

**Village of Pewamo  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
Public Hearing for DWRF Funding  
Public Hearing Meeting to Approve Truth in Taxation & Approve Tax Millage  
June 14, 2021**

**Present:** Randy Zenk, Dan Heckman, Michael Yerge, Tanner Roe, Jacob Wiggers, Jane Martin, Dale Winsor, Carl Hafner, Sandy Wolniakowski, Mike Scollon, Rob Sterner      **Guest:** Bruce Pindzia, Leah Bectel, Pat Distel

**President Zenk began the meeting in the Community Center at 7:00 with the Pledge of Allegiance.**

**Review/Approval of Meeting Agenda:**

President Zenk asked that the Public Hearing for Truth in Taxation and Approving the Millage be held prior to the Public Hearing for DWRF Funding. He also added Ionia County Economic Alliance to New Business.

**A MOTION WAS MADE** by Trustee Yerge to approve the Meeting Agenda with the changes. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Martin. Six votes in favor, none opposed. **MOTION APPROVED.**

**Truth in Taxation & Approval Tax Millage Public Hearing Opened at 7:02:**

Treasurer Hafner explained to those present that changes in State of Michigan law in 2019 reduced the 12 mill tax rate and the public hearing is necessary to avoid a further reduction, allowing the Village to levy a 11.8111.

**President Zenk opened Public Comment:** No comments

**President Zenk closed Public Comment:**

**President Zenk closed Public Hearing for Truth in Taxation & Approval of Tax Millage**

**DWRF FUNDING PUBLIC HEARING OPENED AT 7:05 Audio Recording Began**

- Leah Bectel of Fleis & Vandenbrink offered a slide presentation explaining the process and requirements of applications to the State of Michigan Drinking Water Revolving Fund.
- Fleis & Vandenbrink submitted a project plan on behalf of the Village of Pewamo for funding of improvements to replace old and undersized water infrastructure, mostly from the 1950's, that has exceeded its useful life.
- Over 120 projects were submitted to EGLE for review and scoring, with Pewamo currently ranking #40.
- The Village of Pewamo is currently within the funded group, targeted to receive \$492,000 in grants and \$1,148,000 in low interest loans.
- Research had been done to determine that replacement of the infrastructure was the only viable option.
- A map of the proposed project was presented.
- The expected environmental and social impact of the project was presented.
- The final project scope has yet to be determined.
- The potential financial impact was also researched and explained.
- In closing, the timeline of the approved project plan was presented.

President Zenk called for a motion to open the public comment session of the hearing.

**A MOTION WAS MADE** by Trustee Yerge to open Public Comment. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Wiggers. Six votes in favor, none opposed. **MOTION APPROVED.**

- Treasurer Hafner asked if the Village's application for Category B Funding for street improvements could be used in conjunction with DWRF Funding. Bruce Pindzia said they encourage applications to and use of Category B Funding.
- Trustee Yerge asked if the Village would still receive the \$492,000 if the scope of the project was reduced. Bruce and Leah informed those present that grant funds would be reduced, as they represent approximately 30% of the total project.
- Trustee Yerge also questioned the longevity of the proposed improvements. Bruce Pindzia stated that ductal iron water infrastructure has an expected life of 75 years.
- Trustee Yerge questioned how the increase from 4" to 8" water main would affect water flow. Bruce Pindzia explained that the increase in flow could be as high as 400%.

President Zenk called for a motion to close the public comment session of the hearing.

**A MOTION WAS MADE** by Trustee Heckman to close Public Comment. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Roe. Six votes in favor, none opposed. **MOTION APPROVED.**

## **President Zenk Opened the Regular Meeting**

**Public Comment:** Pat Distel had questions regarding the maintenance of property along fencing. Mike Scollon reported that a property owner was required to maintain the property along the fence as long as it was within his boundaries. The fence placement does not determine the property line. Pat also questioned at what height grass was considered overgrown. Village Ordinances require 7" or less.

President Zenk requested a motion to formally adopt the Project Plan and selected alternative for water main improvements. Leah Bectel clarified that selected alternative was the Village's inability to hook into another water source.

**A MOTION WAS MADE** by Trustee Wiggers to adopt the DWRP Project Plan and the selected alternative for water main improvements. Mike Scollon will be the authorized representative to submit the Project Plan. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Yerge. Six votes in favor, none opposed. **MOTION APPROVED.**

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

**A MOTION WAS MADE** by Trustee Heckman to approve the information presented. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Winsor. Six votes in favor, none opposed. **MOTION APPROVED.**

### **DPW Report: Presented by Mike Scollon**

- **Street Improvements:** Mike has been in contact with Ionia County regarding the scheduling of street work and has been told that there is nothing scheduled yet.
- **Weed Control of Lagoons:** The application has been filed with the State of Michigan. DPW will need to measure sludge prior to and following treatment. Mike also informed Council that the lagoons will need maintenance and repair work next year to replace piping.
- **Street Line Painting:** DPW plans to continue striping for parking, no parking and cross walks.
- **Radar Speed Signs:** Discussion was held regarding the effectiveness of the new radar speed signs on State Street. Council proposes changing the north State Street sign to 35 mph.
- **Compost Ash Pile:** We are waiting for test results of chemical analysis. Hauling expected to begin early July.
- **Village Lawn Maintenance:** President Zenk thanked the DPW for their efforts, which were complicated by the lawn mower breaking down. Mike reported it took more than two weeks to get the parts needed for repair.

### **Treasurer's Report: Presented by Carl Hafner**

Treasurer Hafner called for questions/concerns on the Treasurer's Report presented. None offered.

**A MOTION WAS MADE** by Trustee Heckman to adopt Resolution 2021-06-14 establishing a millage rate of 11.8111 for 2021. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Yerge. Six votes in favor, none opposed. **MOTION APPROVED.**

**Recreation Report:** Council discussed parking options during ball season. No parking signage on North Street was disregarded. DPW is open to parking on the property west of the maintenance garage if needed.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- **Village ICEA Contribution:** President Zenk presented the request from ICEA for our annual contribution. The request was for an additional 25%. Discussion followed.

**A MOTION WAS MADE** by Trustee Yerge to approve a contribution of \$1000 for 2021. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Heckman. Six votes in favor, none opposed. **MOTION APPROVED.**

- **Affordability & Planning Grant for Water Rate Study**

**A MOTION WAS MADE** by Trustee Yerge to approve the acceptance of the Affordability & Planning Grant for Water Rate Study in the amount of \$15,000 from the State of Michigan. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Heckman. Six votes in favor, none opposed. **MOTION APPROVED.**

- **Village Website:** Shumaker Technology Group has taken over the management of our website in place of IT Right and propose some updates to make it more appealing and user friendly.

**A MOTION WAS MADE** by Trustee Heckman to approve paying STG \$400 for initial improvements to the website.

**MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Martin. Six votes in favor, none opposed. **MOTION APPROVED.**

**Blight Concerns:** Mike Scollon reported efforts to correct current concerns. No new concerns presented.

### **FINAL ROUND TABLE:**

**Mike Scollon:** The car show was a great success and well done. Mike suggested a thank you letter be sent to Mark and Linda Klein. Council agrees and supports!

**A MOTION WAS MADE** by Trustee Heckman to adjourn the meeting at 8:35. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Yerge. Six votes in favor, none opposed. **MOTION APPROVED.**

These minutes are respectfully submitted by Sandy Wolniakowski and will be presented for approval at the July 12, 2021 meeting of Council.