

# Village of Pentwater

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## Special Meeting of Village Council MEETING MINUTES OCTOBER 24, 2019

### I. CALL TO ORDER

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

### II. ROLL CALL

Present: Trustees Jared Griffis, Dan Nugent, Don Palmer, Claudia Ressel-Hodan, and President Jeff Hodges.

Absent: Excused - Trustees Michelle Angell-Powell and Pam Burdick,

Also, present: Village Manager Chris Brown, Clerk/Treasurer Rande Listerman, Chief Laude Hartrum, & Village Attorney Brian Monton.

### III. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

Voice vote. AYES: 5 NAYS: 0 ABSENT 2.

Motion approved.

### IV. NEW BUSINESS

#### A. Resolution #2019 - 09 - 23 Designating the proper signatory for execution of Closing Statements of 65 North Hancock.

Motion by Palmer, supported by Ressel-Hodan to approve resolution #2019 - 09 - 23 Designating the Proper Signatory for Execution of Closing Statement Documents at 65 North Hancock to be the Village Manager Chris Brown.

*Statement from Trustee Claudia Ressel-Hodan Psy.D.:*

We have a decision tonight because both our Village Manager and the Township supervisor took on a huge problem that was only getting worse. I want to thank them for the leadership they showed in bringing the need for a decision regarding the Community Hall forward.

I am confident that throughout this process, which began in May with the building evaluation, the council has been transparent and have taken into consideration the voices we heard.

Citizens said move forward with the township. To the best of our ability we tried to implement this desire, and on August 26th, voted to publicly state that our desire was to be together. Since we were elected by the Village and not the Township, we can only accept their decision and continue to foster a working relationship.

Citizens also stated they wanted to "Stay Downtown" and "Be Financially Responsible". Available vacant lots and buildings were looked at by the Buildings and Grounds Committee.

In the end, 65 Hancock was the only logical space, since a new build would have been more expensive. The decision to recommend this space, was based on only, and I emphases only, the availability. If other useable space that fit the Village needs was available at a lower price, that

would have been the recommendation. The purchase price is based on fair market pricing and taxable value. I am confident that a yes vote by Council this evening is transparent and responsible. Thank you.

Roll Call Vote. AYES 5; Griffis, Nugent, Palmer, Ressel-Hodan and Hodges. NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 2; Angell-Powell and Burdick.

## **V. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

*Paula Degregorio – 270 Sands Street:* How many Police Cars does the Village have?

*President Hodges:* 2

*Paula Degregorio– 270 Sands Street:* So, you will be building a garage for 2?

*President Hodges:* Nothing has been determined yet.

*Trustee Don Palmer:* We have never had a garage for Police Cars.

*Jennifer Westerguard-Craig – speaking for her mother on 78 Wythe Street:* Inquired about the letter dropped off by her mom today for public comments. She requested that it be read out loud.

*Clerk/Treasurer Rande Listerman:* Ask President Hodges if she could answer. A copy, of the letter was supply to all the council members. They have it before them tonight in their board packet. We do not read correspondence out loud during a meeting. It will be kept as a permeant record with the minutes.

*Sue Johnson - 318 East Hanover:* Ask Claudia Ressel-Hodan to re-read her portion of the statement regarding the township.

*Trustee Claudia Ressel-Hodan:* Since we were elected by the village and not the township, we can only accept their decision and continue to foster a working relationship.

*Sue Johnson - 318 East Hanover:* She would like to say I think we can still work together and have one building.

*President Jeff Hodges:* That would be wonderful. The village is not closing the door to that by any means.

*Eva Pentwater Chamber:* When will you be putting this building up for sale?

*Village Manager Chris Brown:* That has not been determined yet. We have a lot of work ahead of us.

*President Jeff Hodges:* As you know the wheels of government moves slowly. There is a lot of work to be done and decisions to be made.

*Dean Gustafson - 410 Chester:* My closing remark is a positive one. You have done your due diligence as far as I can see. I had a different opinion of what can be done as you heard me say over the last several months. If it cannot be accomplished, you are the governing body, you represent us, and I respect your integrity and your decision. I still hope as mention by Sue that we never forget that we are one not two.

*Sue Johnson - 318 East Hanover:* On that resolution you just adopted you are just authorizing a signature for closing statements? You are not setting a closing date, at this time?

*President Jeff Hodges –* No we will be setting a closing date. We are under contract to complete the sale by the end of October.

*Chief Laude Hartrum:* Invited everyone to the semi-annual V-Pack meeting at 7 P.M.

*Jennifer Westerguard-Craig:* Read the letter written by her mother Martha Westergaurd that was given to the Village Council in the Council Packet which express Martha Westergaurd’s request that the village and the township stay together and operate out of the building the township is purchasing with a suggestion that we rent from the township for a total of \$36,000 a year.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

Hodges asked for a motion to adjourn.

*Motion* by Palmer second by Nugent to adjourn.

Voice vote. AYES: 5; NAYS: 0; ABSENT: 2.

President Hodges adjourned the meeting at 6:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

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Rande Listerman, MiCPT, CPFA, CPFIM  
Clerk/Treasurer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date