

**Village of Pewamo  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
March 10, 2025**

**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 7:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.**

**Review/Approval of Meeting Agenda:** President Zenk added Ionia County Economic Alliance to New Business.

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

**President Zenk's Comments to Council: NONE**

**Public Comment: NONE**

**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.**

**DPW Report: Kohl Falor**

- **Park Update:** Change orders submitted and approved for restrooms included: flake epoxy flooring, replacing light fixtures, and anti-graffiti restroom stalls.
  - Contractors began restroom renovations and completed the plumbing updates.
  - Catch basin and sidewalk preparation started
  - Kohl is closely monitoring the contractor's work.
  - DPW is removing trees and play structures, as well as relocating parking blocks and benches.
- **Lagoon Pump Replacement:** J K of Michigan completed Pump #1 and will begin #2 next week.
- **Cold Patch of Potholes Completed:** Tanner offered information regarding street repair. Kohl will follow up.

**Treasurer's Report: Carl Hafner**

- **Interest Rates Continue to Decline**
- **SPARK Advance:** Paula from RJM assisted the Village in applying for an advance of SPARK Grant funds to cover upcoming expenses. We should receive the funds within a week.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- **Ionia County Economic Alliance (ICEA) Annual \$1,000 Support Renewal:**

**A MOTION WAS MADE** by Trustee Wiggers to renew annual support of Ionia County Economic Alliance in the amount of \$1,000. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Thelen. Six votes in favor, none opposed. **MOTION APPROVED.**

- **Amendment to Employee Vacation & Sick Leave:** Vacation rollover changed to employee anniversary date.
  - Notification of planned use of vacation time will not be required at the beginning of the fiscal year.
  - Employees will monitor their vacation/sick leave balances as indicated on their pay stubs.

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

- **Motion to Approve Wage Recommendations for 2025/26 Fiscal Year**

**A MOTION WAS MADE** by Trustee Roe to approve the 2.5% increase in DPW wages as recommended at the February Council meeting. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Heckman. Six votes in favor, none opposed. **MOTION APPROVED.**

- **Motion to Approve Water/Sewer Rate Increase Recommendations for 2025/26 Fiscal Year**

**A MOTION WAS MADE** by Trustee Thelen to approve the 4.9% increase in water and sewer rates as recommended at the February Council meeting. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Martin. Six votes in favor, none opposed. **MOTION APPROVED.**

- **Office Computer:** VC3 recommended Village upgrade to Windows 11 as well as equipment at a cost of \$1800.

**A MOTION WAS MADE** by Trustee Wiggers to approve the computer updates. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Winsor. Six votes in favor, none opposed. **MOTION APPROVED.**

- **2024/25 Budget Amendments**

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

- **Street Committee:** Local/Major Street projects and estimates presented. Street Committee recommends proceeding with 2" Overlay on Gould Street. \$10,000 for crack sealing of Local Streets will be included in the budget. \$15,000 for crack sealing of Major Streets.

- **2025/26 Budget Review and Adoption**

**A MOTION WAS MADE** by Trustee Heckman to adopt the revised proposed budget. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Roe. Six votes in favor, none opposed. **MOTION APPROVED.**

**NEW BUSINESS (continued):**

- **ACD Metro Act Right of Way Permit:** President Zenk presented request to extend the current permit to 10/5/2030. Council supports.
- **Portland Ambulance:** President Zenk reported information from the annual meeting he attended. Village per capita fee will increase from \$30 to \$31 for the upcoming year. He also reported a local township implemented a special assessment to offset their cost. Council supports investigating this as an option.

**A MOTION WAS MADE** by Trustee Wiggers to approve the contract renewal with the City of Portland for ambulance service. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Winsor. Six votes in favor, none opposed. **MOTION APPROVED**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- **Proceeding with Areas for Re-Zoning:** Waiting for Planning Committee recommendations
- **Village Compensation for W4BLNet Fiber:** Tabled
- **Lagoon Debris Update:** DPW was not able to locate the source of the debris. Kohl reported that JK of Michigan has not encountered any debris during their work on the pumps.
- **Speed Strips-**Tanner Roe investigated MDOT's stance on speed tables and reported it may result in the loss of ACT 51 funding. Council agrees this is not in our best interest.
- **STOP Sign Additions:** STOP signs will be added on Jefferson and Lincoln Streets to address speeding.
  - Clerk will notify schools and post on Facebook when signs are installed.
- **Sidewalks:** Committee will investigate concrete raising as an option.
- **Sesquicentennial Park Lighting-Tabled**
- **Park Rental Rates for 2026-**
  - **Park Rental Fee - \$100\***
  - **Ballfield Rental with Lights - \$200\***
  - **\*Security Deposit of \$100 will be required.**

**BLIGHT CONCERNS:** Kohl reported no new concerns.

**Final Round Table:**

- **Jacob Wiggers:** Concerns of snowmobiles on trail. Clerk stated that DNR will fine and possibly confiscate vehicles violating trail rules.
- **Dan Heckman:** Thanks to all for their continued efforts on behalf of the Village of Pewamo!

**A MOTION WAS MADE** by Trustee Heckman to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 pm. **MOTION SUPPORTED** by Trustee Roe. Six votes in favor, none opposed. **MOTION APPROVED.**

These minutes are respectfully submitted by Sandy Wolniakowski and will be presented for approval at the April 14, 2025 meeting of Council.