

Village of Pentwater

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Regular Meeting of Village Council MEETING MINUTES October 14, 2019

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Jeff Hodges called the regular meeting of the Pentwater Village Council to order at 6:00 PM in the Community Room at Village Hall.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Michelle Angell-Powell, Jared Griffis, Dan Nugent, Don Palmer, Claudia Ressel-Hodan, Jeff Hodges.

Absent: Burdick

Also, present: Village Manager Chris Brown, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Barb Siok, Chief Laude Hartrum and Village Attorney Brian Monton.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS – On the agenda

Norm Shotwell, 474 E. First Street – Asked about what progress has been made of two small committees formed from the Village and Township to find ways working together to reduce cost regarding the move of the office.

IV. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

President Hodges requested an approval of the agenda with two changes: The order of New Business and adding an agenda item regarding support of a Tall Ship to Pentwater.

Motion by Ressel-Hodan, supported by Palmer to approve the agenda as amended.

Voice vote. AYES: 6 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 1. Agenda approved as amended.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes: September 9, 2019

B. Village Disbursements: Accounts Payable - \$144,037.96; Payroll - \$37,176.17.

C. Township Fire Department Disbursements - \$41,537.37.

D. Commission & Board Reports: Planning Commission; Zoning Board of Appeals; DDA.

E. Requests for Village Property use: None.

Motion by Palmer, second by Angell-Powell to approve the consent agenda items.

Roll call vote. AYES: Palmer, Angell-Powell, Griffis, Nugent, Ressel-Hodan, Hodges.

NAYS: 0. ABSENT: Burdick. Consent agenda items approved.

VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Fleis & Vandenbrink

Manager Chris Brown said that Second Street is under construction and will be widened slightly. They did not have to replace the water line.

VII. VILLAGE DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Reports are in the meeting packet and posted on www.pentwatervillage.org.

A. Village Manager - Report submitted in writing.

B. Clerk/Treasurer - Report submitted in writing.

Motion by Ressel-Hodan, second by Griffis to approve the financials as presented.

Roll call vote. AYES: Ressel-Hodan, Griffis, Angell-Powell, Nugent, Palmer, Ressel-Hodan, Hodges. NAYS: 0. ABSENT: Burdick. Motion approved.

C. Police Chief – Report submitted in writing. Chief Hartrum introduced Public Service Staff in attendance: Bennett, De Blas, Facundo, Mitchell, also Officer DeWeerd & Officer Payne. Palmer asked about police presence at the school and hours of the deputies. Chief Hartrum said the county assigned a deputy to each school from the sheriff's office and both he and Officer Schulz work 80 hours and a part-time officer works about 64 hours.

D. Fire Chief – Report submitted in writing.

E. Zoning Administrator – Report submitted in writing.

F. Parks & Rec Director – Report submitted in writing.

VIII. PUBLIC HEARING

None.

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Building & Grounds – Report submitted in writing.

B. Finances – No Meeting, no report.

C. Ordinances – No Meeting, no report.

D. Personnel – No Meeting, no report.

E. Planning/Economic Development – Report submitted in writing.

F. Services – Report submitted in writing.

X. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Building Closure Policy – postponed until November Council Meeting.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Proclamation for Public Safety Officers

President Hodges recognized outstanding work of two officers.

Officer Hartrum explained incident which occurred in June. Officer DeWeerd was dispatched and deployed the AED which saved an individual's life. President Hodges read and presented the proclamations. Recognizing the services of the Pentwater (PSOs) Public

Safety Officers: Bennett, Deblas, Facundo, Mitchell and Gonzalez, each were presented with a signed, framed proclamation. Officer DeWeerd said that Pentwater Firefighters Ruggles and Cluchey were also instrumental in the life saving event.

B. Fleis & Vandenbrink – Brownfield Grant Presentation

Trevor from Fleis & Vandenbrink spoke about creating a Brownfield Authority which could be advantageous to the Village and make property more attractive to a developer. He presented a proposal to the Council with a list of things including training and funding.

C. Resolution #2019-09-23 Authorizing the Purchase of 65 N. Hancock

Motion by Palmer, second by Griffis to table Resolution #2019-09-23 authorizing the Purchase of 65 N. Hancock Street until after October 22, 2019. Discussion followed.

Palmer questioned the paragraph including the words, “depending on the decision made by the Township Board,” and doesn’t want to rush the process. Griffis said we don’t have an open dialogue with the Township and if we wait until after we meet on the 22nd, decide. Roll Call vote. AYES: Palmer, Griffis, Nugent and Hodges.

NAYS: 1; Ressel-Hodan. ABSTAIN: 1; Angell-Powell. ABSENT: 1; Burdick. Motion approved.

President Hodges set a special meeting, Thursday, October 24, 2019 at 6:00 PM.

D. 2nd Quarter Budget Amendments

Motion by Ressel-Hodan, second by Palmer to approve the 2nd Quarter Budget Amendments as presented.

Roll Call vote. AYES: Ressel-Hodan, Palmer, Angell-Powell, Griffis, Nugent and Hodges.

NAYS: 0. ABSENT: 1; Burdick. Motion passed.

E. Community Hall

Village Manager Brown said we still have several months of work planning on what we need for our offices including storage space and will refer to the Building & Grounds Committee. Griffis said that we still own this building 50/50 with the Township.

F. Letter of Support for a Tall Ship in Pentwater

President Hodges said being a water front community, this could be an asset. Discussion followed. This is not a financial commitment, just a letter of support for the concept.

Motion by Ressel-Hodan, second by Griffis in support of a concept having a Tall Ship Schooner in Pentwater. Griffis asked Lee Price about their purpose and proposed program. Price said there will be various programs including Veterans and at-risk kids. The board of directors besides Price includes: Donna Hieftje, Scott Karpathian, Lynn Cavazos, Jen Sheehan and Linda Trierweiler. Price said they’re in discussion to rename the program.

Voice vote: AYES: 6. NAYS: 0. ABSENT: 1. Motion passed.

XII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Trustee Palmer ask to discuss the Trick or Treat Hours in the village.

Motion by Palmer, second by Ressel-Hodan to have Trick or Treat in the Village, Thursday, October 31, 2019, 6-8:00 PM. Voice vote: AYES: 6. NAYS: 0. ABSENT: 1. Motion passed.

Paula DeGregorio – 7146 Crescent Drive & 270 Sands – asked if the Village and Township planned on tearing the building down before selling or make it Brownfield ready before selling. She commented on the consensus that the people want the Village and Township to stay together and Eva mentioned something about the Township mentioning a purchase agreement.

President Hodges – the Council will look at all options.

Trustee Ressel-Hodan – The Village Council agreed that we want to be with the Township and that is recorded in all the various Village meeting minutes.

President Hodges - We have made it clear and conveyed to the Township Board that we want to be together.

Dean Gustafson – 410 Chester Street – Supports the efforts to combine and to work together for the collective good for our community. It is inherent in that goal and if it fails on its own ground, that's fine. He said buildings don't really matter, it's the staff that run them and encourages it.

President Hodges - We can only do so much, and we will continue to work with the Township Board hand in hand for the community, whether we are in the same building or not.

Amy LaBarge – 605 E. Sixth Street -Commented that she does feel that the Village has taken the high road and the residents don't feel the tension but it's disappointing to hear that the boards are saying that's what they hear, it's just math! It is just math.

Eva Gregwer - Chamber - She hopes that the Village and Township put Pentwater first.

Village Manager Brown - The building that is the "community center" is the Friendship Center and it doesn't matter where the staff desks are, but where we can come together as a group in the Friendship Center.

Trustee Palmer - There has been more assemblance of wanting to be independent, but a concerted effort has been made to work together with the Township.

XIII. CLOSED SESSION

None

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Hodges asked for a motion to adjourn.

Motion by Palmer, second by Nugent to adjourn.

Voice vote. Unanimous: All AYES.

President Hodges adjourned the meeting at 7:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Siok, CMC
Deputy Clerk/Treasurer

Date