

**Palmyra Township  
Regular Board Meeting Minutes  
October 11, 2022**

Meeting called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Supervisor Dave Pixley at the Palmyra Township Hall, 6490 Palmyra Rd.

Members present: Dave Pixley, Matt Koester, Mark Crane. Steve Papenhagen, and Chris Whited

Members absent: 0

Audience Attendance: 8

Motion Papenhagen, support Crane to approve the agenda as amended. **Motion carried**

- Add to New Business:
  - PA116 Application Approval
  - Quit Claim Deed/Property Transfer from Palmyra Township to Seth Goetz
  - Receipt Books

**Public Comment:**

- Matt Drennan from ESA Solar offered draft language taken from the Solar Ordinances of Riga Township and Shiawassee County. The language pertains to noise level and telecommunications interference.

**Minutes & Reports:**

- Minutes: presented by Clerk Whited
- Financial: report presented by Treasurer Koester
- Fire & EMS: report presented by Chief Paul Rohlan
- Code Officials:
  - Code Enforcement: report presented by Clerk Whited
  - Building Inspector: report presented by Clerk Whited
  - Electrical Inspector: report presented by Clerk Whited
  - Mechanical Inspector: report presented by Clerk Whited
  - Plumbing Inspector: report presented by Clerk Whited
- Planning Commission: Trustee Mark Crane reported that the Planning Commission is still in the process of reviewing Article VIII - General Provisions of the Zoning Ordinance. He also stated that the Planning Commission has set their 2023 Regular Meeting schedule.
- Building Committee: N/A
- Drain Commission: Supervisor Pixley reported that the Central Lenawee Sewer System Operating & Maintenance budget is in the hole by \$18,785.16.
- Financial Report: report presented by Meredith Francis

Motion Whited, support Koester to approve the September 13, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes, as well as the reports, and place them on file. **Motion carried**

**Communications:**

- **Land Splits:** None
- **FOIA requests:** Joshua Van Camp has made a FOIA request for all communications (emails, letters, texts, documents) to/from the Palmyra Township government and NextEra Energy and/or ESA Solar.  
A motion was made by Supervisor Pixley and supported by Trustee Crane to have Clerk Whited request an extension to fulfill the FOIA request submitted by Joshua Van Camp.  
**Motion carried**
- **Cemeteries:** Clerk Whited reported that the Main Cemetery is in good shape.
- **Roads & Bridges:** Supervisor Pixley reported that the Pope Road project has been completed.
- **EMS:** Craig Dunham reported that state wide EMS are closing due to the lack of man power. He encouraged the Board members to sign the petition to support the First Responders Act. The Act would establish an Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Grant Program under the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

**Unfinished Business:**

- **Sewer Rate Increase Public Hearing:** Motion Crane, support Koester to open the Public Hearing at 7:39 pm. **Motion carried**  
There was no public comment.  
Supervisor Pixley presented the Board members with a Sewer Rate Worksheet that presents various rate increases from \$3.00 to \$10.00 per month. There is a legitimate concern that the Township will not be able to meet the financial responsibility of future maintenance and repairs of the sewer system. As a result, the Board has determined to increase the monthly rates of those properties on the system.  
**Motion Papenhagen, support Koester, to increase the sewer rate from \$30 per month to \$36 per month, increasing the CLSS budget line items of Collection/Replacement from \$0.85 to \$1.50 (a \$0.65 increase) and the Collection/Replacement Operating & Maintenance from \$12.65 to \$18.00 (a \$5.35 increase), and the increase will take effect January 1, 2023. The \$6.00 rate increase will generate an additional \$16,488 per year.**  
**Roll call vote:** Papenhagen – yes; Koester – yes; Whited – yes; Pixley – yes; Crane – yes  
**Motion carried**  
Motion Crane, support Whited to adjourn the Public Hearing at 8:00 pm. **Motion Carried**
- **Camera system:** Discussed with no action required. Supervisor Pixley met with FSS Technology, and the company will have the camera system installed and operating by the November 8, 2022, Election.

- **Engine 1 fire damage:** Discussed with no action taken at this time. Chief Rohlan reported that repairs to Engine – 1 are complete. However, there was an issue with some of the gauges. Chief Rohlan said the PFD will purchase the gauges and replace the broken gauges on the truck.
- **Property Donation Proposal – Keith Knierim/Estate of Lee Ellen Driggs:** Motion Pixley, support Papenhagen to accept the Property Donation Proposal as presented with the following terms and conditions:
  - The Property would be known as The Hugh & Lee Ellen Driggs Community Park
  - The Estate of Lee Ellen Driggs would donate matching funds that Palmyra Township is able to raise, for establishment of said park. These matching funds will be dollar for dollar, up to \$50,000.
  - The property will be deeded to Palmyra Township, by way of a Warranty Deed as well as a policy of title insurance being purchased by the Estate of Lee Ellen Driggs.

**Roll call vote:** Crane – yes; Whited – no, Koester – yes; Papenhagen – yes; Pixley – yes  
**Motion Carried**

Motion Pixley, support Whited to request that the well on the donated property be properly secured prior to the Township taking possession of the property, and the cost of securing the well be paid by the donor. **Roll call vote:** Pixley – yes; Papenhagen – yes; Koester – yes; Whited – yes; Crane – yes **Motion carried**

- **SES Ordinance:** Discussed with no action required at this time. Supervisor Pixley stated that he will schedule a Special Meeting as soon as attorney Mike Homier sends the requested language for telecommunications interference and sound levels.

**New Business:**

- **PTFD –**
  - **Employment applications:** N/A
  - **Probation terminations:** N/A
  - **Resignations:** N/A
- **Planning Commission Member Advertisement:** Motion Crane, support Koester to allow the Supervisor/Clerk to advertise in two circulations of the Blissfield Advance the need to fill three open seats on the Planning Commission. **Motion Carried**
- **Trick-or-Treat time:** Motion Whited, support Papenhagen that the Fire Department schedule Trick-or-Treat at the fire station on Monday, October 31, 2022, from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm. **Motion Carried**
- **County ARPA Fund distribution for PFD:** Motion Pixley, support Crane to allow the Supervisor to order the decontamination equipment and to submit to the County administrator the request for reimbursement of the \$32,545.73 for the cost of the equipment. **Roll call vote:** Pixley – yes; Koester – yes; Papenhagen – yes; Crane – yes; Whited – yes **Motion carried**
- **Fire hose replacement - Blissfield:** Discussed with no action required. Blissfield Fire department will reimburse Palmyra Township Fire Department for the cost to replace a fire hose that was damaged at a fire.

- **Fire Truck Committee:** Motion Crane, support Whited to ask Matthew Marks to be a member of the Fire Truck Committee. **Motion carried**
- **Reschedule November 8<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting:** Motion Pixley, support Koester to cancel the November 8, 2022 Regular Meeting and allow the Clerk to pay the bills. **Motion carried**
- **Township Quit Claim Deed/Property Transfer:** Motion Koester, support Papenhagen to allow the Supervisor and Clerk to sign the Quit Claim Deed for the transfer of property from Palmyra Township to Seth Goetz. **Motion carried**
- **PA116 Application Approval:** Motion Pixley, support Koester to approve the PA116 applications for PA0-128-3800-00; PA0-110-1305-00; PA0-101-4800-00; and PA0-124-4550-00, and send the applications and supporting documents to the required reporting agencies. **Roll call vote:** Pixley – yes; Whited – yes; Papenhagen – yes; Crane – yes; Koester – yes **Motion carried**
- **Receipt Books:** Motion Whited, support Pixley to allow the Clerk to purchase 12 spiral bound receipt books at a cost of \$480. **Motion Carried**

**Bill Payment**

Motion Pixley, support Crane to pay all Twp. and PTFD bills.

**Motion carried**

**Adjournment**

Motion Pixley, support Koester to adjourn at 9:22 p.m. **Motion carried**

**Next Regular Meeting: December 13, 2022**