

**Village of Pewamo
Regular Meeting Minutes
August 12, 2024**

Present: Randy Zenk, Dan Heckman, Dale Winsor, Jane Martin, Brett Thelen, Kohl Falor, Sandy Wolniakowski, and Carl Hafner. **Absent:** Michael Yerge and Jacob Wiggers **Guests:** Randy Woodbury

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

Review/Approval of Meeting Agenda: President Zenk added Water/Sewer Operator to New Business
A **MOTION WAS MADE** by Trustee Heckman to approve the meeting agenda with the addition. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Winsor. Four votes in favor, none opposed, two absent. **MOTION APPROVED.**

President Zenk's Comments to Council:

- **Rob Sterner Retires:** Rob Sterner has retired following more than 23 years of service to the Village. Pewamo is very grateful to Rob for his dedication and work done during his time with us, and we wish him the absolute best. Every effort will be made to find a replacement in the near future.
- **Lyons Twp. Election Equipment Storage:** The township is willing to provide a cabinet for storage, but need a spot to place it. Clerk will follow up with township and fire/rescue department.
- **Re-Zoning Application Received:** Clerk will forward to Planning Commission.
- **Relocate Speed Signs for Start of School:** Kohl plans to get this done.

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. Four votes in favor, none opposed, two absent. **MOTION APPROVED.**

DPW Report: Kohl Falor

- **Traffic Signage:** "No Semi Traffic" signs were added to W. Lincoln and E. Main Streets. Kohl believes semi traffic is reduced, especially on W. Lincoln. "No Engine Braking" signage will be added on State Street.
- **Semi Traffic Concerns:** Discussion regarding semi traffic concerns. Ionia County Sheriff has been contacted.
- **Clearbrooke Technologies:** Sludge judge shows significant reduction in both lagoons as result of treatment.
- **SCADA Malfunction:** RS Technical continues to monitor/address. Final radio install scheduled for this week.
- **Water Service Line Inventory:** Kohl and Sandy completed the inventory as far as possible with our data. Apex Excavating is preparing a quote to do potholing inspections of water service lines.
 - EGLE has been contacted for further clarification of our filing status in hopes of gaining some financial support to complete this process.

Treasurer's Report: Carl Hafner

- **Certificates of Deposit:** Two CD's cashed at Independent and one CD renewed at Union Bank.
- **Fire Bond Payment:** Due to Independent prior to 9/1/24. Carl is working with them on billing clarification.
- **Consumer's Energy Tree Grant Approved:** Trees are on order and will be planted prior to 11/5/24.

EGLE Follow Up on CEM Grant: A team from various departments of the State of Michigan visited Pewamo on August 6th to follow up on how CEM funds were used to make the Fire/Rescue/Community Center more energy efficient. They were very pleased with their findings and the reported 24% reduction in energy costs. They reported more funds are available. Village will research the possibility of receiving grant funds to make the DPW Garage more energy efficient.

Committee Updates: The Wage Committee, President Zenk, Kohl Falor and Carl Hafner met to discuss moving forward with hiring a replacement for Rob Sterner following his retirement.

SPARK Grant Update: The Village received five bids for the park improvements using SPARK Grant funds, which were much higher than expected. It is the recommendation of RJM Design that we make adjustments to the design and go out for bid again. Currently the target date for completion is end of 2025.

New Business:

- **Fencing Wellhouse/Water Tower:** Discussion was held regarding the installation of security fencing around the Wellhouse and Water Tower. Village will seek bids.
- **USDA Funds for Water Main Replacement:** Clerk informed Council that Brant Mercer of Fleis & Vandenbrink does not foresee the Village receiving grant funds to replace old and undersized water main based on the State's current funding qualifications. Brant suggests considering the possibility of pursuing USDA Loans.
- **Security Cameras:** Kohl will research options and cost and report back.

New Business Continued:

- **Water Operator Designation:** Rob Sterner currently serves in this position for the Village. Kohl communicated with Jerrett Loomis from Muir and indicated he is willing to serve as consultant/operator for Water & Sewer Systems until Kohl becomes licensed. Mike Scollon is serving in this capacity for the Waste Water System as needed.

Old Business:

- **Ball Field Rental Fees/Security Deposit:** Park & Recreation Committee continues to research this.
- **Sesquicentennial Park Lighting:** Clerk to get updated pricing.

Blight Concerns:

- Council discussed various properties of concern. Clerk will send letters to property owners.

Final Round Table Discussion:

- **Dale Winsor:** Dale will be coaching flag football this year and would like to practice in the park. Council has no concerns.
- **Brett Thelen:** Reported that someone has left dead fish at the compost site.

A MOTION WAS MADE by Trustee Heckman to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 pm. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Winsor. Four votes in favor, none opposed, two absent. **MOTION APPROVED.**

These minutes are respectfully submitted by Sandy Wolniakowski and will be presented for approval at the September 9, 2024 meeting of Council.