

**Village of Pewamo  
Public Hearing for St. Joseph Variance 6:00 p.m.  
&  
Council Regular Meeting 6:30 p.m.  
Minutes  
November 11, 2019**

**Present:** Randy Zenk, Dan Heckman, Michael Yerge, Tanner Roe, Steve Meyers, Carl Hafner, Sandy Wolniakowski, Mike Scollon, Rob Sterner **Absent:** Jacob Wiggers

**Guests:** Fr. Darrel Kempf, Steve Esch, Phil Stoddard, Joe & Pat Distel

**President Zenk began the meeting at 6:00 with the Pledge of Allegiance.**

**Public Hearing to Address St. Joseph's Parish Zoning Variance Request**

- President Zenk invited those present on behalf of St. Joseph's Parish to present information.
- Fr. Darrel Kempf explained the reason for the variance request. Discussion followed.
- President Zenk asked Mike Scollon for his input. Mike does not foresee any problems with granting the variance.

**Public Hearing Ended at 6:20.**

**Council Regular Meeting**

**Public Comment:**

- Mike Scollon presented Pat Distel information she requested at the October meeting.

**Review/Approval of Meeting Agenda**

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

**St. Joseph's Variance Request:**

- President Zenk called for questions/concerns or a motion for St. Joseph's Variance Request.

**A MOTION WAS MADE** by Trustee Yerge to approve the Zoning Variance. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Heckman. Four votes in favor, none opposed, one absent. **MOTION APPROVED.**

- **Variance Term:** Steve Esch questioned Council on the opinion of Village Planner John Enos that beginning construction is open to Village interpretation. Council supports this and does not expect St. Joseph's Parish to reapply as long as there is some visible process of beginning construction.

**President Zenk's Comments to Council:**

President Zenk thanked Trustee Yerge for representing the Village at Brendan Cassel's Eagle Scout Court of Honor. President Zenk was not able to attend due to a prior commitment.

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

Mike Scollon explained fees for Pewamo Cemetery repair and restoration. Council supports completing the restoration at an approximate cost of \$500.

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

**DPW Report-Presented by Mike Scollon**

- Leaf Pick Up has been complicated by the snow, but DPW expects to finish by the end of the week.
- Siren Timer- Timer can be replaced at an approximate cost of \$900. A system connected to Ionia County Central Dispatch is approximately \$5,600. Discussion followed. If possible, Council supports replacing the timer for \$900 with a timer that is Central Dispatch compatible in case we wish to connect to them at a later time.
  - Fire Chief Yerge reported emergency siren procedures will no longer include sounding an "All Clear".
- Park Restroom Wiring-Wiring is completed; however, the electrician recommends additional GFI work at a cost of approximately \$90. Council supports additional GFI work.
- Lagoon Discharge-November 18 – 23. Clerk to notify Todd and Stephanie Thelen.
- Fire Hydrant Nozzles- Mike Scollon explained complications that kept them from completing the work earlier, but he plans on being done by 12/1/19.

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

- Treasurer Hafner asked if there were questions regarding his Monthly Treasurer's Report. None presented.
- Consumer's Energy has approved the disbursement of funds for the Tree Grant.
- Carl recommends budget review at the December meeting.

**Recreation Report:** Mike Scollon reported that DPW plans to install an ice rink, weather permitting.

**Committee Updates: No New Business**

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

➤ **East Street Engineering Proposal:** Council reviewed Fleis & Vandenbrink's proposal. Discussion followed. **A MOTION WAS MADE** by Trustee Yerge to approve Fleis & Vandenbrink proceeding with engineering the East Street project at a cost of \$18,500, with the condition that the Village will not be billed for engineering fees prior to 4/1/20. Council request Fleis and Vandenbrink acknowledge payment terms in writing. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Heckman. Four votes in favor, none opposed, one absent. **MOTION APPROVED.**

- **Hoop Building Request:** Two separate individuals have requested permission to place an accessory structure on their property. The type of structures intended are not allowed in our zoning ordinances and were denied, but it was pointed out that a structure of this type does exist in the Village. Council considers the existing structure grandfathered in as it was in place prior to the 2016 ordinance. However, the property owner will be advised that the structure cannot be repaired or replaced.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

- **Emergency Response Water Usage Policy:** Council reviewed and discussion followed. The designated hydrant to be used in an emergency is located at the base of the water tower. DPW will keep this area clear of snow and there will be signs installed posting "Emergency Vehicles ONLY Beyond This Point"

**A MOTION WAS MADE** by Trustee Heckman to approve the Emergency Response Water Usage Policy. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Roe. Four votes in favor, none opposed, one absent. **MOTION APPROVED.**

- **Miller Land Lease:** It is agreed that this will be a year by year lease with no formal documents issued.
- **Sesquicentennial Park Lease:** President Zenk reached out to Jerry Nickel and is waiting for his decision.
- **Policy for Naming Village Public Places:** Council reviewed and Treasurer Hafner made all suggested changes. Treasurer Hafner recommends submitting the final draft to the Village attorney for his review. Council supports.

## **Blight Concerns:**

- Discussion was held regarding a pending violation. Mike Scollon continues to communicate with the resident.
- An unlicensed vehicle is being monitored.
- A letter will be written regarding Council concerns. Mike Scollon will deliver the letter and discuss concerns with the property owner.

## **FINAL ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION:**

**Mike Scollon:** Recommends Council considers NOT holding meetings on Veteran's Day. This will be reviewed prior to scheduling next November's Council Meeting.

**Randy Zenk:** Paul Spitzley requested a letter of support from the Village. Randy will write the letter. Council supports.

**A MOTION WAS MADE** by Trustee Heckman to adjourn the meeting at 8:05. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Yerge. Four 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 December 9, 2019 meeting.