

**Village of Pewamo
Council Regular Meeting Minutes
March 9, 2020**

Present: Randy Zenk, Dan Heckman, Michael Yerge, Steve Meyers, Tanner Roe, Jacob Wiggers, Jane Martin, Carl Hafner, Sandy Wolniakowski, Mike Scollon, Rob Sterner Guest: Randy Woodbury

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

Public Comment: Randy Woodbury was present to inform Council of a plumbing issue at his residence. He thanked DPW for their assistance in resolving it, but also informed Council of an ordinance violation which resulted from work done by the first plumbing contractor. Randy fired that contractor and hired another to redo the work and correct the violation. Randy had taken the issue to small claims court and was awarded in his case. He offered to assist the Village in pursuing the original ordinance violation. Discussion followed and Mike Scollon advised further review by Sanitary Sewer Committee. After Randy left the meeting, Treasurer Hafner reported that the fine for a first violation would be \$50. Mike Scollon advised that it has been Pewamo's policy to work with residents in resolving problems/violations. Discussion followed. It was decided by unanimous vote not to pursue the matter as the violation has been corrected.

Review/Approval of Meeting Agenda: President Zenk added ISO Public Protection Classification to New Business
A MOTION WAS MADE by Trustee Heckman to approve the Meeting Agenda with the addition to New Business.
MOTION SUPPORTED by Trustee Yerge. Six votes in favor, none opposed. **MOTION APPROVED.**

President Zenk's Comments to Council: To be addressed in New Business

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

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

DPW Report: Presented by Mike Scollon

PASER (Pavement Surface Evaluation and Rating) for Village Streets: Mike presented a street map for the Village along with the PASER Rating for each street.

Ditching: DPW has been working on ditching of N. State and W. Lincoln streets.

Washington Street Repair of Asphalt: Scheduled to be done when asphalt is available.

Treasurer's Report: Presented by Carl Hafner

- Treasurer Hafner asked if there were questions regarding his Monthly Treasurer's Report. None presented.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Portland Ambulance Contract-Rate Increase:** President Zenk attended a meeting at Portland Ambulance and presented information to Council. The Village of Pewamo has been paying the same per capita rate for ambulance service for six years. Due to changes beyond their control, the City of Portland must increase the per capita rate to \$13, with a total annual fee of \$6,097.57. Discussion followed.

A MOTION WAS MADE by Trustee Meyers to approve the \$13 per capita rate with Portland Ambulance. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Roe. Six votes in favor, none opposed. **MOTION APPROVED.**

- **Approve 2020 tax rate millage to be levied 7/1/2020 at 12 mills:**

A MOTION WAS MADE by Trustee Heckman to adopt a tax rate of 12 mills for Village of Pewamo 2020 property taxes. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Yerge. Six votes in favor, none opposed. **MOTION APPROVED.**

- **Approve transfer of MMKT funds from Union Bank to Independent Bank effective 4/1/2020:** Treasurer Hafner proposes moving Village Money Market funds from Union Bank to a higher interest-bearing account with Independent Bank effective 4/1/2020.

A MOTION WAS MADE by Trustee Heckman to transfer Village money market funds to Independent Bank effective 4/1/2020. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Wiggers. Six votes in favor, none opposed. **MOTION APPROVED.**

- **Approve amendments to budget for fiscal year ending 3/31/2020:** Treasurer Hafner and Clerk Wolniakowski reviewed the budget for fiscal year ending 3/31/20 and have proposed amendments.

A MOTION WAS MADE by Trustee Wiggers to adopt proposed amendments to the budget for fiscal year ending 3/31/20. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Meyers. Six votes in favor, none opposed. **MOTION APPROVED.**

- **Approve Major & Local loan repayment to Sewer:** Treasurer Hafner led Council in a review of both Major and Local Street Funds, as well as the balances due to Sewer Fund. He proposes repaying half of the loan balances in this fiscal year, with a target of repaying the balance in fiscal year ending 3/31/21.

A MOTION WAS MADE by Trustee Heckman that Major and Local Street Funds repay Sewer Fund half of the loan balance this fiscal year and half in fiscal year ending 3/31/21. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Meyers. Six votes in favor, none opposed. **MOTION APPROVED.**

- **Review street funds available for repair work this fiscal year and set projects to be completed:** Council reviewed street work proposal and related cost, as well as funds available. Mike Scollon will communicate with Paul Spitzley of Ionia County to get final cost and schedule the work.
- **Approve Water & Sewer rates for fiscal year ending 3/31/2021:** Brian Minor of Michigan Rural Water came to Pewamo to conduct rate analysis studies for both the Water and Sewer Funds. It was determined that a 2% increase in water and sewer funds will keep Pewamo on target for expected maintenance and repairs.

A MOTION WAS MADE by Trustee Heckman to adopt 2% rate increases for Water & Sewer for the fiscal year ending 3/31/21. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Martin. Six votes in favor, none opposed. **MOTION APPROVED.**

- **Approve wages for fiscal year ending 3/31/2021:**

A MOTION WAS MADE by Trustee Meyers to adopt 1.6% wage increase for DPW employees for the fiscal year ending 3/31/21. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Roe. Six votes in favor, none opposed. **MOTION APPROVED.**

- **Approve increased contributions to MERS retirement for fiscal year ending 3/31/2021**

A MOTION WAS MADE by Trustee Heckman to adopt 1.5% increase in contributions to the MERS Defined Benefit Retirement for the fiscal year ending 3/31/21, making the new contribution rate 12.4%. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Yerge. Six votes in favor, none opposed. **MOTION APPROVED.**

- **Approve budget for fiscal year ending 3/31/2021:** Treasurer Hafner informed Council of changes made to the budget for the fiscal year ending 3/31/21.

A MOTION WAS MADE by Trustee Yerge to adopt the budget for the fiscal year ending 3/31/21 with the changes. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Roe. Six votes in favor, none opposed. **MOTION APPROVED.**

- **MML Dividends Received:** Clerk informed Council of dividends received from Michigan Municipal League for the property & liability insurance, as well as future dividends expected for worker's compensation.
- **ISO Public Protection Classification:** Fire Chief Yerge informed Council of extensive efforts taken to refile paperwork with ISO. He is pleased to inform Council that the Village rate was improved from 6 to 5. This improved rating may result in better insurance rates.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Reminder All Village Meeting-Monday, March 23rd at 7:00 in Community Center**
- **Sesquicentennial Park Purchase:** There has not been any progress in obtaining a clear title. Council is not in favor of leasing or purchasing the property until this is done. Jerry Nickel is not able to make progress with the concerned party. Council will attempt to assist.

BLIGHT CONCERNS: Letters will be sent to two residents regarding issues on their property.

FINAL ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION:

Michael Yerge: Thanked DPW for finding the source of the odor in rescue station. The battery causing the problem has been addressed.

Carl Hafner: Mike Scollon had questioned the ownership of property west of the DPW garage. He believed it was the Village's, however public records show the State of Michigan owns it. It is believed that this is Lot Y, and the Village does have a title to Lot Y. Carl has advised Ted Droste, County Assessor, and Ted is researching this to clear it up. Carl recommends having a survey done in the future to eliminate any further issues.

A MOTION WAS MADE by Trustee Heckman to adjourn the meeting at 9:00. **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 April 13, 2020 meeting.