

## **Town of Pines Meeting**

### **December 27, 2019**

The regular meeting of the Town of Pines Town Council was called to order at 6:30 pm. Bud led us in the pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. In attendance were, Janice Lowe, Vicki Kuzio, Cathi Murray, James Prast, and Alan Murray

### **Minutes**

Motion to accept the minutes for December 2019 by Cathi, seconded by Vicki and carried 3-0.

### **Clerk Treasurer**

The Clerk Treasurer, Janice Lowe, announced her resignation as Clerk Treasurer. Jan announced she will be hoping to transition to the council, replacing Cathi Murray. Jan announced Shelby Mashburn will be applying to replace her as the Clerk Treasurer.

### **Fire Department**

For the month of December as of the 27<sup>th</sup>, the Fire Department has had 14 calls. 3 calls were for people burning leaves, 8 calls were for EMS assists, 1 public service call, and a 2-part call for a structure fire effecting 2 houses burning at once.

The Fire Department requests a Contract Renewal, with no changes, for 01/01/2020 - 12/31/2020 at the rate of \$21,960. This will be paid in monthly installments of \$1830.00.

Cathi motions to accept the contract with the Pines Fire Department, seconded by Vicki, and carried 3-0.

Tammy Watkins requests a copy of this approved contract for 2020.

### **Building and Zoning**

Two permits were filed.

A permit for 1709 Birch Street, with the construction of a Gazebo for \$40.00.

A permit for 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, septic permit for \$440, this also will need to be filed through Porter County as well as the Pines permit.

### **Street Department**

The Street Department made 4 trips through the Town of Pines to pick up leaves, with the exception of the motel & trailer park. 88 loads of leaves were removed.

The Street Department requests a replacement dump truck, due to excessive wear and damages to the current truck. Two trucks were discussed a Chevy and a Ford. Both have the ability to fit the leaf box and salt spreader. Chevy would take 4-5 months on order. Ford would take approximately 2 months to be prepared from their current stock. It was also discussed as to the benefits of investing into a trailer style leaf Vacuum, but it would be problematic to deposit at the compost site. The Ford truck was deemed most appropriate for the Town's needs. Payment options and a possibility to finance with Pines Bank was discussed. Cathi motions to approve \$55,421.00 for the Ford Truck, seconded by Vicki, and carried 3-0.

A new style of flyer was suggested for future leaf pickups, as well as how leaves are picked up. There was discussion of creating a map pickup plan to be dispersed, and to pick up leaves by date range and town sections.

Rob will check on the ability to order new needed parts for the Leaf Vacuum.

### OLD BUSINESS

Bud is meeting with the Town Attorney in January and would like the new Building Commissioner, Phil, to join him.

Alan Murray is retiring as the Building Commissioner for the Town of Pines. Phil Orlando will replace Alan. Alan will assist Phil in getting started, and support him in his new position as Building Commissioner.

American Trash was supposed to visit the property of Mr. Skrebes on December 27, 2019. American Trash has only been responsive VIA text, as they have not responded to phone calls. After multiple verifications, American Trash has not shown up to the agreed meeting date. Alan will continue to attempt contact until January 1, 2020, the end of his term.

Dan Sullivan from NIPSCO has been contacted regarding the water accumulation on 2<sup>nd</sup> Place. Dan says he will look into it and be in contact. Alan will continue to try to contact Dan on this matter.

February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 1:00 P.M. is the next court date for the property at Rail Road Ave of Miroslav Kvolowski. The fines have not been paid and the property has not been cleaned. Vicki motions for Alan to attend and represent the town for this hearing, seconded by Cathi, and carried 3-0. Alan will be compensated for his time; he is to submit a time sheet to the Clerk Treasurer after completion.

M. Kvolowski has not yet turned in any paperwork or soil samples for the BZA meeting of January 2, 2020. He has until 12/30/2019 per the attorney to turn these in.

There was discussion of which 3 roads to next repave/repair by the Street Department. It was decided to repave Main, Birch, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of Ardendale. A motion was made by Cathi, seconded by Vicki, and carried 3-0.

There was a mention of deterioration of the alleyways. This will be reviewed and will see what can be done. Possible gravel fill, or some sort of fill to alleviate some issues in this area.

Rail Road Ave is discussed to be Chip & Sealed. The road is to be leveled, followed by a chip & seal, with widening at the East end. Cathi motions for chip and seal approval, seconded by Vicki, and carried 3-0. The county will be contacted by Bud regarding this.

### New Business

Two people will be leaving positions within the Town of Pines. Cathi Murray and Alan Murray will both be retiring as of December 31, 2019. Two new people will hopefully join. Shelby Mashburn running as Clerk Treasurer, via the elections office and Phil Orlando will be Building Commissioner, via Council approval. Cathi motions to appoint Phil as the Building Commissioner, seconded by Vicki, and carried 3-0.

### Public Comments

A request was made to have the Town of Pines site updated with the new members information. The page editor is currently out of town but will be notified of the needed changes.

### Claims

Cathi motions to pay the claims, seconded by Vicki, and carried 3-0.

*As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30.*



Bud Prast, President



Janice Lowe, Clerk Treasurer