

**Palmyra Township
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
September 13, 2022**

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: 0

Audience Attendance: 20

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

- Add to New Business: Township hall part-time housekeeper

Public Comment:

- Terry Fox, 3261 Sharp Rd.: Terry Fox expressed his frustration, distress, and anger concerning the property of 3241 Sharp Rd. He explained to the Board that the blight on the property is unsightly and attracts rats. He believes that the blight will negatively affect the property value of his property as well as other properties that are in the same vicinity. Terry stated that he refuses to pay the taxes on his property unless something is done about the blight at 3241 Sharp Rd. Terry also expressed his dismay about the rotting wooden fence that surrounds 3241 Sharp Rd. He said that the rotting 7-foot fence is an eyesore. Terry said that he put up his own wooden fence to block the unsightliness of the rotting fence and blight. Terry said that the blight has been an issue for at least ten years, and he would like the issue resolved.
- Paula Fox, 3261 Sharp Rd.: Paula shared that she too upset about the blight at 3241 Sharp Rd. Furthermore, the residents of 3241 Sharp Rd. own several dogs that are vicious. Paula explained to the Board that she was attacked by one of the dogs while going for a walk. She said that the dogs are digging holes under the wooden fence. Fearing that the dogs may escape through the holes, Paula and Terry must fill the holes in to keep the dogs contained. She also stated that she is embarrassed to have guests due to the trash and rotting fence at 3241 Sharp rd.
- Supervisor Dave Pixley explained to Terry and Paula Fox that he, a Lenawee County Sheriff, and the Building Administrator Todd Roach visited the property this afternoon. He assured that that the issue is being investigated.
- John Sharp, 3300 Sharp Rd: John Sharp also expressed his concern about the trash and vicious dogs at 3241 Sharp Rd. He too would like to see the issue resolved.

- Judge Todd Morgan, current appointed Judge of the 2A District Court, introduced himself to the Board and public. He stated that he is running in the November 8, 2022, General Election for the seat of Judge of the 2A District Court.
- The Board also recognized that Sand Creek High School students McKenna Maxson, Ethan Cook, Raigen Woods, and Skyler Bales attended the meeting as part of their government academics.

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: N/A
 - Plumbing Inspector: N/A
- Planning Commission: PC Chair Deborah Comstock reported that the Planning Commission to review Article VIII - General Provisions of the Zoning Ordinance.
- Building Committee: Trustee Mark Crane reported that no meeting has been scheduled.
- Drain Commission: N/A

Motion Crane, support Whited to approve the July 12, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes, as well as the reports, and place them on file. **Motion carried**

Communications:

- **Stryker Power Cot Load System Demo:** Use of the Stryker Power Cot System was demonstrated to the Board and public.
- **Land Splits:** None
- **FOIA requests:** None
- **Cemeteries:** Supervisor Pixley reported that large limbs came down in a wind storm, and he cut them up and had them removed from the road in the cemetery. He also said that he will be filling in the potholes in the road of the Main Cemetery.
- **Roads & Bridges:** Supervisor Pixley said that he spoke to Road Commission area Supervisor Josh about the discrepancy of whether or not the Deerfield bridge will be completed by the scheduled date in November. It looks as if the project will not be completed in November due to supply issues. Supervisor Pixley also reported that the Pope Road stone project will be completed during the next rain day, and Grosvenor Hwy. will be completed this month.
- **Comcast:** Supervisor Pixley reported that he received notification that Comcast will be adding eight Russian channels.

Unfinished Business:

- **Engine 1 fire damage:** Discussed with no action taken at this time. Chief Rohlan reported that R&R has not yet submitted invoices, and they are working on the generator at this time.
- **Baker headstone – broken vases:** Motion Papenhagen, support Crane to replace the vases at a cost of \$200. **Roll call vote:** Whited – no; Crane – no; Koester – no; Pixley – no; Papenhagen – no **Motion Failed**
Motion Pixley, support Papenhagen to pay \$100 to replace the vases on the Baker headstone. **Roll call vote:** Crane – yes; Papenhagen – yes; Koester – no; Whited – no; Pixley – yes **Motion carried**
- **Village Sewer, Public Hearing:** Supervisor Pixley has scheduled a Public Hearing to take place at the 7:00 pm Regular Meeting on Tuesday, October 11, 2022. The purpose of the Public Hearing is to discuss the increase of the sewer billing fee to offset the deficit of the operating and maintenance costs of the sewer system.
- **Security camera system:** Motion Koester, support Whited to accept FSS Technology's security camera system bid of \$5,456.29, which includes six cameras, one 4TB Blackjack cube, wiring, and installation. The cameras will be used to monitor the ballot drop box, voting area, election material/equipment storage area, as well as other areas of the Township Hall. **Motion Carried**
- **PFD laptop:** Supervisor Pixley reported that the new PFD laptop has been delivered and set up for use. Chief Rohlan will download the PFD programs on to the laptop.

New Business:

- **PTFD –**
 - **Employment applications:** Chief Rohlan reported that Don Lapidus is able to put in more time at the fire department.
 - **Probation terminations:** N/A
 - **Resignations:** N/A
- **Stryker Power Cot Load System:** Motion Whited, support Pixley to allow the Fire Department to purchase the Stryker Power Cot Load System at a cost of \$62, 815, which includes installation of the system in the ambulance. ARPA funds will be used to pay for the Cot System and its installation. **Roll call vote:** Whited – yes; Crane – yes; Pixley – yes; Koester – yes; Papenhagen – yes **Motion Carried**
- **Snow Plowing:** Motion Papenhagen, support Pixley to accept the bid of Junior Landscaping & Outdoor Maintenance to plow the Palmyra Main Cemetery for \$250 per push and Crane Cemetery for \$100 per push; and to apply salt at the Fire Department and Township Hall for \$50 per application. Snow plowing is required when there is two inches on the ground. **Motion Carried**
- **Schultz-Holmes Memorial Library:** Library President Greg Brown reported that the Village of Blissfield has asked that the Schultz-Holmes Library Directors reach out to the community to get help to financially support the library since funding has substantially

decreased over the past few years. The Village officials are asking Townships that have residents who are in the Blissfield School District to consider 3/10 of a millage (approximately \$13,000) to help finance the library.

- **Decker Agency valuation of the FD vehicles:** Motion Koester, support Papenhagen to keep the current insurance valuations of the 2014 Chevy ambulance and the 2009 Freightliner. **Roll call vote:** Whited – yes; Koester – yes; Crane – yes; Pixley – yes; Papenhagen – yes **Motion Carried**
- **Keith Knierim – Property Donation:** The discussion is tabled until the October 11, 2022 regular Meeting. Keith Knierim would like to donate to the Township property PA0-700-0111-00 (1.32 acres), the corner of Rouget and Palmyra Roads, to be used as a park. The stipulation would be to name the Park after Hugh and Lee Ellen Driggs. If the Board votes to accept the donation, Keith Knierim will match funds up to \$50,000 to purchase equipment for the park.
- **Inuit price increase of QuickBooks per employee payroll fee:** Discussed with no action required at this time. Clerk Whited will look into other QuickBooks options, such as Enterprise with Enhanced Payroll.
- **November 8, 2022, Ballot Proofs:** Clerk Whited reported to the Board that there are three important State proposals on the November ballot that voters need to research. The clerk is very concerned about the Election Proposal that includes implementing in-person voting nine days prior to an election.
- **Solar Ordinance meeting:** Discussed with no action taken at this time. The Supervisor will contact attorney Mike Homier to get input concerning language to add to the Solar Ordinance.
- **FD iPad:** Discussed with no action required at this time.
- **Fire hose:** Motion Crane, support Pixley to allow Chief Rohlan to purchase six 100-foot sections of four-inch hose at a cost of \$871 per 100 ft. section, totaling \$5,226. **Roll call vote:** Koester – yes; Whited – yes; Crane – yes; Pixley – yes; papenhagen – yes **Motion Carried**
- **Fire Truck Committee:** The Board agreed to appoint as members of the Fire Truck Committee the following individuals: Chief Paul Rohlan, Assistant Chief Brian Wilcox, Captain Jeff Jackson, Township resident Keith Knierim, and Supervisor Dave Pixley. The responsibility of the Committee will be to research the purchase of a new fire truck.
- **TFT fire hose roller:** Motion Whited, support Pixley to allow Chief Rohlan to purchase two TFT hose rollers at a cost of \$435 plus shipping. **Motion Carried**
- **Township Hall Housekeeper:** Motion Pixley, support Koester to hire Chris Whited to clean the Township Hall for \$100 per month. **Motion carried**
- **Board recommendations to the Planning Commission:** Motion Crane, support Koester for the Board to recommend to the Planning Commission to begin working on a stand-alone Essential Services Ordinance and the Master Plan. **Roll call vote:** Papenhagen – yes; Koester – yes; Whited – yes; Crane – yes; Pixley- no **Motion Carried**

Bill Payment

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

Motion carried

Adjournment

Motion Pixley, support Papenhagen to adjourn at 10:47 p.m. **Motion carried**

Next Regular Meeting: October 11, 2022

CHRISTINE WHITED, CLERK

THESE MINUTES WERE APPROVED OCTOBER 11, 2022.