

**Village of Pewamo  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
Public Meeting for Budget, Taxes & SPARK Grant  
March 13, 2023**

**Present:** Randy Zenk, Dan Heckman, Michael Yerge, Dale Winsor, Jane Martin, Jacob Wiggers, Brett Thelen, Mike Scollon, Sandy Wolniakowski, Carl Hafner **Absent:** None **Guest:** None

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

**Review/Approval of Meeting Agenda:**

**A MOTION WAS MADE** by Trustee Wiggers to approve the Meeting Agenda as presented. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Winsor. Six votes in favor, none opposed. **MOTION APPROVED**

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

- There will be a public meeting in the Pewamo Community Center on Tuesday, March 14<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 to 10:00 to answer questions and share information relating to the upcoming P-W Schools bond proposal.

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

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

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

- Two CD's were renewed with Union Bank and Michigan Class Funds continue to do well.
- **2023/24 Budget Review:** In the absence of any questions or changes on the proposed budget, President Zenk called for a motion to adopt the next fiscal year's budget.

**A MOTION WAS MADE** by Trustee Yerge to adopt the 2023/24 Fiscal Year Budget. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Heckman. Six votes in favor, none opposed. **MOTION APPROVED**

- **2022/23 Budget Amendments:** Carl presented proposed amendments to the current budget.

**A MOTION WAS MADE** by Trustee Heckman to approve the amendments to the 2022/23 Fiscal Year Budget.

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

- **Water Rate Increase for 2023/24 Fiscal Year:** Following the extensive Water Rate Study by UFS and in accordance with their recommendations, a proposed rate increase of 4.9% was presented to Council on Water Ready to Serve and Water Usage Rates ONLY. Cost saving measures by DPW & Council for treatment of the lagoons will result in no increases to the Sewer rates at this time.

**A MOTION WAS MADE** by Trustee Yerge to adopt a 4.9% increase in Water Ready to Serve and Water Usage rates only. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Martin. Six votes in favor, none opposed. **MOTION APPROVED**

- **Wage Committee Recommendations for 2023/24 Fiscal Year:** Trustee Heckman presented the Wage Committee recommendation of a 4% hourly wage increase for DPW employees only.

**A MOTION WAS MADE** by Trustee Wiggers to approve a 4% increase in hourly wages for the DPW only. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Thelen. Six votes in favor, none opposed. **MOTION APPROVED**

**DPW Report: Presented by Mike Scollon**

- **Timber Sale:** Mike presented the contracts for the sale of Village timber at the Pewamo Cemetery and M-21 properties. Council approves moving forward with this in the next fiscal year.
- **Lagoon Groundwater Sampling:** Mike received quotes from Prien & Newhof and Fleis & Vandenbrink for sampling required by EGLE. Prein & Newhof's quote was considerably less.

**A MOTION WAS MADE** by Trustee Heckman to award the job to Prein & Newhof following Mike's review and acceptance of the contract. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Yerge. Six votes in favor, none opposed. **MOTION APPROVED**

- **Pewamo Parking Lot Lighting:** Rick Thelen of ESM gave Mike a quote to provide lighting for the Pewamo Parking Lot on the corner of Main & Higham Streets. To cut cost, Mike proposes DPW first install a light on the existing pole to see if it will be sufficient. Council supports this. Mike will follow up with Rick.
- **East Street Parking:** Mike presented the project engineers design for angle parking on East Street following the renovation. Project engineers believe angle parking is the most efficient design. Maintaining the current parking design would not be supported or funded by MDOT.
- **Fire/Community Center Exterior Improvements:** As soon as we receive bids from contractors, we will begin the grant application.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- **MDOT RESOLUTION 2023-02:** Clerk presented Resolution 2023-02 to accept Contract No. 23-5053, Control Section EDB 34000, Job Number 214149CON by and between the Michigan Department of Transportation and the Village of Pewamo for East, Jefferson & Higham Street improvements. Randy Zenk and Sandy Wolniakowski are authorized to sign said contract.

**A MOTION WAS MADE** by Trustee Heckman to adopt Resolution 2023-02. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Yerge. Six votes in favor, none opposed. **MOTION APPROVED**

- **SPARK Grant Resolution 2023-01:** Clerk presented Resolution 2023-01 to authorize an application to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources for funding from the Michigan SPARK Grants Program to finance improvements to Blossom Time Park.

**A MOTION WAS MADE** by Trustee Yerge to adopt Resolution 2023-01. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Thelen. Six votes in favor, none opposed. **MOTION APPROVED**

- **Hometown Decorations Contract Renewal:** Council supports renewing the contract, but suggested changing the decorations for the 2023 holiday season.
- **ICEA Contribution:** Ionia County Economic Alliance is seeking renewal of our annual support.

**A MOTION WAS MADE** by Trustee Heckman to renew our annual support of \$1,000 with the Ionia County Economic Alliance. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Martin. Six votes in favor, none opposed. **MOTION APPROVED**

- **Committee Assignments:** President Zenk led Council in a brief review of existing committees. He suggested assigning Trustee Brett Thelen to fill Tanner Roe's committee positions. No other changes were requested or made.
- **All Area Village Meeting:** Muir will host this meeting on April 24<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. President encouraged all who were able to attend.
- **Gabridge & Co Contract Renewal:** Clerk presented a proposal for a three year renewal of our audit contract with Gabridge and Co.

**A MOTION WAS MADE** by Trustee Heckman to accept the three year contract renewal as presented. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Wiggers. Six votes in favor, none opposed. **MOTION APPROVED**

- **Sesquicentennial Clock:** The Village has received quotes to replace/repair the clock. Council wishes to table this due to other project expenses which take priority.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- **Fire Station Floor Restoration:** Council revisited the proposal to restore the floor in the fire/rescue station at a cost of approximately \$6,000. Discussion followed. Council approves.

**Blight Concerns:** Mike Scollon informed Council that the house destroyed by fire in December is scheduled for demolition as soon as the frost laws are off.

Other blight concerns were discussed. Mike will follow up.

**FINAL ROUND TABLE:**

**Mike Scollon:** Bob Simon has been clearing the downtown business area sidewalks of snow for several years, and Mike would like to see him recognized. Council supports sending Bob a thank you letter.

Mike informed Council of proposed solar energy ordinances in a neighboring county.

Mike questioned the security of Village funds, following recent banking collapses in other states. Carl assured Council that Village funds are secure.

**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 April 10, 2023 meeting of Council.