with the parks and recreation committee this coming month to discuss plans for park upgrades this coming year. **DEVELOPMENTS: PUR OILS LLC:** They have their CRA inspection completed and are currently

- waiting on their final fire safety inspection. This should take about 10 days and once that is submitted they will be issued their final State license. Once they have their license they will be opening and start processing product. They have also been in touch with all our local growers and are expecting to be working with them directly to process the plants that they are growing. **FAMILY DOLLAR AND DOLLAR GENERAL:** Both projects are moving forward, but they have not made any physical progress this last month. Family Dollar has been working inside the building. Dollar General is tentative 2024. **DPW:** The new DPW employee will be starting this coming Monday. He is excited to start and the DPW is excited to be back at full strength. Aaron has been signed up to take the wastewater exam for the L1 and L2 license at the beginning of May. He will be attending a Michigan Rural Water Association (MRWA) training course at the end of April in Clare to prepare him for the exam. Andy will be attending the MRWA operators conference in Traverse City next week. While there he will attend and receive credit for multiple water and sewer classes which he needs to do to keep his operator license current for both systems. **GLENN CURTIS GRANT:** Applications for the Glenn Curtis Foundation are due on April 14th. **WATER GRANTS:** I have been working with Flies and Vandenbrink on both the implementation of the DWAM Grant and our DWSRF application. Both are moving along as planned. The DWSRF application will require a public hearing before it is submitted. Added note: Spring Clean Up will be held April 29th, 2023.
- F. PRESIDENTS: Gloria Burr:** March 17th, GET (Growing Edmore Together) is having a day of activities and workshops downtown.
7. **TREASURER'S REPORT: Shirley Drain**
- A. **TREASURER'S REPORT & COMMENTS: Drain:** Books for February 2023 and for end of year, are closed and balanced with the bank. Cash balances look good. All ELF loans all current. The auditor is not sure if they will physically attend or virtually.
- B. **APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF BILLS:** Motion by **Griswold** to pay the bills. Seconded by **Rasmussen**. **VOICE VOTE: ALL YES: MOTION PASSED 7-0.**
8. **COMMITTEE REPORTS:** The ELF Committee and the Police Committee met.
9. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
- A. **REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING February 13th, 2023:** Motion by **Colburn** to approve February 13, 2023, minutes with correction of 10.C. ...voted 2 of 3... Supported by **Rasmussen**. **ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Colburn, Griswold, Guild, McParland, Moore, Rasmussen, Burr. MOTION PASSED 7-0.**
- B. **BUDGET HEARING FEBRUARY 20TH, 2023:** **McParland** moved to approve the minutes. Supported by **Rasmussen**. **VOICE VOTE: ALL YES: MOTION PASSED 7-0.**
10. **NEW BUSINESS**
- A. **CONSIDERATION OF AURWYN CLASS B GROWER APPLICATION:** The marihuana business, Aurwyn Gardens LLC, has applied for a Class B marihuana grower license under the Village Ordinance 2020-02. Aurwyn Gardens LLC is owned entirely by Kyle McGraw of Greenville. In 2022 he purchased 655 E. Main St., which was formerly occupied as a home and is in the B-2 district. In June of 2022, the Planning Commission issued a special use permit for marihuana growing at that location. Aurwyn Gardens has also been issued their prequalification status from the State of Michigan. A Class B license would allow Aurwyn Gardens LLC to grow up to 500 plants. Discussion took place among the board and questions were asked of Mr. McGraw, on what his plans were, how the operation would work, and what the security system looked like. Location was the biggest concern among members of the board. Motion by **Guild** to deny the application of Aurwyn Class B Recreational Marihuana Growers License. Seconded by

Rasmussen. ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Colburn, Griswold, Guild, Moore, Rasmussen, Burr. NO: McParland. MOTION PASSED 6-1.

B. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 2023-03 TO DECERTIFY A PORTION OF W. GILSON: Each year, the Street Administrator must certify our official MDOT road map which is used to calculate our ACT 51 street monies allotment. If a road is not open to the public for use it must be decertified by resolution from our MDOT map. Motion by **McParland** to approve Resolution 2023-03 to decertify a portion of W. Gilson St. in the amount of 702 feet. Supported by **Rasmussen. ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Colburn, Griswold, Guild, McParland, Moore, Rasmussen, Burr. MOTION PASSED 7-0.**

C. CONSIDERATION OF ELF LOAN FOR EDMORE PROPERTY LLC: Edmore Property LLC originally applied for an ELF loan to help partially fund the construction of a medical marihuana growing facility on Industrial Drive last June. The property was sold to the Richards family 1.5 years ago for the purpose of this development. At the time of the original application, they had not started their construction and were asking for \$300,000, which was almost all the available cash funds, and the ELF Committee did not recommend giving them the loan. Since then, they began construction and have most of the building finished. To date, they have invested \$2,315,000 and require an additional \$325,000 to finish the project. They are asking that the Village now consider a 10-year loan for \$150,000 at a fixed interest rate of 3.25%, to finish the project. The rest of the needed funds have been secured privately. The ELF Committee has met twice to review the application and financials of both the business and its two owners' personal financial statements and tax returns. After a thorough review, all members of the committee recommend the approval of this loan under the terms outlined above. Motion by **Guild** to approve the ELF loan to Edmore Property, LLC. Supported by **Moore. ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Colburn, Griswold, Guild, McParland, Moore, Rasmussen, Burr. MOTION PASSED 7-0.**

11. **PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.**

12. **COUNCIL COMMENTS: Guild** spoke to McGraw letting him know that the decision made tonight was nothing personal. It was the location and that there are residences too close. Other members agreed that location played a huge part in their decisions.

13. **ADJOURNMENT:** Motion by **Rasmussen** to adjourn. Seconded by **McParland. VOICE VOTE: ALL YES: MOTION PASSED 7-0.**

President Burr adjourned the meeting at 7:58 p.m.

Village President

Village Clerk

Approved for Publication

NEXT MEETING: April 10, 2023