

# Village of Pentwater

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

## Regular Meeting of Village Council January 08, 2024 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 6:00 P.M. from Park Place Meeting Center at 310 North Rush Street.

### II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

### III. ROLL CALL

Present: Dave Bluhm, Phil Frame, Jared Griffis, Kathy O'Connor and Don Palmer.  
Absent: Dan Nugent and Jeff Hodges.

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

### IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS – On the agenda

*Paul DeGregorio, 270 E Sands St.* – wanted clarification on Item A under New Business because it was approved last month for 42 feet on the west and 47 feet on east.

*Bruce Maynard, 20 S. Carroll St.* – hopes the meeting does not last too long because he wants to go home and watch the game.

*Mark Trierweiler, 6378 Iroquois Rd.* – I have a question for Kathy was wondering if you would be addressing the Short-Term Rental ad hoc committee and why at the last meeting there was no talking of limiting the number.

### V. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

President Pro Tempore Griffis requested an approval of the agenda. *Motion* by Palmer supported by Frame to approve the agenda as presented.

Voice Vote: Yes: 5. No: 0. Absent: 2. Motion approved 5 - 0.

### VI. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of Minutes: Regular Council Meeting on November 13, 2023, and Special Meeting on November 20, 2023.
- B. Disbursements Village: Accounts Payable - \$82,066.05; Payroll - \$94,650.69.
- C. Disbursements from Township: Fire Department – \$6,499.38.
- D. Commission & Board Reports: DDA.

- E. Requests for Village Property use:  
1. PJWC Art Fair, July 12 and 13, 2024.

*Motion* by O'Connor, supported by Palmer to approve the consent agenda items as presented.

Roll Call Vote: Yes: Bluhm, Frame, O'Connor, Palmer and Griffis.

No: 0. Absent: Nugent and Hodges. Consent agenda approved 5 – 0.

## **VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. Comments from the President.

## **VIII. CORRESPONDENCE**

- *Correspondence directed to the Village Clerk will be received, filed, and emailed to the Village Council.*  
None.

## **IX. VILLAGE DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

*Reports are in the meeting packet and posted on [www.pentwatervillage.org](http://www.pentwatervillage.org).*

- A. Village Manager - Report submitted in writing.
- B. Clerk/Treasurer - Report submitted in writing.  
*Motion* by Palmer, supported by Frame to receive the December 2023 financials as presented.  
Voice Vote: Yes: 5  
No: 0. ABSENT: Nugent and Hodges. Motion approved 5 - 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.
- G. Park Place - Report submitted in writing.

## **X. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- A. Building & Grounds – No meeting, no report.
- 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. Service – Minutes submitted in writing with one correction under New Business, Item 3, Trustee Dave Bluhm would like the following added: Items that are brought to the Village Council directly should go to committee first.

#### **XI. PUBLIC HEARING**

None.

#### **XII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

#### **XIII. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Ordinance No. 1 of 2024 Amend the Village of Pentwater’s Zoning Ordinance Section 12.04.

Discussion was held.

Village Clerk/Treasurer explained to the Council that December vote was for a Resolution and this is a Zoning Amendment to the Ordinance so the item needed to be reintroduced.

*Motion* by Frame, supported by \_\_\_\_\_ to approve Ordinance No. 1 of 2021 Amend the Village of Pentwater’s Zoning Ordinance Section 12.04.

Motion failed with no support.

- B. Short-Term Rental Ordinance Lottery Policy

*Motion* by O’Connor, supported by Frame to approve the Short-Term Rental Policy No. 3 of 2024.

Roll Call Vote: Yes: Bluhm, Frame, O’Connor, Palmer and Griffis.

No: Palmer. Absent: Nugent and Hodges. Motion approved 4 – 1.

- C. SABO Contract Proposal.

*Motion* by Frame, supported by O’Connor to approve the SABO PR Contact Option 1 not to exceed the amount of \$9500.

Roll Call Vote: Yes: Bluhm, Frame, O’Connor, and Griffis.

No: Palmer. Absent: Nugent and Hodges. Motion approved 4 – 1.

#### **XIV. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

*Chris Conroy, 560 S Hancock St., Unit 21* – If information comes out of the vetting process of the City Feasibility Report will re-education still be done?

*Bruce Maynard, 20 S. Carroll St.* - I can’t believe you as a council member cannot talk to us. So, you are going to hire someone to educate us?

*Heather Douglas, Twp Treasurer* – I want to reiterate what I have said in the past. I think it is absurd to hire public relations before the report is vetted and you have information to educate people with the fact that this is even being discussed I am mortified.

*Mary Barker, Pentwater Twp. Librarian* – I am upset. I have been told it is a 3 to 5-year Project and here we are with a PR firm.

*Heather Douglas, Twp Treasurer* – You are off with the voters there is about 800 in the village and 1600 in the township.

*Mark Trierwieller, 6378 Iroquois Rd. Pentwater Twp.* - Since last month's meeting the citizen coalition that I founded "Boycott Pentwater City Plan" completed its survey of Pentwater village and township citizens. 155 people responded to the survey. The results I sent to each of you. The vast majority are opposed to the city plan and the proposed hotel. It's shocking the village is pursuing a plan that has so little public support. 70% that I surveyed are opposed to the idea. Earlier tonight I filed a FOIA request with the Village President with the hope we can better understand what is really driving such an anti-voter proposal. It will destroy our community. Mr. President Pro-Tempore you will think I am picking on you my wife and I have used your company from the time we moved here. Excellent service. Excellent employees. Do you understand how your customers at the township feel about being your customer at the same time you are supporting something that will be very damaging to them as a town and as individuals. Thank you.

*Chris Conroy, 560 S. Hancock, Unit 21* – I am also a surveyor, and I am very disappointed in the biased nature of that survey. I challenge that survey.

#### **XV. COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

*Trustee Kathy O'Connor* – commented since it seems to be a theme from our audience tonight I want to assure you that we will not move forward with any education and communication until the study is vetted and any omissions are addressed. Any noted omissions or weaknesses in the report will be shored up and cleaned up before any education or communication goes forward. This was a matter to be able to speak with a PR firm about the process.

*Trustee Dave Bluhm* asked Zoning Official Kate Anderson where we were at on the Social District application being submitted to the State.

Discussion was held and Village Manager Chris Brown will talk with the Village Attorney Brian Monton to have the questions regarding liability answered for the February Council meeting.

*Trustee Don Palmer* – quite a few meetings ago it was a unanimous decision by the council to have a review of the Village of Pentwater becoming a city. When we received the information it was well done! That did not mean for the record I was for the village to become a city. I will continue to vote no. My main concern now is cost. This is just the start. The committee members did a fine job. I thought the report was really well done.

President Pro-Tempore Jared Griffis – agreed the report was well done and there was enough information that it merited a further look. I am still on the fence. Hang in there the council is looking this over carefully. We are a community gathered together and we are friends and discuss things openly without malaise. So thank you for being here this evening.

**XVI. CLOSED SESSION**

None.

**XVII. ADJOURNMENT**

President Pro Tempore Jared Griffis adjourned the meeting 6:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

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

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Date