

**Village of Pewamo  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
December 9, 2024**

**Present:** Randy Zenk, Dan Heckman, Dale Winsor, Jane Martin, Brett Thelen, Jacob Wiggers, Tanner Roe, Kohl Falor, Sandy Wolniakowski, Carl Hafner. **Absent:** None **Guests:** Cody Wood

**President Zenk began the meeting at 7:30 pm 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 Roe. Six votes in favor, none opposed. **MOTION APPROVED.**

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

- **ISO Rating for Public Protection Classification for Fire Protection:** The rating is within an acceptable range, with nearly no change from 2020.

**Public Comment:** None

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

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

**DPW Report: Kohl Falor**

- **Water Tower Cathodic Protection Inspection:** Corpro's inspection found the system working and set to AWWA criteria. However, they did note a problem with Cell #1 and advised switching the cell.
- **Lagoon Pump Inspection:** JK of Michigan completed an inspection of the lagoon pumps. Pump #1 inlet is plugged. The repair will require extensive efforts and will be completed as soon as possible.
- **Lift Station Panel Installed:** RS Technical completed the install.
- **Dump Truck Repairs:** The injection pump was repaired, along with other minor repairs.
- **Sesquicentennial Park Lighting:** Electricians inspected the lights and made some minor repairs.
- **Speed Bump:** Kohl presented information regarding speed bumps as a possible option to address speeding concerns.

**A MOTION WAS MADE** by Trustee Wiggers to approve the purchase of two of the devices. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Winsor. Three votes in favor, three opposed. **MOTION FAILED.** Due to the costs, some members of Council requested this be tabled until further consideration could be given.

**Treasurer's Report: Carl Hafner**

- **MIClass Interest Rates decreased to 4.825.**
- **Consumers Energy Tree Grant Approved:** Village will receive payment in the amount of \$2,800 for trees planted in the fall of 2024. President Zenk thanked Carl and the Village DPW for their efforts to complete this effort.

**SPARK Grant Update:** Revised plans went out for bid 12/3/24, with bid opening set for 1/9/25.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- **MERS Retirement-Accelerate Payoff of Defined Benefit Retirement Debt**

**A MOTION WAS MADE** by Trustee Wiggers to increase the monthly payment to MERS Defined Benefit Plan to \$1,250. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Heckman. Six votes in favor, none opposed. **MOTION APPROVED.**

- **Fiber Optic Service:** Trustee Thelen was approached by Nick Heckman regarding the possibility of bringing fiber optic to Pewamo to serve the residents. Services will be handled by Westphalia Broadband. The Village would be required to house a base for equipment. Council is interested and wishes to invite Nick Heckman and Westphalia Broadband to the January meeting for further discussion.
- **MERS-HCSP for DPW Employees:** Current DPW employees do not wish to participate.

**A MOTION WAS MADE** by Trustee Martin to close this division effective 12/01/2023, with currently enrolled participants staying in the plan. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Winsor. Six votes in favor, none opposed. **MOTION APPROVED.**

- **Street Administrator Resolution:**

**A MOTION WAS MADE** by Trustee Heckman to designate Tanner Roe as Street Administrator effective immediately. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Martin. Five votes in favor, none opposed, Tanner Roe abstained. **MOTION APPROVED.**

- **MML Insurance Renewal:** Clerk presented renewal cost information. Brief discussion followed.

**A MOTION WAS MADE** by Trustee Wiggers to approve renewal of Property and Liability Insurance with Michigan Municipal League. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Winsor. Six votes in favor, none opposed. **MOTION APPROVED.**

- **CEM Grant for DPW Garage:** An application was submitted for energy efficient upgrades. A request to add radiant heat to the application has been made.
- **Pewamo 2023 Roadway Project (East, Higham, and Jefferson) has been awarded the American Public Works Association (APWA) Michigan Midwest Branch Transportation project of the year!**

**Old Business:**

- **Sidewalk Repair/Replacement Plan:** President Zenk encouraged the committee to form a plan/budget for the 25/26 fiscal year.
- **Storm Drains on Lincoln & State:** Adding a riser to an existing drain near 156 E. Lincoln Street and a new drain near 249 N. State remain on the DPW project list.
- **Sesquicentennial Park Lighting-**Clerk informed Council that Connections Electric does not recommend further repairs to the existing lighting. They will be researching replacement options/cost.

**Blight Concerns: Nothing new to report.****Final Round Table:**

- **Tanner Roe:** Inquired if the Village has received the invoice for the chip/seal work completed through Ionia County. Clerk informed him that we had not.
- **Carl Hafner:** Carlisle/Wortman is currently the Village advisor for Master Plan and Zoning. After they failed to attend the November 25, 2024 meeting of Council and Planning Committee, Council decided to research options moving forward. Carl has done the research and recommends reaching out to McKenna Community Planning and Design of Grand Rapids. Council supports. Clerk will contact them.
- **Randy Zenk:** Concerns regarding semi-truck traffic on local Village streets was addressed in November. It seems that the issues have been resolved.
  - **Wished everyone a Merry Christmas and thanked them for their service!**

**A MOTION WAS MADE** by Trustee Heckman to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 pm. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Winsor. Six votes in favor, none opposed. **MOTION APPROVED.**

These minutes are respectfully submitted by Sandy Wolniakowski and will be presented for approval at the January 13, 2025 meeting of Council.