

Village of Pewamo
Regular Meeting Minutes
January 8, 2024

Present: Randy Zenk, Dan Heckman, Dale Winsor, Jane Martin, Michael Yerge, Jacob Wiggers, Brett Thelen, Kohl Falor, Rob Sterner, Sandy Wolniakowski, Carl Hafner **Guest:** Lt. Jack Pieters, Ionia County Sheriff Department
Due to a power outage, the meeting was held in the Pewamo Fire Station.

President Zenk began the meeting at 6:30 with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Review/Approval of Meeting Agenda: RJM Contract added to New Business

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

Lt. Jack Pieters, Ionia County Sheriff Department: Council discussed current concerns with Lt. Pieters. His department will make every effort to address speeding throughout the Village, especially in the noted problem areas. He will also be providing a monthly report to Council of their activities.

President Zenk's Comments to Council: President Zenk introduced Kohl Falor as our new DPW Supervisor and invited Kohl to further introduce himself to Council.

- **Transparency to Avoid Conflict of Interest:** As Village proceeds with health insurance coverage, President Zenk reminded Council that he is an employee of Priority Health Insurance. He has communicated with his employer the Village changed status on health insurance. He will not be voting or leading Council in health insurance choices.
- **Christmas Eve Fire:** Our department was called to assist with a structure fire, and water was drawn from our system at the hydrant. Napoleon Watts came to Pewamo to monitor the pumps and water tower, as did Rob Sterner. President Zenk reminded Fire Chief Yerge that the Village must be notified prior to water being drawn from the system.

DPW Report: Kohl Falor

- **Lagoons:** December discharge complete. CL Trucking repaired two pipes.
- **Compost Concrete:** Hauled to Miller Redi Mix
- **Dump Truck:** Simon Brothers repaired the airlines, brakes and headlights.
- **Scrap Metal:** Kohl is researching the removal and sale of scrap metal.
- **Backhoe Replacement:** Kohl presented Council with pricing and specs on a new backhoe. Discussion followed.

A MOTION WAS MADE by Trustee Wiggers to approve the purchase of a John Deere 310P from AIS Construction Equipment in the amount of \$126,666, after the MiDEAL discount and the trade in of the old backhoe. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Martin. Six votes in favor, none opposed. **MOTION APPROVED**

- **Underground Electric in Park:** Westphalia Electric located and traced underground electric prior to soil boring.
- **Generator Maintenance:** Battery was replaced in pumphouse generator. However, Rob reported neither backup generators came on during tonight's power outage.
- **Utility Vehicle:** Purchase of a backhoe has taken priority over the utility vehicle. However, Kohl did report the latest quotes received. Kohl will check to see if a MiDEAL discount is available and auction value of our old kubota. Purchase will be tabled for now.

Treasurer's Report: Presented by Carl Hafner

- **Budget Amendments:** Carl provided Council with a detailed report of budget activity and proposed amendments.

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

- **Village Investments:** Interest rates on Village funds continue to do well.
- **Transfer from Major to Local Street Fund:** Carl informed Council that a transfer of \$30,000 from Major to Local Street could be made this fiscal year as allowed by Act 51.

A MOTION WAS MADE by Trustee Yerge to approve a transfer of \$30,000 from Major to Local Streets. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Heckman. Six votes in favor, none opposed. **MOTION APPROVED.**

Recreation Report: No New Business

Committee Updates: The Wage & Hiring Committee met to conduct interviews on December 18th.

NEW BUSINESS: (Not previously addressed in the meeting)

- **Grant Application for CDSMI:** Clerk informed Council of a grant relating to EGLE water service line inventory requirements. Village received a quote in the amount of \$2,500 to complete the application. Further research indicates the Village is not a likely candidate to receive grant funds, and it may be better to hire a firm to complete the work necessary to meet EGLE requirements. Council does not wish to pursue the grant.

- **Policy Review:** The process of reviewing and renewing Village policies continues. The Fixed Asset Management Policy was reviewed prior to the meeting and renewed by Councilmembers' signatures.

A MOTION WAS MADE by Trustee Heckman to approve the Fixed Asset Management Policy. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Martin. Six votes in favor, none opposed. **MOTION APPROVED.**

- **Fire Department Mail:** The Fire Department will be changing their mailing address to the Village PO Box.
- **RJM Proposal for Engineering Services for Blossom Time Park Improvements using SPARK Grant Funds:** Clerk presented the proposal from RJM in the amount of \$118,000.00. These services will be covered as grant expenses. Funds paid during the application process in the amount of \$9,644.80 could also be included in grant expenses or not claimed and added to the amount of funds available to improve the park. Council does not wish to include the \$9,644.80 in the grant.

A MOTION WAS MADE by Trustee Yerge to accept the RJM Proposal in the amount of \$118,000.00. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Winsor. Six votes in favor, none opposed. **MOTION APPROVED.**

BLIGHT: No new concerns

FINAL ROUND TABLE:

Kohl Falor: Kohl reported a large pothole on west North Street that needs hot patch. DPW will address in the spring.

Mike Yerge: Informed Kohl that ISO Certification materials could not be sold for scrap metal.

Dan Heckman: Asked the DPW to inspect the generators as soon as possible to find out why they are not coming on automatically in a power outage.

A MOTION WAS MADE by Trustee Heckman to adjourn the meeting at 7:53. **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 February 12, 2024 meeting of Council.