

Village of Pentwater

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

Special Meeting of Village Council MEETING MINUTES DECEMBER 20, 2021 @ 6:00 P.M. PARK PLACE 310 NORTH RUSH STREET

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Jeff Hodges called the special meeting of the Pentwater Village Council to order at 6:00 pm. from Park Place Meeting Center at 310 North Rush Street.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL

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

Absent: None

Also, present: Village Manager Chris Brown, Clerk/Treasurer Rande Listerman.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS – On the agenda

Larry Doran 7449 N Oceana Drive – Asked the Council if they be announcing why they are going into closed session?

Sue Johnson, 318 E. Hanover – Asked about the order of the meeting after closed session.

James Haskell, 189 N. Rush St. – Did not see the notice for the meeting and asked can we get an email notice of all meetings?

V. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

President Hodges requested an approval of the agenda. *Motion* by Ressel-Hodan supported by Palmer to approve the agenda as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Angell-Powell, Bluhm, Griffis, Nugent, Palmer, Ressel-Hodan, Hodges. NAYS: 0. ABSENT: None.

Motion approved 7 – 0.

VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS/COORESPONDENCE

Chris Conroy, 560 S. Hancock St. #21 – Chris sent an email correspondence to the Village Council regarding the Council Committees, the resignation of Zoning Administrator Keith Edwards, and broadcasting public meetings.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

VIII. CLOSED SESSION

A. Discussion of written legal opinion from Village Attorney Brian Monton regarding the villages interest at the North End of Rush Street.

Motion by Palmer, supported by Bluhm to go into closed session to discuss a written legal opinion with the Village Attorney Brian Monton regarding the Village's interest in the North End of Rush Street.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Bluhm, Griffis, Nugent, Palmer, Ressel-Hodan, Hodges. NAYS: 0. ABSENT: None. RECUSE: Angell-Powell.

Motion approved 6 - 0 - 0 - 1.

The Closed Session was called into order by President Hodges at 6:11 P.M.

The special meeting of the Village Council was called back into order at 7:02 P.M.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Angell-Powell (7:20 P.M.), Bluhm, Griffis, Nugent, Palmer, Ressel-Hodan, Hodges. NAYS: 0. ABSENT: None.

Motion approved 7 - 0.

No action was taken after the Closed Session.

President Hodges called the meeting at ease at 7:05 P.M for dinner.

President Hodges called the meeting back into session at 7:15 P.M to begin the workshop.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. Workshop regarding Council Committees and Strategic Planning.

1. Committees to fit current roles.

The Council discussed the status of the current committees. The decision was made to maintain the committees we have but consider combining "Finance and Personnel" as one committee and adding a "Harbor Committee". The Finance Committee will meet quarterly to review the financial records with the Village Manager and Clerk/Treasurer. Village President Jeff Hodges will address Dave Bluhm's appointment to committees at the January 2022 Council Meeting. Discussion was also held regarding ad-hoc communities. The Village President has the authority to appoint ad-hoc committees to work with the current council committee as necessary.

2. Method of review of employees.

Discussion was held regarding the best method to review the Village Manager and Village Clerk/Treasurer job performances. The consensus was that both individuals work for the whole council so an annual review should be with the entire council held around the anniversary date.

Discussion was also held regarding exit interviews.

3. Broadcasting Public Meetings.
Village Clerk/Treasurer Listerman will research the best option to broadcast public meetings and report the findings back to the Village Council.
4. Leaf Pick-up.
Discussed options for how to address Leaf Pick-Up in the future.
5. Consensus Building with Township.
The Council feels the following items need to be discussed with Pentwater Township Board to come to a consensus.
 - a. Warning Siren.
Current Status is Pentwater Township was not interested in replacing the siren. Ray Hasil at the County Emergency Management shared at the August Council meeting the warning system is outdated and the county does not use the siren, as a way to warn for weather emergencies.
 - b. 327 Hancock Street.
It would be helpful for the marketing of the building to have the updated Zoning in place that addresses height, frontage, and parking.
 - c. Channel Depth.
Trustee Bluhm shared his concern for the Channel Depth. After the last storm it looks to be about 3 feet. We have an urgent need for all the parties to come together to work towards a solution.
6. Building & Zoning Administrator.
 - a. Height, Frontage & Parking.
Discussion was held regarding updating the Zoning Ordinance in the downtown area to address the concerns regarding building height, frontage and parking.
 - b. Masterplan.
Keith Edwards shared at the Council Meeting on December 13th the Master Plan should be completed by Spring.
7. Parking on the Village Green.
The Building and Grounds Committee will look at all the alternatives regarding Parking on the Village Green and report back to the Village Council.
8. Becoming a City.
Discussion was held regarding becoming a City. The President will consider appointing a committee to meet and review the process and report back to the Village Council.

X. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mary Temple, 560 S Hancock St. Unit 11 – As a member of the Planning Commission I wanted to share with you that no one wants the Masterplan done more than the Planning Commission. It is in the works, and we are addressing somethings to maintain the character of the Village. Keith has been working to put together all the pieces of the document. I was so disappointed when I heard Keith had made the decision to resign as the Village’s Zoning Official. Keith is a great asset to our community. When I heard you may do an exit interview, I encourage it. Finally, I am available and will volunteer to work on ad hoc committee.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

President Hodges adjourn the meeting 8:34P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Rande Listerman, MiCPT, CPFA, CPFIM, MiPMC
Clerk/Treasurer

Date