

Village of Pentwater

327 S Hancock St., PO Box 622 Pentwater, Michigan 49449
(231) 869-8301 Website: www.pentwatervillage.org

Regular Meeting of Village Council MEETING MINUTES SEPTEMBER 13, 2021 PARK PLACE 310 NORTH RUSH STREET

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Jeff Hodges called the regular meeting of the Pentwater Village Council to order at 6:00 pm. from the 310 North Rush Street.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL

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

Absent: Don Palmer.

Also, present: Village Manager Chris Brown, Clerk/Treasurer Rande Listerman, Chief Laude Hartrum & Zoning Administrator Keith Edwards.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS – On the agenda

Rande Listerman, Village Clerk/Treasurer read the following letter for the record regarding the Water Taxi.

Dean Jessop, 420 Chester St. – Dean asked if the Resolution No. 2021 – 09 -27 Park Place Fee would be changing the costs for organizations that support Pentwater. Dean Jessop stated it was time to end the Water Taxi. It has turned into a for profit operation. Not needed in the community now that Longbridge is open. Dean suggested if the Council was going to keep the Water Taxi next year the docking location be changed to the Marina.

President Jeff Hodges – Park Place fee structure changed is only for non-residents.

Ron Beeber, 605 6th St. - The Village Council is correct to question, at tonight's meeting, the taxpayers' cost to operate the water taxi. I hope you'll examine the data over the Village's entire three years of ownership. I've been the volunteer Pentwater Historical Society docent on about 100 "History Cruises" since 2019. Because I think most of you haven't taken the cruise, I offer these brief comments about its promotional value to Pentwater. Every patron seems to enjoy the one-hour boat ride and history lesson. Volunteer docents like me collected a total of \$1,500 from history cruise patrons last year as voluntary donations to the Pentwater Historical Society. These monies pay to enhance the museum's visitor experience. Despite the boat undergoing repairs for several weeks earlier this season, fellow docent Bart Zachrich and I have collected a total of some \$1,200 so far. I believe the "History Cruise" is a plus for Pentwater, promoting our area as a great place to live, or visit. There's no data about whether customers are locals or visitors or come away thinking seriously about moving or vacationing here in the future.

They experience Pentwater on the water, not on the sidewalk. It's fun to see people step onto the boat who haven't in years -- or ever. Young and old. I think each person's experience has a positive ripple effect through their friends and families that, unfortunately, cannot be quantified. I have no idea if the Village has a budget for promotional activities or should. I would only say that use of the water taxi for History Cruises helps promote Pentwater in my view. Even if taxi demand has softened, one might consider running two history cruises per day next year and better promoting it. If history cruises were offered by a privately-owned commercial interest, the nominal \$10 per person cost might be endangered because of added insurance and dockage costs. Should you decide to sell the vessel, the Pentwater Historical Society might come back and ask you to consider allowing PHS volunteer docents to offer free, one-hour "History 101" narratives several times per week on the Village Green -- putting out a donations cannister as we do on the boat. But honestly, there's nothing like learning about Pentwater history on a boat that's slowly cruising past sites where landmarks once stood, and activities once conducted. Thank you.

Heather Douglas, 818 E First St. - The Village Clerk asked Heather to state her comment during the "Public Comment" section at the end of the meeting since her item was not on the agenda.

Dean Gustafson, 410 Chester St. - Would like the Planning Commission and Village Council take the time to address the issue of additional parking needed with the Yacht Club new construction.

V. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

President Hodges requested an approval of the agenda. *Motion* Angell-Powell supported by Nugent to approve the agenda as presented.

Discussion: Trustee Jared Griffis asked for the Medical Marijuana and Marijuana Establishments Ordinance be placed on the Agenda for October Council Meeting. President Jeff Hodges agreed.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Angell Powell, Bluhm, Griffis, Nugent, Ressel-Hodan, and Hodges.

NAYS: 0. ABSENT: Palmer. Motion approved 6 - 0.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of Minutes: Regular Council Meeting on August 9, 2021.
- B. Disbursements Village: Accounts Payable - \$321,285.55 Payroll - \$92,844.84.
- C. Disbursements from Township: Fire Department - \$11,171.67.
- D. Commission & Board Reports: Planning Commission.
- E. Requests for Village Property use:
 - a. Village Green – UMC Christmas Eve Service – Dec. 24th @ 7:00 P.M.
 - b. Village Green – UMC Church Service – Sept. 12 & 19 @ 9:00 A.M. - Noon

Motion by Angell-Powell second by Griffis to approve the consent agenda items as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Angell Powell, Bluhm, Griffis, Nugent, Ressel-Hodan, and

Hodges.

NAYS: 0. ABSENT: Palmer. Consent agenda items approved 6 - 0.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

VIII. 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 Griffis, supported by Ressel-Hodan to approve the financials as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Angell Powell, Bluhm, Griffis, Nugent, Ressel-Hodan, and Hodges.

NAYS: 0. ABSENT: Palmer. Consent agenda items approved 6 - 0.

C. Police Chief – Report submitted in writing.

Fall V-Pack Meeting will be Thursday, September 23, 2021@ 7:00 P.M. @ Park Place.

Village Manager Chris Brown shared an email letter from Ronald J Krone September 1st. thanking Chief Laude Hartrum and Officer Amanda Payne for their heroic efforts and response time regarding his water rescue on September 1st after his sailboat capsized in rough waters on the south side of the channel. Village Manager Chris Brown recommended to the Village Council that both Police Officers receive the Life Saving Award.

D. Fire Chief – Report submitted in writing.

E. Zoning Administrator – Report submitted in writing.

F. Rec Director – Report submitted in writing.

IX. PUBLIC HEARING

None.

X. 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 – No meeting, no report.

F. Services – No meeting, no report.

XI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. None.

XII. NEW BUSINESS

A. 2nd Quarter Budget Amendments - DDA.

Motion by Angell-Powell, supported by Ressel-Hodan to approve the Downtown Development Authority 2nd Quarter Budget Amendments as follows:

Account	Actual	Amendment	Total
248-000-314.000	\$3500.00	\$1500.00	\$5000.00
248-000-920.000	\$1400.00	\$ 100.00	\$1500.00
248-000-970.000	\$5000.00	\$1400.00	\$6400.00

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Angell Powell, Bluhm, Griffis, Nugent, Ressel-Hodan, and Hodges.

NAYS: 0. ABSENT: Palmer. Motion approved 6 - 0.

B. Pentwater Yacht Club Right-Of-Way License Agreement.

Motion by Angell-Powell, supported by Ressel-Hodan to approve the Right-Of-Way License Agreement with Pentwater Yacht Club.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Angell Powell, Bluhm, Griffis, Nugent, Ressel-Hodan, and Hodges.

NAYS: 0. ABSENT: Palmer. Motion approved 6 - 0.

C. Bids for 56th Avenue Property.

Motion by Angell-Powell, supported by Bluhm to approve the bid from Tyrone Freeman in the amount of \$41,500 for the purchase of 56th Avenue Property, Parcel No. 044-560-089-50. The Village will supply the Warranty Deed at closing. The purchase is required to provide a certified check and pay any additional costs.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Angell Powell, Bluhm, Griffis, Nugent, Ressel-Hodan, and Hodges.

NAYS: 0. ABSENT: Palmer. Motion approved 6 - 0.

D. DDA Appointment.

The Village Council thanks Jack Witt for his many years of service to the Village of Pentwater by serving on the Downtown Development Board.

Motion by Ressel-Hodan, supported by Nugent to approve the appointment of Mary McVicker to the Downtown Development Authority Board with a term ending October 2025.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Angell Powell, Bluhm, Griffis, Nugent, Ressel-Hodan, and Hodges.

NAYS: 0. ABSENT: Palmer. Motion approved 6 - 0.

E. Park Place 2021-2022 Proposal to Pentwater Township.

Motion by Ressel-Hodan, supported by Angell-Powell to present a formal request to Pentwater Township to contribute an additional \$7500.00 for approximately ½ of the operational costs towards the 2021-2022 Park Place Budget. If Pentwater Township does not contribute the Pentwater Township Residents will need to buy a Use Card for \$75.00 for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Trustee Michelle Angell-Powell would like to keep the joint operation of Park Place Meeting Center as a sign of unity to "Pentwater" residents that we may enjoy a community center together.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Angell Powell, Bluhm, Griffis, Nugent, Ressel-Hodan, and Hodges.

NAYS: 0. ABSENT: Palmer. Motion approved 6 - 0.

F. Resolution No. 2021-09-27 Park Place Fees.

Motion by Ressel-Hodan, supported by Angell-Powell to approve Resolution No. 2021-09 27 Park Place Fees as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Angell Powell, Bluhm, Griffis, Nugent, Ressel-Hodan, and Hodges.

NAYS: 0. ABSENT: Palmer. Motion approved 6 - 0.

G. 3rd Street View/Dock and 4th Street Shoppers Dock.

Motion by Ressel-Hodan supported by Angell-Powell to approve have the Village Manager Chris Brown sending the 3rd Street View/Dock and the 4th Street Shoppers Dock concepts to get preliminary Engineering drawings to bring back to the Village Council.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Angell Powell, Bluhm, Griffis, Nugent, Ressel-Hodan, and Hodges. NAYS: 0. ABSENT: Palmer. Motion approved 6 - 0.

H. Water Taxi

Discussion was held on the Water Taxi. Currently the Village owns the vessel and provide the maintenance. The captain is required to provide 4 trips a day, 4 times a week to the other docks. The Historical Society benefits from donations given for the History Cruises. Rande Listerman, Village Clerk/Treasurer will send the Village Council the details on the expenditures for review before the next council meeting.

XIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Rande Listerman, Village Clerk/Treasurer read the following five letters into the record.

Daniel K Filius, 513 W. Lowell St. - I have owned my home in the Village for the past 18 years and before that camped in Mears State Park yearly for over 20 years. I have always thought of Pentwater as a special place that is unique and to be treasured. It's not just the natural surroundings or the mix of business located on Hancock St. It is the people and the neighborhoods with their tree lined streets and homes from previous centuries. I would hope that you would consider your hasty action at your July meeting to give the OK to "unlimited" marijuana shops in our only business district. At that same meeting you gave the village manager sole authority to grant a license to any and all that should apply without any elected body being able to question his decision. These shops would be allowed to open between the hours of 7:00 am to 9:00 pm. Currently, you can't even purchase a cup of coffee on Hancock Street before 7:30 am. During the tourist months, parking is already a

problem and, from what we heard from people who in the off season live in the areas where they see marijuana business on a daily basis, there are always a lineup of cars waiting to be served by these marijuana businesses. I would hope that you would continue to opt out of any marijuana shops being allowed in our village. These shops would not be an asset to our village and, in my opinion, would be a huge mistake.

Claude Peyrot, 181 Plymouth St. - Dear Village Council Members,

While the State of Michigan has legalized the sale and use of marijuana it also saw fit to allow communities, such as Pentwater, to decide whether or not they will allow dispensaries to be sited within their boundaries. On July 12, 2021, the Pentwater Village Council passed a licensing ordinance to allow unlimited licenses for marijuana dispensaries within the village boundaries. It would appear that a majority of the council members believe that the November 2018 election, which slightly voted in favor of legalizing marijuana (50.5% for and 49.5% against), was also a vote encouraging the deployment of retail recreational marijuana establishments within the village. This logic is unsound as marijuana legalization and dispensary siting are two entirely different issues and the 2018 vote result is not a strong endorsement. Linking the two issues simply ignores the voices of many existing retail establishments and current residents who want to protect the current retail and social culture and brand that is Pentwater.

I am strongly in favor of not allowing marijuana dispensaries within the village boundaries. As such I am formally requesting that the village council rescind the current ordinance allowing marijuana dispensaries within the village boundaries. Your decision will impact how I vote in the next election. For the good of the village, do the right thing and let the dispensaries go somewhere else!

Debbie Peyrot, 181 Plymouth St. - While the State of Michigan has legalized the sale and use of marijuana it also saw fit to allow communities, such as Pentwater, to decide whether or not they will allow dispensaries to be sited within their boundaries. On July 12, 2021 the Pentwater Village Council passed a licensing ordinance to allow unlimited licenses for marijuana dispensaries within the village boundaries. It would appear that a majority of the council members believe that the November 2018 election, which slightly voted in favor of legalizing marijuana (50.5% for and 49.5% against), was also a vote encouraging the deployment of retail recreational marijuana establishments within the village. This logic is unsound as marijuana legalization and dispensary siting are two entirely different issues and the 2018 vote result is not a strong endorsement. Linking the two issues simply ignores the voice of many existing retail establishments and current residents who want to protect the current retail and social culture and brand that is Pentwater. I am strongly in favor of not allowing marijuana dispensaries within the village boundaries. As such I am formally requesting the village council rescind the current ordinance allowing marijuana dispensaries within the village boundaries. Your decision will impact how I vote in the next election. For the good of the village, do the right thing and let the dispensaries go somewhere else!

William Walker, 150 E. Lowell St. - My wife and I are owners of 150 East Lowell, Pentwater, Mi. We have 6 grandchildren and two great grandchildren and do not see any benefit to allowing such sales in the village, period.

Marsha LaHaye, 250 E Lake St. - I have lived full time in the village of Pentwater since 2007 and before that since 1995 part-time. I am a retired teacher who taught Health Education for over 30 years. I spent all of those years teaching students about the dangers of drugs of all types from

tobacco and alcohol to harder drugs. Marijuana is one of those harder drugs that is a gateway drug for other drugs as well. I say this, because I never thought that I would be addressing the issue of Marijuana Dispensaries within our own village. I understand that the State of Michigan has legalized the sale and use of marijuana for recreational use, however the State left it up to each community to either allow it or ban it. On July 12, 2021 our Village Council Members decided to allow it without a lot of background knowledge from what I understand. How will it affect other businesses in the downtown district? What is in it for the citizens of Pentwater? Parking in the downtown district is always a problem and how would a dispensary affect parking. Our village is a quaint village that people love to visit especially in the summer, but more and more year-round. Is this what we want to be known for? Marijuana Dispensaries or quaint shops and waterside restaurants. I strongly hope the Council will reconsider allowing marijuana dispensaries within the village limits or anywhere in the area. As I said before, I have spent my life preaching against drug use and I don't want to live in a village that makes it so easy to purchase. Please rescind the current ordinance allowing marijuana dispensaries within the village boundaries.

Amy LaBarge, 605 6th St. – While the State of Michigan has legalized the sale and use of marijuana it also saw fit to allow communities, such as Pentwater, to decide whether they will allow dispensaries to be sited within their boundaries. On July 12, 2021 the Pentwater Village Council passed a licensing ordinance to allow unlimited licenses for marijuana dispensaries within the village boundaries. It would appear, that a majority of the council members believe that the November 2018 election, which slightly voted in favor of legalizing marijuana (50.5% for and 49.5% against), was also a vote encouraging the deployment of retail recreational marijuana establishments within the village. This logic is unsound as marijuana legalization and dispensary siting are two entirely different issues and the 2018 vote result is not a strong endorsement. Linking the two issues simply ignores the voices of many existing retail establishments and current residents who want to protect the current retail and social culture and brand that is Pentwater. I am strongly in favor of not allowing marijuana dispensaries within the village boundaries. As such I am formally requesting that the village council rescind the current ordinance allowing marijuana dispensaries within the village boundaries. Your decision will impact how I vote in the next election. For the good of the village, do the right thing and let the voters and residents have a voice in this decision.

Steve Bass, 73 E. First St. - I'm not able to make the Village Council meeting tonight, please note that I support the reversing the council vote on dispensaries in town.

Sue Johnson, 318 E. Hanover St. – Asked how much the Village of Pentwater will receive from the American Rescue Funds.

Rande Listerman, Village Clerk/Treasurer - A total of \$88,759.00 in two payments.

Sue Johnson, 318 E. Hanover St. – Likes the Water Tax and the Pentwater Township contributed \$10,000 towards the purchase of the Water Taxi. I think it is a good thing for the community.

Jim Young, 85 N. Ellery St. – I must commend the Council you have been successful at attracting much more attention than when I was on the Council. I am well aware; of the thankless challenges you take on as Council Members. There is no way to make every happy but make no mistake your

role makes a difference. You have been made aware of the money the Village will receive by excepting Recreational Marijuana. We have heard about the expecting parking problems. Ordinance require leaders to protect the people they serve. We risk the potential of becoming just another rundown "Downtown". I would ask you if it's the best interest of downtown or is it a slippery slope that may benefit a few and which you cannot back away from. The people who own businesses now, generally know Pentwater and help financially with the bank the sports teams and other activities in town. Many times, those involved with downtown are involved with communities that affect downtown. I would remind you the comments we heard at the Planning Commission meeting that many of the younger people become customers of older people that frequent this kind of store. It happens and it should not happen here. Thank you.

Heather Douglas, 818 E. First St. - Heather shared the information sheet and frequently asked question flyers from Pentwater Public Schools Bond Proposal 2020 Millage on the ballot in November for the Public to review.

Roxann Mills, 483 E. Hanover St. - The reason I am speaking with you tonight is in regard to the Marijuana Dispensary decision. I owned Fudge and Frosting in downtown Pentwater. I had to leave to go to Lansing for a couple years to take care of my mother who has Alzheimer's. So I decided to open up a store in downtown Lansing. Lansing has 17 dispensaries there. The town is full of addicts and homeless people also. It is a very sad commentary from when I grew up there. I opened the shop in 2018, and we closed in 2019. The drug addicts are awful. They come up to your customers that are coming into the store and ask for money to pay for their habit. The drug addicts stand on the street corners. The homeless are too proud and too shy and they are usually behind the Salvation Army store. Marijuana leads to more drug use. I know this because of my son was involved in heroin after he started smoking Marijuana in 11th grade. Downtown Lansing is a mess. When first open our store there we had to clean up human feces. Drug addicts will hang out on your street corners and sleep. They will use heroin and smoke marijuana and just lay there and fall asleep. They become mean when they do not have drugs. I hate to see Pentwater become that kind of town. What first attracted me to Pentwater was babies to grandparents are down at the beach. Do you want to see people using drugs and falling asleep on the beach? That is going to happen. Thank you for your time.

Jason Vanderstelt - non-resident - I am not here to talk about drugs tonight I am here to talk about our kids. Gem of Pentwater is Pentwater Public Schools. They have done a fantastic job. They are ranked nationally for education. But there are opportunities for the school to grow and develop so they can provide educational benefits as well as facilities like a community theater and health and recreation for seniors. The health of the school system is a predictor of the health of the community and good schools will assist in bringing young families to Pentwater. We talk about Place Making this evening our schools help in this process.

Bill Gigowski, 550 S. Clymer St. - I wanted to give you some facts from one government study regarding the recreational use of Marijuana. Federal Studies show 55% of the employees that use Marijuana have more accidents than those who don't use. 85% more on the job injuries by Marijuana users. There is an increase in absenteeism and a loss of work productivity. It is an addictive drug which can require counseling. Children exposed to Marijuana have increase the calls to poison control centers. Increases in crime.

Robert Cunningham, 120 1st St. – I am a retired Pediatrician. I have been coming to Pentwater since 1954. Pentwater is a safe community which allows are children to develop their freedoms. The presence of the Marijuana Dispensaries would change the business climate. So, I agree with so many of the others. This is a decision that needs to be re-thought, it will change our downtown area and it will be a slippery slope.

Dan Hoekstra, 160 E 4th St. – I was on the Village Council for 5 years and I did have some dealings with Medical Marijuana but not the Recreational Marijuana. I was the chair of the Ordinance Committee. The committee along with Chief Hartrum we met 4-5 times developing. At that time, we took the information after the committee met to the council. That is the way the process should be done. Trustee Griffis asked to bring this back before the council at the October meeting. The Council should vote yes or no on whether to rescind this Ordinance. I felt this was done in the dead of night in 3 -4 days' time with no consideration for the public's opinions. I think you should look at the crowd that is hear tonight and the crowd that was at the Planning Commission meeting and take a hard look at what you want the Village to become. I thank you for the opportunity to speak and I wish all of you would re-consider.

Dean Lydey, 80 S. Ruthledge St. – Good evening, thank you for letting me share a similar opinion but perhaps coming at it from a different perspective. My wife and I came up here 5 years ago and fell in love with this town and with the concept of "it's what we loved about our childhood" Let's be clear we are talking about "Recreational Marijuana" not "Medical Marijuana" I don't know how this community can be what my wife and I came up here to enjoy with this Ordinance passed. Have we let the Genie out of the bottle in the State of Michigan unfortunately we have, that does not mean this "Little Piece of Heaven" Village of Pentwater, Oceana County has to jump on this band wagon? If you want edibles etcetera, you do not have to do it in the downtown of Pentwater. Is it reasonable to ask this council does anyone anticipate a personal involvement or profit from this proposed Ordinance? I feel very passion about this issue, and I would like to see us get into more in depth conversation.

Dean Jessop, 420 Chester St. – A month ago, I was here a made a public comment to the council. I am apologizing for some of the words I used they were a little bit over the top. It should not have been said and I do apologize for that. I want to switch gears and go back to the water taxi. I think the water taxi is tied to the third and fourth street dock and it all is one package. The water taxi is not operating 4 trips a day 4 times a week it is not happening. I am not against the taxi. I am against the 50% usage of the two street ends by the Water Taxi. Moving it to the Marina could be more logical. I hate seeing one nonprofit pitted against the other. As President of the Sports Fishing Association, I really take issue with saying that we are not supporting the Fish Cleaning Station. We have a meeting this coming Saturday and on the agenda is a larger donation to the Village for the use of the Fish Cleaning Station. The fishing community has donated somewhere near \$3,000 over the last 3 years. I don't want the community to think the fishing community is not supporting the fish cleaning station.

Carol Kitt, 177 S. Hancock St. – I own a business at 177 S. Hancock Street this potentially could be a benefit to me. But I do have some questions. Pentwater has always been a family friendly town. This will change. Do we want every business as a "headshop"? It will happen. There are more important things than money. As well as the beach, people come to town because of our quaint shopping district. Michelle, Dan and Jeff, I respect you all but isn't this a conflict of interest.

President Jeff Hodges asked if there were any more "Public Comments" With no one coming forward he asked if any council members wanted to speak?

Trustee Jared Griffis, 340 Wythe St. - Thanks for allowing me to speak. I have lived in Pentwater 68 years. My father Roy, grandfather Orio, and great grandfather Erastus all called Pentwater home. My children had both sets of grandparents living in the same village. We are invested in this village and have enjoyed the small-town atmosphere and relative peace and hospitality that are present here. I appreciate the welcome to Pentwater sign that invites all to come to Pentwater for a day, a week, a life. This sign is about to become a memory of what was rather than an invitation to enjoy a pleasant future together. I trusted the work done by the ordinance committee on the marijuana ordinance and voted to implement. I have reconsidered this matter and have come to a different conclusion. I think that the basic premise of a representative democracy is that our business is conducted in public. We have unintentionally failed to publicize our committee and council meeting content so the public could be informed and add their needed input. I am not saying we have violated the open meetings act or freedom of information but that the result is the same as if we had. I urge this council to rescind the marijuana ordinance and reconsider the broader ramifications.

I am convinced that allowing marijuana dispensaries in Pentwater will permanently alter the pleasant character and atmosphere we enjoy in the village. This business will turn Pentwater into a sewer hole. A sewer surrounded by beautiful Pentwater Lake and Lake Michigan is still just a sewer ... Let's preserve the heritage handed down to us by rescinding this Marijuana Ordinance. Thank you.

President Jeff Hodges, 347 S. Hancock St. - I to have lived my whole life in Oceana County. I went to school in Hart. I own two businesses in this community, and I raised my kids here. If you think I want to ruin this town, rest assured I do not. I am a little dismayed that we do have A democracy and we do have a process. A few years ago, our state voted not by a wide majority, but we did vote to allow Recreational Marijuana. And even in Pentwater I was surprised it passed by a narrow margin. I have been here so 1982. If you want to go back in history in this town once upon a time, we have seven brothels. I have watched over the years grocery stores, Doctors' office, dentist office, Gustafson, hardware store, drug store close. I am concern for the longevity of our downtown community. A few of us have worked here our entire life and tried to return in Pentwater not to Pentwater. If everyone thinks these businesses are thriving. I can assure everyone they work very hard to get by. We talk about Parking problems. There will be no parking problems for the next eight months. At the last Planning Commission meeting someone asks what do those people look like. They look just like you and me is that a bad thing? After 2 years of talking about this and the Ordinance Committee looking at the issue and working with our attorney the Ordinance Committee recommended the Ordinance to village council. No one did this in the dark of night. I could easily have been swayed against it. No one spoke against this at the last several meetings. I thought I made an educated decision based on all the information that was given to us. To change our vote in the middle of the process before the Planning Commission makes their recommendation I am very much opposed to. With that said I will close the meeting and have a very good night.

XIV. CLOSED SESSION:

None

XV. ADJOURNMENT

President Hodges adjourn the meeting 7:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Rande Listerman, MiCPT, CPFA, CPFIM
Clerk/Treasurer

Date