

Village of Pentwater

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

Regular Meeting of Village Council MEETING MINUTES MAY 9, 2022 PARK PLACE 310 NORTH RUSH STREET

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Pro Tempore Jared Griffis called the regular meeting of the Pentwater Village Council to order at 6:03 P.M. from Park Place Meeting Center at 310 North Rush Street.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL

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

Also, present: Village Manager Chris Brown, Clerk/Treasurer Rande Listerman, Chief Laude Hartrum & Deputy Clerk/Treasurer/Rec Director Kate Anderson.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS – On the agenda

Valerie McHugh, 163 Green Street – VP of the Pentwater Twp Library Board. Valerie highlighted the library program offers for the Summer: 1. Seed Program 2. Beach Buggy Program – paperback books available at Mears State Park 3. Partnering with CMH to assist patrons of need.

Amy LaBarge, 605 6th Street – Expressed her encouragement for supporting Channel Dredging.

Chris Conroy 560 S. Hancock, Unit 21 – Appreciate you taking up the Channel Dredging. Thank you for having the OWL and initiating the test. Hopefully it will be successful. The next step beyond broadcasting the meetings is remote comments.

Norm Shotwell, 474 East 1st Street – A lot of people in the community appreciate the use of the Water Taxi for the History Cruise. It is a point of interest for the community in addition to provide the historical society for some revenue.

Dean Jessop, 420 Chester Street – Hopefully positive response for dredging, he is in full support. Appreciate Chris Brown work on this. It's time to change the name of the Water Taxi it is a for profit enterprise. Let it be a private business.

Pat Hooyman, 20 Clymer Street – As the President of the Pentwater Lake Association, he encourages council to appropriate funds for the channel dredging. Property Values will go down if the channel is closed.

Barton Zachrich, 1049 Hill Street – I want to support the use of the Water Taxi for the History Cruise.

V. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

President Pro-tempore Griffis requested an approval of the agenda. *Motion* Ressel-Hodan supported by Palmer to approve the agenda as presented with one addition Under VIII. New Business, Item J. Resolution No. 2022-05-14 Return of Delinquent Taxes.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Nugent, Palmer, Ressel-Hodan & Griffis NAYS: 0.
ABSENT: Angell-Powell, Bluhm and Hodges. Motion approved 4 - 0.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of Minutes: Regular Council Meeting on April 11, 2022.
- B. Disbursements Village: Accounts Payable -\$78,118.04; Payroll - \$96,771.69.
- C. Disbursements from Township: Fire Department – \$26,210.79.
- D. Commission & Board Reports: DDA Minutes, Planning Commission and Library Directors Notes.
- E. Requests for Village Property use:
 - a. Pentwater Public Schools, May 26, HS Graduation Ceremony.
 - b. VFW Post 6017 Buddy Poppy Program, May 28th and Aug. 13th; 8 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.
 - c. VFW Post 6017 Memorial Day Parade, May 30th; 10:00 A.M. to Noon.
 - d. Cancer and Critical Care Fund Chocolate Walk, Patrick Fuller, June 11; 1:00-4:00 P.M.

Motion by Palmer second by Nugent to approve the consent agenda items as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Nugent, Palmer, Ressel-Hodan & Griffis. NAYS: 0.
ABSENT: Angell-Powell, Bluhm and Hodges. Consent agenda items approved 4 - 0.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Comments from the President Pro Tempore.

As a result of the special election held last week the actions of this council have been rescinded by a healthy margin and so the Village of Pentwater has opted out of Marijuana Dispensaries in the Village.

Yesterday was Mothers' Day and so all of us here should be thankful that our mothers chose to bring us to life rather than terminate us in the womb. However, you view the choice to value life or to choose to end it, this choice has eliminated a large population of potential workers from our workplace.

As a result of this loss of life we have a distinct need for workers in our nation. We need legal immigration to fill the need for goods and services, also to contribute to our society for the continuance of our economic system. I have been privileged to have associates of first- and second-generation Spanish descent that are great workers, raising families and contributing to our society.

Last week was also National Day of Prayer and the need for prayer for our president, congress, court system, law and order has never been greater. In 1787, when the Constitution was drafted a woman asked Ben Franklin what the founders had given the American people. "A republic," he shot back, "if you can keep it." In his 1976 stump speech, commentator Paul Harvey argued that freedom without self-discipline will not work. It

seems to me that we are a nation in distress and need to reconsider the first principles that made this nation one of the greatest ever and could be yet again. Thanks for listening.

VIII. CORESPONDENCE

○ *All correspondence directed to the Village Clerk is received and filed and emailed on to the Village Council.*

1. Claude Peyrot. 2. Ron Beeber. 3. Judith Dimichele. 4. William Walker. 5. Charlie Heil.
6. Gayle VanGressel. 7. John McIntyre.

IX. 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 Palmer, supported by Nugent to approve the financials as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Nugent, Palmer, Ressel-Hodan & Griffis NAYS: 0.

ABSENT: Angell-Powell, Bluhm and Hodges. Motion approved 4 - 0.

C. Police Chief – Report submitted in writing.

D. Fire Chief – Report submitted in writing.

E. Zoning Administrator – Report submitted in writing.

F. Rec Director – Report submitted in writing.

X. PUBLIC HEARING

None.

XI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Building & Grounds – No meeting, no report.

B. Finances – No meeting, no report.

C. Ordinances – No meeting, no report.

D. Personnel – Minutes submitted in writing.

E. Planning/Economic Development – No meeting, no report.

F. Services – No meeting, no report.

XII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

XIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Resolution No. 2022-05-11 Authorization to Sign Labor Agreements.

Motion by Ressel-Hodan, supported by Palmer to approve Resolution No. 2022-05-11

Authorization to Sign Labor Agreements.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Nugent, Palmer, Ressel-Hodan & Griffis NAYS: 0.
ABSENT: Angell-Powell, Bluhm and Hodges. Motion approved 4 - 0.

B. Resolution No. 2022-05-12 Authorization to apply for RAP Grant
Motion by Palmer, supported by Nugent to approve Resolution No. 2022-05-12
Authorization to apply for RAP Grant.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Nugent, Palmer, Ressel-Hodan & Griffis NAYS: 0.
ABSENT: Angell-Powell, Bluhm and Hodges. Motion approved 4 - 0.

C. Appropriate Funds for Pentwater Channel Dredging.

Motion by Ressel-Hodan, supported by Nugent to approve the appropriation of \$30,000 for
the dredging of the Pentwater Channel

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Nugent, Palmer, Ressel-Hodan & Griffis NAYS: 0.
ABSENT: Angell-Powell, Bluhm and Hodges. Motion approved 4 - 0.

D. Annual Salaries for Non-Union Employees.

Motion by Palmer, supported by Nugent to approve the increase in pay for the non-union
employees from 3.5% to 4.0% to be paid retroactive to April 1st, 2022 to match the Union
Contracts.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Nugent, Palmer, Ressel-Hodan & Griffis NAYS: 0.
ABSENT: Angell-Powell, Bluhm and Hodges. Motion approved 4 - 0.

E. Resolution No. 2022-05-13 Inter-Governmental Agreement Pentwater Fire Dept.
Motion by Ressel-Hodan, supported by Palmer to approve Resolution No. 2022-05-13 Inter-
Governmental Agreement Pentwater Fire Department.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Nugent, Palmer, Ressel-Hodan & Griffis NAYS: 0.
ABSENT: Angell-Powell, Bluhm and Hodges. Motion approved 4 - 0.

F. Loan the Historic Fire Wagon to the Pentwater Historical Society for Display.
Motion by Ressel-Hodan, supported by Nugent to approve the loan of the Historic Fire
Wagon to the Pentwater Historical Society for Display in perpetuity.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Nugent, Palmer, Ressel-Hodan & Griffis NAYS: 0.
ABSENT: Angell-Powell, Bluhm and Hodges. Motion approved 4 - 0.

G. Park Place – Pentwater Township.

Motion by Ressel-Hodan, supported by Nugent to approve the revised Access Agreement
for Park Place Community Building to be sent to Pentwater Township Supervisor to
present at their meeting on Wednesday, May 11, 2022.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Nugent, Palmer, Ressel-Hodan & Griffis NAYS: 0.

ABSENT: Angell-Powell, Bluhm and Hodges. Motion approved 4 - 0.

H. Purchase Offer for 327 South Hancock Street.

Motion by Palmer, supported by Ressel-Hodan to approve adjourning the decision on the Purchase Offer for 327 South Hancock Street until the entire Council can be present.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Nugent, Palmer, Ressel-Hodan & Griffis NAYS: 0.

ABSENT: Angell-Powell, Bluhm and Hodges. Motion approved 4 - 0.

I. Water Taxi.

Motion by Ressel-Hodan, supported by Nugent to approve the use of the Water Taxi as a Place Making Tool and for Economic Development with the stipulation that data which includes ridership and disclosure of funds handled and the Council will look at the information in the Fall of 2022.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Nugent, Palmer, Ressel-Hodan & Griffis NAYS: 0.

ABSENT: Angell-Powell, Bluhm and Hodges. Motion approved 4 - 0.

J. Resolution No. 2022-05-14 Return of Delinquent Taxes

Motion by Palmer, supported by Ressel-Hodan to approve Resolution No. 2022-05-14 Return of Delinquent Taxes.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Nugent, Palmer, Ressel-Hodan & Griffis NAYS: 0.

ABSENT: Angell-Powell, Bluhm and Hodges. Motion approved 4 - 0.

XIV. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Beth Provencal, 188 Chester Street – In regard to, the Water Taxi can we make sure of the safety of the dock. The southside dock was dangerously rocky.

Heather Douglas, Township Treasurer – She is excited about a conversation she had with Chris Brown regarding holding a joint workshop with the Township Board and the Village Council with public attendance so we can all understand how each entity functions. I was hoping you could appoint someone from the Village Council to assist with the planning of the event. I thought Claudia might be a good choice.

Dean Jessop, 420 Chester Street – I am still calling it a profitable tour boat. Claudia thank you for asking for the data. The sad point is that there is no data to date. It is not correct to dedicate 50% of the Public Assess to the Water Taxi for a private operation for one non-profit's use. I look forward to the data. It does not run 5 hours a day 5 days a week.

Amy LaBarge, 605 6th Street – Thank you for providing the OWL for the residents that can not attend in person. Hopefully, we can move forward with this and include Public Comments as well. The sound was much better tonight. Please talk directly into the microphone because some of us in the audience can not hear. I am anxious to hear how it sounded for the people on zoom tonight.

Chris Conroy, 560 S. Hancock, Unit 21 – Will the Ordinance Committee be taking up the

rescinding Ordinance and the replacement Ordinance for Marijuana Establishments? I am also anxious to hear what the people say about the quality of the broadcast tonight. Regarding the RAP Grant, I am concerned if we will need the property that the spray fields were on in the future. I will be anxious to see the data on the water taxi.

Dan Hoekstra, 140 4th Street – Up on the tv screen we cannot see who is on the zoom meeting. Especially, if a council member is listening in that is not able to attend.

Ron Beeber, 605 6th Street – I have been watching at home. I want to compliment you for pulling this off. You can follow everything. And it was great. I know Rande had a lot to do with that and that Glen Beavis from the Township assisted with the set up of the equipment loaned from the Township for tonight’s meeting. I just wanted to say thank you. You can track it and it is great and it is just what we need. A wanted to make a comment about the water taxi. I do not know how many of you have taken the cruise, but I have been the docent for about 50% of the tours and if you could experience the reaction of the residents and visitors to learn about the history of Pentwater. You just see them light up. If you have any part of your budget that has to do with promotions., or economic development that is why the taxi deserves to be in the water this year. I agree that you need to collect data. It is absolutely the right thing to do. No one here has that knowledge like I do, I have witnessed the people react to Pentwater and they come away with knowledge of our history whether they have lived here their whole life or just visiting, and they just light up. The history of Pentwater and its resiliency is just magic, and it is never really discussed. People that get on the water taxi every year learn that and who knows how they share that information with their family and friends. So, I wanted to say thank you.

Mary Temple, 560 S. Hancock Street, Unit 11 – The dredging conversation left me with a question if all of these pots of money can’t be put together and we still need \$100,000 to dredge the channel, and time is of the essence, I am assuming we need to have some kind of a back up plan. It left me wondering. It seems we have no choice, this is an emergency. I think you should change the name of the water taxi. We should think about a new name that promotes Pentwater. Finally, are you aware one of the docks is submerged in the Marina.?

Village Manager Chris Brown – We are well aware of the dock, and it is on the list to be fixed, we are waiting on the contractor.

President Pro-Tempore Jared Griffis – For your information www.protectpentwaterharbor.org is the website where you can donate to assist with funding.

XV. COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Trustee Ressel-Hodan – I wanted to let the public know I will be asking President Hodges to place on the agenda in June a “Moratorium of Short-Term Rentals so, we have time to study the effect of the Short-Term Rentals on the community. I also will be putting a suggested committee together to bring to President Hodges to study becoming a City to create a list of the Pros and Cons to bring back to the Village Council.

Trustee Dan Nugent – Harry Brodbeck came to see me over the weekend. He has taken this upon himself to remove and take the siren in for repair at a shop in Ludington. They have been able to repair the motor for the cost of \$1302. It is a 220 volt, 3-phase motor. It is approximately 7 to 10 horsepower in size. He is planning on having it ready to put back into use at a location that is to be determined. The cost to repair it seemed pretty low to me. The problem is where to reinstall it. The cost to have 3 phase power installed is between \$15,000 and \$20,000. Hopefully we can have further discussion on this. Thank you to Harry who has done a lot work on this issue.

Village Manager Chris Brown – The cost of a new siren is about the same price.

President Pro-Tempore Jared Griffis – I would like to make a comment regarding the Water Taxi, the friction we have experience at the end of Third Street is totally unacceptable. The issue of the dockage and where it is docked and how it is handled is something we need to be involved in so that it does not repeat itself.

XVI. CLOSED SESSION

None

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

President Pro Tempore Griffis adjourned the meeting 7:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Date