

**Palmyra Township  
Special Meeting Minutes  
March 28, 2023**

Meeting called to order at 7:05 pm by Supervisor Dave Pixley at the Palmyra Township Hall, 6490 Palmyra Rd.

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

Members absent: Steve Papenhagen,

Audience Attendance: 7

Motion Pixley, support Koester to approve the agenda as presented. **Motion carried**

**Public Comment**

- Jim Isley presented to the Board the following questions:
  - Why would our elected officials deter economic growth in our township?
  - Why would our elected officials not follow the recommendations of a seven member planning commission, with each member being duly appointed by the township Board?
  - When our planning commission held a mandatory public hearing for the review of the solar ordinance, why did some of our township board members refuse to attend?
  - Why would any member of the township Board place solar panels within 10 feet of their neighbor's property and then require to maintain a distance 30 times greater?
  - Why would our elected officials set decibel limits on solar more restrictive than a barking dog?
  - Why would our elected officials reject the opportunity to increase tax revenue within our community without raising taxes, denying tens of thousands of dollars for our township and hundreds of thousands for our schools.
  - How will our elected officials obtain funding for million-dollar fire/EMS facility other than raising taxes?
  - How will our elected officials obtain funding to replace our aging fire apparatus? A replacement of just three of the four apparatus could easily cost well over \$1,000,000.
  - How will our elected officials continue to obtain funding for our aging roads and bridges?

➤ Why do our elected officials continue to cite Riga Township having the “benchmark” solar ordinance while ignoring the ordinance of Raisin Township to our north?

- Jeff Ehlert stated that he would like Jim Isley’s questions entered in the minutes.
- Richard Beauleaux stated that Jim’s questions are not accurate. He also stated that the voters should vote and decide on their own. He commented that he believes that solar will not produce the revenue that is promised.
- Deborah Comstock stated that the 40 dB is meant to be restrictive. She stated that she does not see an economic benefit in Lenawee County or Palmyra Township from a restrictive SES ordinance, nor does she see any new industry coming into the County. She believes the Township would be in a very good position if the SES Ordinance was less restrictive.
- Jeff Ehlert stated that Adrian Township and Raisin Township are allowing solar. He also said that most completed solar projects are sold to a power company, and he is concerned of the lack of local jobs with solar being allowed in surrounding communities.

**Communications:** Supervisor Pixley reported that the Code Enforcement Officer, Alex Purdue, has submitted his resignation, effective April 30, 2023.

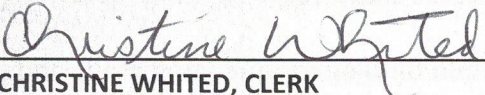
**Business:**

- **Budget Hearing:** The Supervisor opened the Budget Public Hearing at 7:18 pm. No public comment was made. The Board reviewed all line items of the 2023/2024 Budget (see attachment).  
Motion Pixley, support Koester to close the Budget Public Hearing at 7:48 pm. **Motion Carried**
- **2023/2024 Palmyra Township General Appropriations Act Resolution:** Motion Pixley, support Koester to adopt the General Appropriations Act Resolution for the 2023/2024 Budget. **Roll call vote:** Crane – yes; Pixley – yes; Whited – yes; Koester – yes; Papenhagen – yes; Papenhagen – absent **Motion carried**
- **May 2, 2023 Special Election Letter to the Residents:** Motion Crane, support Koester to approve the May 2, 2023 Election Letter and mail the letter to the Palmyra Township residents. **Roll call vote:** Koester – yes; Crane – yes; Whited – yes; Pixley – yes; Papenhagen – absent **Motion carried**

**Adjournment**

Motion Koester, support Pixley to adjourn at 8:31 p.m. **Motion carried**

**Next Regular Meeting: April 11, 2023**

  
CHRISTINE WHITED, CLERK

**THESE MINUTES WERE APPROVED APRIL 11, 2023.**