

**Village of Pewamo
Regular Meeting Minutes
October 14, 2024**

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

Guests: Cody Wood, Randy Woodbury, Steve Thurston, Cameron Schmitz, Madison Hengesbach, Jim Schmitz

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

Review/Approval of Meeting Agenda: Trustee Heckman added the 3 Way Stop at Yates/North to the agenda. President Zenk removed Water Service Line from New Business, as it is also included in DPW Report.

A MOTION WAS MADE by Trustee Heckman to approve the meeting agenda with changes. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Winsor. Six votes in favor, none opposed. **MOTION APPROVED.**

President Zenk's Comments to Council:

- **Dirt Bike Concerns:** A letter was sent to a resident and posting made on Facebook. The Ionia County Sheriff was also contacted by a concerned resident.
- **Ionia County Rural Task Force:** President Zenk serves as the Chairman of this committee, which will be held on Tuesday, 10/15. Brant Mercer will also be attending on our behalf. Pewamo will present State Street chip/fog as a possible project for 2026.

Public Comments:

Randy Woodbury: Had questions regarding our ordinance violation process, which were addressed earlier in the day by the Clerk. He is impressed with the process and efforts made in addressing violations.

All others were present to observe.

Review of Regular Meeting Minutes, Account Activity, Payables, and Receivables: Trustee Heckman noted the payment made to Spartan Asphalt instead of Spartan Fence. Clerk will correct.

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

Zoning Variance/Special Use Permit 203 W. Main Street:

President Zenk reviewed the prior events regarding the request and Planning Commission recommendation to deny the request. Council has been informed by John Enos of Carlisle/Wortman that we have the ability to accept or deny the recommendation and allow the Special Use Permit.

President Zenk had given detailed information to all of Council prior to the meeting and opened the topic up for Council discussion. Extensive discussion followed during which guests present were allowed to offer their input. Council had concerns regarding the ordinances and lot size requirements, also taking into consideration neighbors concerns.

A MOTION WAS MADE by President Zenk to approve the Rezoning and Zoning Variance, allowing the owner to convert the site to three apartments. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Wiggers. Yeas: Trustee Wiggers and Martin
Opposed: Trustees Thelen, Heckman, Yerge and Winsor **MOTION DENIED**

A MOTION WAS MADE by President Zenk to approve Zoning Variance, allowing the owner to convert the site to include not more than two apartments. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Yerge. Six votes in favor, none opposed. **MOTION APPROVED.**

Further discussion followed the vote with questions from the Schmitz regarding the reasoning for the decisions. Council assured all present that every effort was made to follow the Zoning Ordinance requirements as previously adopted, along with acknowledging the concerns previously shared by neighboring residents.

DPW Report: Kohl Falor

- **Chip/Fog Completed on Local Streets**
- **Fence Installation at Water Tower and Wellhouse completed.**
- **Water Service Line Inventory Submitted:** Treasurer Hafner arranged a meeting with Rural Community Assistance Program, in which guidance was given on submitting the Water Service Line Inventory. We were advised to continue in-home investigations of existing water services, but to wait for future State funding for potholing of service connections. This will offer considerable costs savings to the Village.
- **Lagoon Discharge:** Began on October 14th and will end on October 18th.
- **Radio Caller:** RS Tech began installation and are working to complete it.
- **Automatic Transfer Switch:** Wolverine completed installation and it's working as expected.
- **Lincoln Street Water Main Leak:** Repair sleeve needed replacing. Kohl called in Ionia Vac Truck to expose leak. This process worked well and will likely be used for future leaks.
- **Park Restrooms Closed**

- **Lagoon Flow Meter and Impeller:** JK of Michigan quoted \$17,344 for repair of flow meter. Kohl also informed Council that the impeller on pump 2 is showing considerable wear, with reduced efficiency. Council requested a solution be investigated to repair or replace it.

A MOTION WAS MADE by Trustee Yerge to proceed with the flow meter repair. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Winsor. Six votes in favor, none opposed.

Treasurer's Report: Carl Hafner

- **Delinquent Taxes, less than \$3000, turned into County.**
- **Budget Amendments:** Carl reviewed presented a list of recommended amendments for Council's review.

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

SPARK Grant Update: RJM continues to ammend the park design prior to going out for re-bidding in December.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Water/Sewer Operator Approval:** Jerrett Loomis, Village of Muir, is willing to serve in this position until Kohl becomes certified. Cody is also working towards his certification. Village will be billed \$25/hr as needed.
- **MML Loss Control Follow Up:** Kohl informed Council of the inspector's findings/recommendations. Kohl & Clerk will follow up, keeping Council advised as necessary.
- **MML Property Pool Ballot:** Council supports those seeking election.
- **Stop Signs - Jefferson/West, Lincoln/West, Yates/North:** Discussion followed. No changes will be made to existing signage. Kohl will investigate other options available to slow traffic speeds. Clerk will notify County Sheriff and State Police of ongoing traffic violations and concerns.
- **Headlights Complaints along Trail:** Village will install signage, in an attempt to reduce/eliminate the problem.
- **EGLE Update on 326 E. Main Street:** EGLE continues to monitor ground contaminates and will advise Village as information becomes available.
- **Louis Court Circle:** Tabled until further information is available.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Security Cameras:** Kohl continues to research
- **Lincoln & State Street Storm Drains:** Kohl will investigate and report back.
- **Bill Thelen Tribute:** Council discussed Bill's many contributions to the community during his life. It was suggested that a Tribute Wall, which includes pictures of those the Village wishes to remember and honor for their extraordinary service to the Village, be created in the Village Office. Clerk will pursue this.
- **Master Plan & Zoning Map Update:** John Enos of Carlisle/Wortman will educate Council and Planning Commission on this process on November 25th at 6:00 in the Village Office.
- **Sesquicentennial Park Lighting-Tabled Until Spring**

BLIGHT: No New Concerns

Final Round Table:

- **Carl Hafner:** Provided Kohl with signage for picture documentation of the tree planting for Consumer Grant.
- **Jane Martin:** Asked about the camper parked on Main Street. Kohl already spoke to the business owner.
- **Randy Zenk:** This is Mike Yerge's last meeting as Trustee, a role he has been filling since 2014. President Zenk and Council thanked him for his service. Mike will continue to be available as needed to meet with Council as Fire Chief.

A MOTION WAS MADE by Trustee Heckman to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 pm. **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 November 11, 2024 meeting of Council.