

**Palmyra Township
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
October 8, 2024**

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, Mark Crane, Matt Koester, Chris Whited

Members absent: Steve Papenhagen

Supervisor Pixley opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Audience Attendance: 8

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

Public Comment: None

Minutes & Reports

- Minutes: presented by Clerk Whited
- Financial: report presented by Treasurer Matt 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 during a regular meeting on September 17, 2024. He stated that he and three other PC members attended a Blissfield Planning Commission meeting in hopes of hearing what Mike Homier had to say about Blissfield's CREOs, but Mike Homier did not speak of the CREOs while in attendance.
- Drain Commission: Supervisor Pixley reported that the next CLSS management meeting is scheduled on December 4, 2024, at 1:30 pm, when they will discuss increasing the drain usage fees.
- Park Committee: Clerk Whited reported that the Park Committee met on September 23, 2024 to discuss the park concept plan that was submitted by Lisa Easterwood, planning manager from Fleis & Vandenbrink. The park committee had made some changes to the plan and submitted the plan back to Lisa. The Park Committee will schedule a special meeting to discuss to revised concept plan.
- Roads/Bridges: Supervisor Pixley reported that Wellsville Hwy is paves and the Palmyra Cemetery drive is stoned but needs to be grated.
- FOIA Requests: None

Motion Crane, support Koester to approve the September 10, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes, as well as the reports, and place them on file. **Motion carried**

Communications:

- **New CVTRS for FY 2025:** Clerk Whited reported that the State of Michigan will distribute CVTRS funds to municipalities in 2025. This is the first CVTRS funding that 88% of townships will receive in nearly two decades. Supervisor Pixley stated that the Board will review the CVTRS funding in November to prepare for budgeting.
- **MDOT Traffic Count:** Supervisor Pixley reported that the MDOT is working on the data collected from the cameras that were placed near the Rouget Road/US 223 intersection. He stated that the MDOT may need to place cameras at that intersection during the harvest season in order to get a more accurate count of the truck traffic at the intersection.

Unfinished Business:

- **Casket Disinterment:** Supervisor Dave Pixley reported that the disinterment and placement of the caskets is complete. He said that the individual who requested the disinterment and placement agreed to pay 50% of the cost.
- **Meeting Room Equipment:** Supervisor Pixley reported that all the equipment in the meeting room is installed, and he is waiting for the speakers to be installed as well as the wireless setup.
- **Displaced Headstones/Damaged Foundations & Vases:** Clerk Chris Whited reported that the displaced headstones caused by a downed tree during a storm on June 17, 2024, have been set back on their foundations. She also stated that the sexton, Kent Cannon, will be pouring new foundations to replace those that were damaged.

New Business:

- **PTFD –**
 - **Employment applications:** Motion Pixley, support Crane to rehire Don Lapidus as an employee of the Palmyra Twp. Fire Department and to be placed on probation for a period of three months. **Motion carried**
 - **Probation terminations:** N/A
 - **Resignations:** N/A
- **PA 116 Partial Termination, Ed Judson:** Motion Koester, support Crane to postpone the PA 116 Partial Termination request submitted by Ed Judson until the Township receives either an approved land division or approval from the ZBA. **Roll call vote:** Koester – yes; Pixley – yes; Crane – yes; Whited – yes; Papenhagen – absent. **Motion carried**
- **Open Meeting Act (OMA) Training:** Supervisor Pixley informed the Board that attorney Dave Lacasse is willing to do an OMA training for the Board, Planning Commission, and all other commissions and committees. The Board agreed that training would be beneficial. The discussion is postponed until Supervisor Pixley can speak to Dave Lacasse to get a few dates for the training.

- **Zoning Ordinance Amendments – Article II & IV, Banquet/Rental Hall:** Motion Whited, support Pixley to adopt an ordinance to amend the Palmyra Township Zoning Ordinance #11-2020. **Roll call vote:** Whited – yes; Crane – yes; Pixley – yes; Koester – yes, Papenhagen - Absent **Motion carried**

Article II – Definitions is amended by adding the following:

Section 2.73 – Banquet/Rental Hall

A room or facility available for rent on a daily or short-term basis, not to exceed 48 hours, to accommodate meetings, conferences, receptions, business, and social gatherings. Such a facility shall be operated in strict compliance with all laws and administrative rules promulgated by Federal, State or Local authorities that may be applicable to any such gathering or function to be conducted on the premises.

Article IV, Section 4.2.3(B) – Special Approval Uses is amended and replaced in its entirety as follows: *B. Country clubs; banquet/rental hall; public swimming pools; recreation centers; and parks, playground, and playfields.*

- **Zoning Ordinance Amendments – Articles V, VI, & VII:** Discussion is postponed until the November 12, 2024 regular meeting.
- **PFD Halloween Trick or Treat:** Motion Pixley, support Crane for the Palmyra Township Fire Department to host Trick or Treat at the fire department on October 31, 2024, from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm. **Motion carried**
- **Region 2 Planning Commission Dues:** Motion Pixley, support Koester to approve the payment of \$548.37 for Region 2 PC member dues. **Motion carried**
- **CREO Advise from Attorney Mike Homier:** Motion Crane, to allow Mark Crane to contact attorney Mike Homier, if requested by the Planning Commission members, for clarification of drafted Compatible Renewable Energy Ordinances. No support. **Motion failed due to lack of support.**

Bill Payment

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

Adjournment

Motion Koester, support Crane to adjourn at 9:09 p.m. **Motion carried**

Next Regular Meeting: November 12, 2024