

**Palmyra Township  
Regular Board Meeting Minutes  
February 8, 2022**

Meeting called to order at 7:10 p.m. by Supervisor Dave Pixley at the Palmyra Township Hall, 6490 Palmyra Rd.

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

Members absent: None

Audience Attendance: 7

Motion Whited, support Koester to approve the agenda as amended. **Motion carried**

Add to New Business:

- AED for Township Hall
- Consumers Gas Franchise
- The Woods Marijuana request

**Public Comment:**

- Craig Dunham reported that EMS is on “life support” with the Federal Government and State of Michigan, meaning that there are not enough EMS workers; the cost is high to recruit and train prospective EMS workers; 60% of current EMS workers in Michigan are volunteers; the median wage for EMS workers in Michigan is only \$12 to \$14 per hour. He also stated that there may not be a need for Palmyra to retain EMS services if the County could pick up the slack in EMS.
- Trustee Mark Crane received from an unnamed individual an article that was published in the Daily Telegram concerning the hidden agenda of solar energy facilities. He also shared that there have been conversations on the MTA member feed about the concerns of solar energy in Michigan.

**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 Crane reported that the next Planning Commission meeting is scheduled on Tuesday, March 1, 2022
- **Building Committee:** Trustee Crane reported that the Building Committee met on January 26, 2022 to discuss possible available grants; the sale of bonds by the Township; the interest rates of loans from other financial institutions; and they reviewed the current prints of the proposed fire station.
- **Drain Commission:** Supervisor Pixley reported that O&M Budget of the Central Lenawee Sewer System increased by \$7,000. The good news is that the Man Nor Farms Budget increase was slight.

Motion Crane, support Koester to approve the January 11, 2011 Regular Meeting minutes as written, as well as the reports as presented and place them on file. **Motion carried**

**Communications:**

- **Land Splits:** None
- **FOIA requests:** None
- **Cemeteries:** None
- **Roads & Bridges:** Supervisor Pixley reported that the Lenawee County Road Commission has switched the foremen around, assigning them to new areas. Palmyra’s new foremen will be Josh.
- **Madison Twp. ALS:** Supervisor Pixley reported that Madison Township Fire Chief Nic Wilson has requested a meeting with the Fire Chiefs, as well as the township officials, of Blissfield, Riga, and Palmyra Townships. The meeting is scheduled on Thursday, 6:00 pm, February 24<sup>th</sup>, at the Madison Township Fire Department. Supervisor Pixley strongly encouraged the Board members to attend.

**Unfinished Business:**

- **Charter Township status:** Discussed with no action taken at this time.
- **Cemetery/Township Groundskeeper Job Description:** Motion Koester, support Crane to make the following changes to the *Palmyra Township Groundskeeper Job Description*:
  - Add at the end of the paragraph under *Broad Statement of Duties*, “also Township Hall/fire department grounds.”
  - Strike number (4) under *Specific Duties and Responsibilities* – “The Groundskeeper shall fill and level ruts or settled areas in the cemetery roadways with the appropriate materials.”
  - Change number (5) under *Specific Duties and Responsibilities* to “The Groundskeeper shall not remove wreaths on stands or grave blankets, which are permitted following the fall clean up period.”
  - Add “and Township offices” after cemeteries in number (7) under *Specific Duties and Responsibilities*.
  - Strike number (8) under *Specific Duties and Responsibilities* – “The Groundskeeper shall ensure that during winter months, roadways and drives in the cemeteries are kept plowed to enable ease of access.”

- Add at the end of the sentence of number (11) under *Specific Duties and Responsibilities* - “No burning of plastic of any kind. Non burnable items can be placed in the township dumpster.”

**Motion carried**

**New Business:**

- **PTFD –**
  - **Employment applications:** One application has been received.
  - **Probation terminations:** None
  - **Resignations:** Austin Rule has submitted his resignation, effective February 4, 2022.
- **2022/2023 Budget:** Supervisor Pixley is in the process of creating the 2022/2023 Budget and asks that the Treasurer, Building Committee, and Planning Committee submit their budget needs to him by the end of February.
- **Arbor Professional Solutions Collections, Acct. #20317500 -\$912:** Motion Koester, support Papenhagen to authorize Arbor Professional Solutions to collect the balance of \$912 on account #20317500. **Motion carried**
- **Increase of Electrical Permit Application Fees:** Motion Whited, support Koester to increase the following fees on the Electrical Permit Application:
  - **Electrical Permit Application Fee - \$60**
  - **Additional Inspection & Reinspection Fee - \$60**
  - **Final Inspection Fee - \$60**
- **Janel Ammerman, 6585 Rouget Rd., request for a privacy fence on drive:** Motion Koester, support Crane to deny Janel Ammerman’s request to place a privacy fence on the north end of the drive between 6585 Rouget Rd. and 6490 Palmyra Rd. property. **Motion carried**
- **State of Michigan Redistricting Maps:** Discussed with no action required. Clerk Whited explained that all district numbers of Palmyra Township have changed.
- **Voter ID mailings:** Discussed with no action required. Clerk whited reported that due to the change of district numbers, new Voter ID cards must be mailed to all Palmyra Township registered voters. Spectrum Printing will be printing and mailing the cards for the entire County at a much lower cost, and townships will be billed accordingly by the County.
- **Cemetery Concrete Bids:** A bid of \$16,350 was submitted for the repair of the driveway fence posts. Motion Pixley, support Koester to table the discussion until the March 8, 2022 Regular Meeting. **Motion carried**
- **AED for Township Hall:** Motion Pixley, support Koester to authorize Chief Paul Rohlan to purchase an AED unit for the Township Hall at a cost that shall not exceed \$3,000. **Motion carried**
- **The Woods Marijuana request:** Motion Koester, support Crane to authorize the Supervisor to send an email to The Woods Marijuana notifying them that the Township Board has decided to remain as an MRTMA opt-out municipality. **Motion carried**
- **Consumers Energy Gas Franchise Agreement:** Discussed with no action required at this time.

**Bill Payment**

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

**Motion carried**

**Adjournment**

Motion Koester, support Pixley to adjourn at 9:03 p.m. **Motion carried**

**Next Regular Meeting: March 8, 2022**