

Palmyra Township
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
May 9, 2023

Meeting called to order at 7:00 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: None

Audience Attendance: 7

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

- Add to New Business:
 - Driggs Road Issue
 - Marijuana Complaint
 - Ropes & Rigging Stump Grinding
 - Lifetime Tables for Elections

Public Comment:

Trustee Mark Crane congratulated the Board on the passage of the Solar Ordinance, and he also stated that he was pleased that 34% of the Palmyra Township electorate showed up at the poles to cast their vote.

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 met at a Special Meeting held on April 18th and drafted an Essential Services Ordinance amendment. The next meeting will be a Special Meeting scheduled on Tuesday, June 20, 2023, to continue reviewing the current Zoning Ordinance.
- Building Committee: N/A

- Drain Commission: Supervisor Pixley reported that the last quarterly report received from the Drain Commission reported that the expenses of Operations & Maintenance of the Central Lenawee Sewer System is finally less than the income generated.
- Park Committee: Clerk Chris Whited reported that a meeting is scheduled on Wednesday, May 10, 2023, at 6:30 pm.

Motion Crane, support Whited to approve the April 11, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes, as well as the reports, and place them on file. **Motion carried**

Communications:

- **Land Splits: None**
- **FOIA requests:** A request from Michigan Ops (Yehuda Miller) was received on April 25, 2023. Voting records from the 2020 General Election is being requested. Clerk Whited has requested a fifteen-day extension to reply, which will expire on May 16, 2023.
- **Cemeteries:** Supervisor Pixley reported that two trees in the Main Cemetery and Two trees in the Crane Cemetery have been removed. However, the tree stumps still remain and need to be removed.
- **Roads & Bridges:** The Road Commission will soon begin scraping and brining of the gravel roads.
- **Lenawee District Open House:** Supervisor Pixley reported that the Board members are invited to an open house of the newly renovated District Library. The open house is scheduled on Sunday, May 21, 2023, 2:00 to 4:00 pm.
- **Township Representative with MDOT:** Supervisor Pixley reported that he is the Township representative with the MDOT. He reported that the MDOT is planning on a road project to begin in 2026 on US Highway 223, from Ogden Hwy. to High Street in Blissfield.

Unfinished Business:

- **Expense Reimbursement Request:** Supervisor Pixley reported that Attorney Jeff Juby is still reviewing the receipts submitted by Mechanical/Plumbing Inspector Don Olszewski. The discussion is tabled until the June 1, 2023, Regular Meeting.
- **Illegal Use of the Central Lenawee Sewer System (CLSS):** Supervisor Pixley reported that the Drain Commission continues to search for the CLSS Ordinance, which will have the legal language that will address the illegal use of the sewer system. The discussion is tabled until the June 13, 2023, Regular Meeting.

New Business:

- **PTFD –**
 - **Employment applications:** Motion Koester, support Crane that Rebekkeh Frederick be hired as a member of the Palmyra Township Fire Department and be placed on a six-month probation period. **Roll call vote:** Crane – yes; Whited – yes; Koester – yes; Pixley – yes; Papenhagen = yes **Motion carried**
 - **Probation terminations:** N/A

- **Resignations:** N/A
- **Firefighter 2/HazMat Class – Jeremy Davis- Split with Blissfield Twp.:** Jeremy Davis is a member of the Blissfield Twp. Fire Department as well as the Palmyra Twp. Fire Department. He completed his Firefighter 2 class to be certified to train other firefighters. Jeremy took the course as a Blissfield Twp. firefighter. Since Jeremy is a member of the Palmyra Twp. Fire Department, Blissfield Fire Chief Dale Fruchey requested that Palmyra pay half of the \$400 fee for the course. Motion Whited, support Koester to pay half (\$200) of the \$400 fee of the Firefighter 2 class Jeremy Davis attended. **Motion carried**
- **Code Enforcement Officer:** Supervisor Pixley has been spending time with the Code Enforcement Officer, Alex Perdue, in order to see how Alex operates, including the field work and reporting. Pixley also spoke to a code enforcement agency in Ann Arbor, and he said that the agency can send a representative to the Township to explain details of their operation.
Motion Whited, support Koester to accept the Alex Perdue’s resignation as Code Enforcement Officer, effective May 31, 2023. Roll call vote: Papenhagen – yes; Koester – yes; Pixley – yes; Whited- yes; Crane – yes **Motion carried.**
- **Valves for Engine #2:** Motion Whited, support Koester to allow the Fire Department to purchase two ball valves at a cost that shall not exceed \$6,000. **Motion Carried**
- **Legislative Breakfast:** Motion Whited, support Crane that the Township pay the \$25 per Board member to attend the Legislative Breakfast held Tuesday, June, 6, 2023, 8:00 am, at the Hills of Lenawee. **Motion carried**
- **Headlight Repair on Engine #2:** Tabled until the June 13, 2023, Regular Meeting. Fire Chief Paul Rohlan will get a couple estimates.
- **PA 116 Enrollment of PA0- 129-1050-00, Dennis & Dawn Makula:** Motion Pixley, support Crane to approve the PA 116 application submitted by Dennis & Dawn Makula and send it and the supporting documents to the required agencies. **Motion carried**
- **Dumpster for the PFD:** Motion Pixley, to provide a dumpster at the Palmyra Township Fire Department. **Motion failed due to lack of support,**
- **Driggs Road:** Trustee Mark Crane reported that the graveled portion of Driggs Road is in terrible shape. Supervisor Pixley stated that the Road Commission will be scraping and brining the township gravel roads I in the next month or so.
- **Marijuana Complaint:** Trustee Crane reported that there are complaints of illegal marijuana growing facilities within the Township. Supervisor Pixley will contact Sheriff Troy Bevier for guidance on what the Township can do about the illegal facilities.
- **Ropes & Rigging Stump Removal:** Motion Koester, support Crane to have Ropes & Rigging remove 2 tree stumps in the Main Cemetery and 2 tree stumps in the Crane Cemetery at a cost of \$450 per stump, a total of \$1,800. **Motion carried**
- **Lifetime Tables:** Discussed with no action required at this time. Clerk Whited is requesting Lifetime tables to replace the old heavy wooden tables use during the elections. She will research the price of six-foot tables.
- **ATVs on Township Property:** Discussed with no action required at this time. Supervisor Pixley will look into signs prohibiting ATVs on Township property.

Bill Payment

Motion Pixley, support Koester to allow the Clerk to pay all Township and PTFD bills. **Motion carried**

Adjournment

Motion Pixley, support Crane to adjourn at 8:52 p.m. **Motion carried**

Next Regular Meeting: June 13, 2023