

Town of Pines Meeting

August 7, 2024

The regular meeting of the Town of Pines, Town Council, was called to order at 6:30 PM. This meeting was a regular Council Meeting held at the Town Hall. The next meeting will be Wednesday, September 4, 2024, at 6:30 P.M. The budget meeting will be held August 21, 2024 at 6:00 pm. The Adoption will be in September 4th at 6:00 pm.

James led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. In attendance were James Prast, Janice Lowe, Vicki Kuzio, and Phil Orlando.

MINUTES

Shelby is out ill. Minutes will be presented at next meeting.

CLERK TREASURER

Shelby is out ill.

Janice presents that she is still working on the Budget with the Rep. She has also finished work with the CCMG to allow for grant processing.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Fire Department had 23 calls in July.

The Public Safety Lit meeting is the 22nd in Portage, Rob said that someone had asked for a reminder on this so he is reminding about it.

STREET DEPARTMENT

The flag is up and fixed.

The big door needs a new opener. The pully is broken and needs replaced. It will be about \$1250 dollars to replace and install.

The compost site passed its inspection.

Vicki mentions many potholes that have issues through the town. She is working the the county and neighboring cities that are responsible for some of these areas. There have been multiple tree cleanups as well after the storms.

Rob asks about removing old railroad ties that have been sitting for years at the side of the property. James states they may need to be disposed of specifically because they are a special wood/material.

James states a resident asked about trees that are on the Town Property that overhang their property that they cannot trim do to ownership. Vicki states she will reach out to Jons about these trees and getting this sorted.

Rob brings up that the town needs to look into repaving the basketball court. Vicki will get estimates.

BUILDING AND ZONING

Phil brings up that there is a sink hole forming along the storage units on 520 and 20 on the state property. Phil has spoken to them and will be meeting in about a week for this issue.

At the Pines Bible Church there is a hole, it is on our side. Rob will get fill to fill this area in and patch it properly.

There is a permit 1685 Alabama for a shed.

There is a permit 1617 Hickory for a reroofing.

There is a permit 1517 Walnut for reroofing.

The property at 12 and Countyline has been vacated with a no trespassing order. If anyone is seen on the property or camping, please contact the County.

August 13th Phil will be meeting with the Attorney to start working on the ongoing issues within the Town.

OLD BUSINESS

No Old Business.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business.

PUBLIC COMMENT

A gentleman from Florida ave asks about the properties from NIPSCO. This will be part of the discussion with the Lawyer and we hope to have more answers soon from them.

Alan Murray 1629 Colorado asks about the dogs on 2nd place running at large. Council asks if Porter County about the issue. He states no that he was told Council will be meeting with Shawn. Phil states yes all the topics discussed will be brought up. He asks about the trailers. He asks about the Root cellar. James states that it is on the list. Alan asks about DNA Auto. Phil states this will be done with the attorney and a survey will be done. He asks about Railroad Ave, this is another topic with the attorney.

Alan asks about a trailer at the Electrical Supply Shop. He states this isn't allowed in the town. Phil states that is only on residential. This is a business zoned property. Phil states it is in the code book.

David Joyner on Central Ave. He states that there used to be a speed bump when he moved in. He asks if it is possible to have this reinstalled in the area or not to deter people from speeding.

He also asks if the Town has considered anything about the speed issues along 12. James states that we just had a Sherriff out recently watching the area.

Kent Verhage asks about when the online codebook will be updated. Jan says this is being worked on with Shawn and municode, they are hoping that we will have access to this soon.

Loukia Verhage asks about the Website being updated.

Alex from 2nd place files a complaint to council about being approached him after the last meeting and getting in his face aggressively. James states that this is to be stopped.

Cathi Murray brings up the EPA subject. Cathi requests to have someone from the board to attend to support the causes within the town. We are looking to make the responsible parties to have to allow us to have the areas retested as needed and access to all of the data in our area and properties. She advises the best ways for residents to take discreet sampling and to test each sample separately and to have your property retested even if it was done before. She shares contact information with council on someone who has been able to help and be responsive regarding this situation thus far.

Loukia Verhage at 1709 Birch lets out a reminder to get registered to vote.

CLAIMS

No Claims Shelby III

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 P.M

James Prast, President

Shelby Lowe, Clerk Treasurer