

**Village of Pewamo
Council Regular Meeting Minutes
January 13, 2020**

Present: Randy Zenk, Dan Heckman, Michael Yerge, Tanner Roe, Jacob Wiggers, Jane Martin, Carl Hafner, Sandy Wolniakowski, Mike Scollon, Rob Sterner **Absent:** Steve Meyers **Guests:** Lt. Jack Pieters, Pat Distel

President Zenk began the meeting at 7:00 with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Vacant Trustee Position: Jane Martin is interested in filling the Trustee position left vacant by Joni Jegla. President Zenk introduced Jane and asked Council if there were questions or concerns. None presented. President Zenk called for a motion to appoint Jane as Village Trustee until November, at which time she may decide to run for election.

A MOTION WAS MADE by Trustee Yerge to appoint Jane Martin as Village Trustee. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Roe. Four votes in favor, none opposed, one absent. **MOTION APPROVED.**

Swearing In and Oath of Office followed the appointment of Jane Martin as Village Trustee.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

Review/Approval of Meeting Agenda:

A MOTION WAS MADE by Trustee Heckman to approve the Meeting Agenda as presented. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Yerge. Five votes in favor, none opposed, one absent. **MOTION APPROVED.**

President Zenk's Comments to Council:

President Zenk informed Council of Pewamo's inclusion in Ionia County Emergency Management preparations prior to the forecasted winter storm. President Zenk thanked Michael Yerge and Mike Scollon for their involvement.

President Zenk and Sandy Wolniakowski will be attending the Ionia County Economic Alliance quarterly meeting on Thursday, January 16th. Any interested Council members are invited and encouraged to join.

Review of Council Regular Meeting Minutes, Account Activity, Payables, and Receivables:

A MOTION WAS MADE by Trustee Heckman to approve information presented. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Yerge. Five votes in favor, none opposed, one absent. **MOTION APPROVED.**

Lt. Jack Pieters, Ionia Sheriff's Office:

Lt. Pieters had been invited by Council to attend the meeting and share information regarding hours patrolled in the Village. Funds received from the State of Michigan for liquor control are used to pay for some patrol in the Village. Council shared their main concerns regarding excessive speeding and the safety of residents. Lt. Pieters agreed to work to achieve that goal with increased visibility and communications. He also plans to have a member of his department attend Village meetings on a quarterly basis.

A MOTION WAS MADE by Trustee Heckman to approve the Village contract with Ionia County Sheriff Department to provide 36.0 hours of Sheriff patrol within the Pewamo Village limits, consisting of 3 hours per month for a period of 12 months. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Yerge. Five votes in favor, none opposed, one absent. **MOTION APPROVED.**

DPW Report: Presented by Mike Scollon

Everstream Cable: Installing fiber optic conduit underground on State Street to Lincoln Street. Mike does not expect any disruption of existing Village infrastructure. Everstream completed the Right-of-Way application process, providing proof of insurance and performance guarantee. Discussion followed regarding mandating underground utilities for those passing through the Village. Mike informed Council that current policies did not allow installation of any additional overhead wires within one block of the Main and State Streets intersection.

Lagoon Cleaning: DPW is researching cleaning of both lagoons. The lagoons were installed in 1979 and this would be the first cleaning. Mike recommends this be done in the next two to five years, with an estimated cost of \$100,000.

Treasurer Hafner informed Council that funds are currently in reserve for this.

Flooding in Town: Mike informed Council that there is not much the Village can do to avoid the temporary flooding that has occurred twice in the past month. Excessive rains have saturated the ground and it is his opinion that Dutton Drain is currently maxed out. DPW will continue to monitor and do whatever they can to alleviate the problem, which includes some ditch cleaning north of town when the weather permits.

Water Tower Basketball Courts: The concrete at the old tennis courts is becoming dangerous and needs to be removed.

Treasurer's Report: Presented by Carl Hafner

- Treasurer Hafner asked if there were questions regarding his Monthly Treasurer's Report. None presented.
- Treasurer Hafner continues to monitor all banking activities and renew CD's at the best possible rate.
- Treasurer Hafner recently met with Independent Bank and suggest moving Village Money Market funds from Union Bank to an account at Independent Bank, which would provide better rates and improved flexibility. He plans to invite members of Independent Bank to the February meeting to explain the benefits of this to Council.

Recreation Report: None

Committee Updates: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Community Center:** President Zenk shared with Council that Lyons Twp. plans to use the Community Center as a voting precinct. There are no plans to charge Lyons Twp. for this as it is a community service. St. Joseph's Parish has also asked to host the Parish Luncheons at the Community Center for two to three months while they renovate the Parish Center kitchen. Council agrees that these uses are community based and for the good of our community. Therefore, Council supports allowing these uses free of charge.
- **All Village Meeting:** It is Pewamo's turn to host. Council supports Clerk setting a date in late March.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Sesquicentennial Park Purchase:** The process of completing the purchase is currently on hold while Gerald Nickel goes through probate to obtain a clear deed.
- **Grant Application for Community Center Parking Lot:** Sandy, Carl and Mike Scollon are working to complete the application. Fleis and Vandenbrink have also offered services to assist, free of charge.

BLIGHT CONCERNS: Mike Scollon continues to monitor and recommends sending a letter to one of the residents as a reminder to correct the situation.

FINAL ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION:

Dan Heckman: Questioned if there was any benefit to reinstalling the stop sign at Lincoln and State to slow traffic. Discussion followed. It was decided we would wait to see how improved patrol impacted speed concerns. Dan plans to reach out to Ionia County Drain Commission to share our concerns regarding the Dutton Drain.

Michael Yerge: Fire/Rescue Department plans to pour concrete in late spring/early summer. Village will attempt to have proper drainage in place by this time. Fire/Rescue has a heater that needs to be installed and are requesting DPW assistance to get this done. They will pay for installation.

A MOTION WAS MADE by Trustee Heckman to adjourn the meeting at 8:45. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Yerge. Five votes in favor, none opposed, one absent. **MOTION APPROVED.**

These minutes are respectfully submitted by Sandy Wolniakowski and will be presented for approval at the February 10, 2020 meeting.