

Village of Pewamo
Regular Meeting Minutes
September 11, 2023

Present: Randy Zenk, Dan Heckman, Michael Yerge, Dale Winsor, Jane Martin, Jacob Wiggers, Brett Thelen, Rob Sterner, Nap Watts, Sandy Wolniakowski, Carl Hafner **Guest:** Bob Masters, Peerless Midwest

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

Review/Approval of Meeting Agenda:

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

President Zenk's Comments to Council:

- **DPW Interviews:** President Zenk thanked the interview committee for their help in the interviewing and hiring process. There were seven people interviewed over the course of three days.
- **Napoleon Watts Hired to fill DPW Supervisor Position:** Nap Watts was introduced to Council. He gave a brief introduction of himself, including his background experience. Nap began working for the Village today, 9/11/23. Council welcomed Nap.
- **Block Party:** President Zenk thanked all involved in creating another successful Block Party, especially Rob Sterner for his help in set up and clean up.
 - **Block Party Committee is stepping down and we're hoping someone will come forward to continue the tradition that began with Sesquicentennial in 2009.**
- **Storm Damage:** The storm on August 24th left downed trees and lines. Low lines, a street light and a tree removal still need to be addressed, but Randy thanked Rob for his work to clean up following the storm.
- **Lift Station:** JK of Michigan installed the PLC/transducer and alarm controller at the lift station.
- **Fire/Rescue & Community Center:** Exterior improvement has begun.

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

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

Bob Masters-Peerless Midwest: Bob works with the Village for our wells and pumps and was present to give Council an update of the status of the systems.

Overall, our system is operating as expected, with regular maintenance and testing. Bob recommends that we budget for replacement of the pump on Well #1 within the next two years and for a complete well replacement in about ten years.

DPW Report: Rob Sterner

Rob reported to Council the items he's been working on which include: storm clean up, trimming of new trees, park spraying for weeds and normal daily duties.

- **Water Testing:** All annual testing samples have been taken and submitted as required by EGLE.
- **Park Hand Dryer:** The broken cover was replaced in the men's restroom.
- **Nap:** Rob gave Nap a tour of the Village and DPW duties. They will work together to form a check list and maintenance schedule.
- **Ice Rink:** Rob asked Council if they wanted an ice rink created this winter. Council supports as weather permits.

Treasurer's Report: Presented by Carl Hafner

- Collection of taxes is coming to a close, and interest rates continue to improve.

Recreation Report: No New Business

NEW BUSINESS:

Ionia County Emergency Management: Ionia County was included in the Declaration of State of Emergency following the storm. The Village filed a claim for \$3,511.86 for storm clean up, with no guarantees of reimbursement.

East & Higham Street Projects: Work to begin on 9/25 with a preconstruction meeting on 9/19 @1:00.

GIS Mapping Proposal: Fleis & Vandenbrink submitted a proposal for GIS mapping of all Village infrastructure. President Zenk presented the two options F & V quoted. President Zenk stated that this will be a useful tool and is something Council has discussed doing for a long time. F & V previously mapped Village Wastewater and Storm Drain Systems during the SAW Grant process. Discussion followed.

A MOTION WAS MADE by Trustee Wiggers to approve Option 1: Water System GIS development in the amount of \$24,500. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Thelen. Six votes in favor, none opposed. **MOTION APPROVED**

NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED:

Sesquicentennial Clock Repair: Clerk presented an estimate received from Steve Youdes' Clock Repair to repair and repaint the clock. Council is supportive, but would like to table this until the next fiscal year.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Ionia Drain Commissioner Update:** A letter was sent to Robert Rose following last month's meeting. We have not heard back regarding the Yates Street restrictor. Clerk will reach out and see if a meeting with Robert Rose, Randy Zenk, Nap & Rob Sterner is possible.

BLIGHT: Following Mike Scollon's retirement Council will enforce zoning.

Letters were sent to the two properties considered to be in violation.

FINAL ROUND TABLE:

Brett Thelen: Update on sidewalks in need of repair

On behalf of the sidewalk committee, Brett conducted an inspection of Village sidewalks. He took pictures of trouble spots and presented his report to Council. President Zenk thanked Brett for the report and recommended that the sidewalk committee prioritize the need for repairs for the future.

Carl Hafner: Policy Review

Village policies should be reviewed and amended as needed on a regular basis. Carl presented Council with two policies to review prior to the next meeting.

Jefferson Street/Spaulding Road Intersection: Carl asked Rob about the street maintenance at this site. Rob said that multiple repairs have been made, but more extensive repairs are necessary. It was suggested maybe this could be addressed during the East Street project. Nap and Rob will ask Brant Mercer of F & V to offer his input.

A MOTION WAS MADE by Trustee Heckman to adjourn the meeting at 8:15. **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 October 9, 2023 meeting of Council.