

# ***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 MEETING MINUTES JUNE 13, 2022 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 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 and Jeff Hodges

Absent: None.

Also, present: Village Manager Chris Brown, Clerk/Treasurer Rande Listerman, Chief Laude Hartrum, Zoning Administrator Keith Edwards, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer/Rec Director Kate Anderson and Village Attorney Brian Monton.

### **IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS – On the agenda**

*Dan Hoekstra Sr. 160 4<sup>th</sup> Street* - I want to thank all the voters that made it to the polls whether it was in person or by mail in votes. Our Village garnered more votes on the May 3rd marijuana issue than the last gubernatorial election. We all should be proud of how high the turnout was. As a spokesman for the Concerned Citizens of Pentwater, I especially want to thank all the volunteer's that donated time, money, and ideas to make the May 3rd a successful referendum. With this said, I need to speak from the heart. At the Village Council meeting in Sept or Oct. it was stated that they had already spent \$12,000 on attorney fees to bring the marijuana ordinance 115.0 to a Council vote. Since then, it would be interesting to find out exactly how much the Village spent to try and push this ordinance through. My guess is between \$18-20,000 including paying for the election from the Township. This could all have been avoided if the Council had an Open Hearing prior to the July Ordinance vote to seek counsel from the people of the Village. This would have saved everyone a lot of grief, money, and hard feelings. It might have brought the people of the Village together more and made the Council appear as if they might listen to their constituents. You all were elected to represent the electors of this Village. We are hoping for a vote with an answer from each Council member as you normally do, not just a mutual yea or nay.

I went into this campaign trying my best to honor the Lord and to be guided by Him through prayer. I stand before you, representing the Concerned Citizens of Pentwater but to God be the Glory. Thank you,

*Chris Conroy, 560 South Hancock Street, Unit 21* – Is the policy on correspondence to the Village Clerk to be included in the minutes? What is the status of the upgrades to the Pickle Ball Courts? Has the painting and striping contract been awarded? Chapter 50 and 51 of the Water and

Sewer Ordinances have been overhauled is it possible to explain the impact to the residents and business owners? Does the Cell Tower easement have a limit on height?

*Evert Horton 1251 6<sup>th</sup> Street* – thanked the Building and Grounds Committee for their support of working with the veterans to replace the holes for the American Flags to be displayed on Hancock Street.

*Sue Johnson 318 East Hanover Street* – asked if the meeting was being recorded so she could FOIA the file.

## **V. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

President Hodges requested an approval of the agenda. *Motion* Griffis supported by Ressel-Hodan to approve the agenda with one addition under XII. Unfinished Business, B. Appointment of the Committee to investigate becoming a city.

VOICE VOTE: YES: 7 NAYS: 0. ABSENT: 0. Motion approved 7 - 0.

## **VI. CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Approval of Minutes: Regular Council Meeting on May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022 and Special Council Meeting Minutes May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022.
- B. Disbursements Village: Accounts Payable -\$80,715.81; Payroll - \$112,306.96.
- C. Disbursements from Township: Fire Department – \$124,726.00.
- D. Commission & Board Reports: DDA Minutes, Planning Commission and Library Directors Notes.
- E. Requests for Village Property use:
  - a. Village Green Pentwater Historical Society – Bart Zachrich, Historical Talk from June 3<sup>rd</sup> – Sept 23<sup>rd</sup> see agreement.
  - b. Village Green, Pentwater Jr. Women’s Club Art Fair July 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022.
  - c. Detroit #1225 permission to sell Marine Roses on Saturday, July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022, from 8:00 A.M. to 1:00P.M.
  - d. Back of Village Green - PYC – June 25<sup>th</sup> 3:00 P.M. – 11:00 P.M.

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

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Angell Powell, Bluhm, Griffis, Nugent, Ressel-Hodan, Palmer and Hodges. NAYS: 0. ABSENT: 0. Consent agenda items approved 7 - 0.

## **VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. Comments from the President.  
None.

## **VIII. CORESPONDENCE**

- o All correspondence directed to the Village Clerk is received and filed and emailed on to the Village Council.

The following citizens sent correspondence to the Village Clerk for the Village Council.  
1. Niki Breazeale 2. Kurt Loosenort 3. Mark Morrow.

#### **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 Griffis to approve the financials as presented.  
ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Angell Powell, Bluhm, Griffis, Nugent, Ressel-Hodan, Palmer and Hodges. NAYS: 0. ABSENT: 0. Motion approved 7 - 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 – Report Submitted in writing.
- B. Finances – No meeting, no report.
- C. Ordinances – Report submitted in writing.
- D. Personnel – No meeting, no report.
- E. Planning/Economic Development – No meeting, no report.
- F. Services – No meeting, no report.

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

##### **A. Purchase offer for 327 South Hancock Street.**

Discussion was held regarding the purchase offer regarding 327 South Hancock Street. The Building and Grounds Committee recommends getting the purchase offer reviewed by the Village legal counsel Brian Monton. The Planning Commission is working on the issues regarding the Zoning Amendments which include building height and parking. The Zoning Administrator Keith Edwards asked for the Council to give a list of what they are looking for in a development for 327 Hancock Street that can be given to the prospective buyers. Also, to address to the Planning Commission their thoughts on the parking issue.

*Motion* by Angell-Powell supported by, Ressel-Hodan to approve the rejection of the offer for 327 South Hancock Street and authorize the Village Manager Chris Brown to enter into negotiations to work out the various bullet points in the form of a engagement letter to the prospective buyer.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Angell Powell, Bluhm, Griffis, Nugent, Ressel-Hodan, Palmer and Hodges. NAYS: 0. ABSENT: 0. Motion approved 7 – 0.

**B. Appointment of the Committee to investigate becoming a city.**

*Motion* by Angell-Powell, supported by Palmer to approve the appointment of the following people to a committee chaired by Trustee Ressel-Hodan to investigate the Village of Pentwater becoming a city. The additional members will be Trustee Dave Bluhm, Amy LaBarge, Cathy O’Conner, Kyle Jenson and Sue Johnson.

Trustee Ressel-Hodan read the following goals of the committee: to study and understand the process of becoming a city, develop a pros and cons list, explain how the change will affect the Village within the Township, study the changes in tax that would occur and develop a question-and-answer forum for the public.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Angell Powell, Bluhm, Griffis, Nugent, Ressel-Hodan, Palmer and Hodges. NAYS: 0. ABSENT: 0. Motion approved 7 – 0.

**XIII. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Resolution No. 2022-06-15 Tax Millage Levy.**

*Motion* by Palmer, supported by Angell-Powell to approve Resolution No. 2022-06-15 the 2022 Tax Millage Levy.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Angell Powell, Bluhm, Griffis, Nugent, Ressel-Hodan, Palmer and Hodges. NAYS: 0. ABSENT: 0. Motion approved 7 – 0.

**B. Ordinance 01-2022 Prohibition of Marihuana Establishments and Facilities.**

*Motion* by Angell-Powell, supported by Griffis to approve Ordinance No. 01-2022 Prohibition of Marihuana Establishments and Facilities.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Angell Powell, Bluhm, Griffis, Nugent, Ressel-Hodan, Palmer and Hodges. NAYS: 0. ABSENT: 0. Motion approved 7 – 0.

**C. Water Ordinance Chapter 50.**

*Motion* by Nugent, supported by Palmer to approve adjourning the Water Ordinance Chapter 50 and Sewer Ordinance Chapter 51 until the July 11<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting to give additional time for the Council to review.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Angell Powell, Bluhm, Griffis, Nugent, Ressel-Hodan, Palmer and Hodges. NAYS: 0. ABSENT: 0. Motion approved 7 – 0.

**D. Sewer Ordinance Chapter 51.**

Adjourned until July 11<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting.

**E. Option Agreement to Purchase Communications Easement.**

*Motion* by Ressel-Hodan, supported by Palmer to approve having the Village Attorney Brian Monton review the proposal for the agreement to purchase communication easement.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Angell Powell, Bluhm, Griffis, Nugent, Ressel-Hodan, Palmer and Hodges. NAYS: 0. ABSENT: 0. Motion approved 7 – 0.

**F. Updated Credit Card Policy.**

*Motion* by Palmer, supported by Bluhm to approve the updated Credit Card Policy.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Angell Powell, Bluhm, Griffis, Nugent, Ressel-Hodan, Palmer and Hodges. NAYS: 0. ABSENT: 0. Motion approved 7 – 0.

**G. Pentwater Chamber of Commerce – 2022 Homecoming Fireworks Display.**

*Motion* by Ressel-Hodan, supported by Nugent to approve the 2022 Homecoming Fireworks Display provided by the Pentwater Chamber.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Angell Powell, Bluhm, Griffis, Nugent, Ressel-Hodan, Palmer and Hodges. NAYS: 0. ABSENT: 0. Motion approved 7 – 0.

**H. American Flags on Hancock Street.**

*Motion* by Angell-Powell, supported by Nugent to approve the request from Evert Horton and the Veterans for the Village to contract to have approximately 30 new holes placed in the concrete along Hancock Street so the American Flags may be displayed during the three holidays honoring the Veterans. The old holes will be filled in by Evert Horton.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Angell Powell, Bluhm, Griffis, Nugent, Ressel-Hodan, Palmer and Hodges. NAYS: 0. ABSENT: 0. Motion approved 7 – 0.

**I. Final Approval for Channel Dredging.**

*Motion* by Angell-Powell supported by Nugent to approve the bid for the Channel Dredging from Viking Marine in the amount of approximately \$100,000 with \$30,000 from the Village of Pentwater, \$20,000 from the Oceana County, \$30,000 by an anonymous donor and remainder from the donated funds at the Community Foundation.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Angell Powell, Bluhm, Griffis, Nugent, Ressel-Hodan, Palmer and Hodges. NAYS: 0. ABSENT: 0. Motion approved 7 - 0.

**XIV. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

*Jean Russell 5545 Wayne Road* – She volunteers for the Chamber and wondered what the Village plans on doing with the building. If the Village is not collecting enough funds to cover expenses, please let us know. There are members of the Chamber who will assist. When Jean was planning to relocate into Michigan, they investigated the Lake Michigan

coastal towns and Pentwater Chamber was quick to respond and very helpful. The Chamber hosts a lot of activities that make this a destination for vacations.

*Joan Lundborg, 250 South Ellery Street* – The sound system is awful.

*Rob Young 163 Washington Street* – feels the council should look at the offer to purchase the cell tower easement more closely. He does not feel this is the right deal for the village.

*Chris Conroy 560 South Hancock Street, Unit 21* – The Planning Commission will be holding (3) Joint Events with the Township Planning Commission. July 26<sup>th</sup>, August 9<sup>th</sup> August 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 P.M. held at the First Baptist Church.

*Amy LaBarge 605 6<sup>th</sup> Street* – Thank you for providing the council meeting on Zoom. She hopes the Council will consider changing its policy to make it interactive soon.

**XV. COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

None.

**XVI. CLOSED SESSION**

None.

**XVII. ADJOURNMENT**

President Jeff Hodges adjourned the meeting 7:22 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

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

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Date