

February 5, 2014

The regular meeting of the Town of Pines Town Council was called to order at 7:15 pm.

George Adey led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. In attendance were: George Adey, Vicki Kuzio, Cathi Murray, Alan Murray and Sandra Hall.

Cathi made a motion to accept the minutes from the last meeting and Vicki seconded the motion and the motion was voted on and passed 3-0. Cathi made a motion to suspend the order of business and Vicki seconded the motion and the motion was voted on and passed 3-0.

Election of Officers

Cathi made a motion to maintain current offices and Vicki seconded the motion and the motion was voted on and passed 3-0. George remains President of the Council, Cathi remains Vice-President of the Council and Vicki remains Council member in charge of streets.

Comprehensive Plan

Cathi made a motion to adopt resolution Number 2014-01 adopting the Comprehensive Plan for the Town of Pines and Vicki seconded the motion and the motion was voted on and passed 3-0. Sandra is to take the Comprehensive Plan to Porter and LaPorte County to be recorded.

Clerk-Treasurer

Pickart Insurance could not come this meeting due to weather and so Cathi made a motion to table insurance until the March 5, 2014 meeting and Vicki seconded the motion and the motion was voted on 3-0.

Building and Zoning Administrator

Alan issued tow permits this month. Alan is still trying to find the owner of the trailer park to address the two trailers that are an eyesore. Alan reported that the BZA denied the request by the owners of Blackhawk Motel for an extension on their hearing. They have withdrawn their petition. The property on Brown Road and Hwy 12 Alan is still trying to catch them home to address the scaffolding and the siding that is falling off the house. The owner of the old Carpet Cuts building, Mr. Mitchell, reported to the Council that he will not be renewing the lease to the man now occupying the building. He stated that he will make sure that the tenant complies with the Town codes. He will apply for a variance to allow the tenant to spend nights in the building to protect it from being vandalized or robbed.

Public Hearing

The petitioners for the public hearing to vacate the alley were not in attendance and did not submit any paper work on the petition therefore the public hearing will be continued at the next Council meeting on March 5, 2014.

Street Department

Furnace in the maintenance building went out and had to be replaced. Cathi made a motion to pay \$2,180.00 to replace furnace, Vicki seconded the motion and the motion was voted on and passed 3-0. The GMC truck is having major problems and Rob is going to take it in to have an estimate on how much it will cost to repair all the problems. If it is too much then the Town Council will need to consider purchasing a new truck. Case Tractor is also in need of major repairs. We are still having major problems with beavers. Vicki had some trappers look at the situation and it is estimated that we have 35-50 beavers and they mate yearly and have kits to every female each year. Some of these beavers are 25-50 pounds each and they can live up to 8 years old. Trappers are willing to go in and trap these beavers but want written permission from the Town Council. First, the Town has to find out if they will have to go onto private property and if so who owns that property. Second, the Town will have to talk to the private property owners and see if they will give written permission for the trappers to go onto their property to trap the beavers. And third, we would want our lawyer to write and

we would adopt a temporary agreement with the private property owners. George is first going to check with the County about their beaver program. Complaint about Maryland Street not being plowed, Maryland is not paved and there is a house sitting on part of the road way. Vicki will instruct Rob to clear away snow at the entrance to Maryland from Hwy 12 but not to plow the street.

New Business

None

Old Business

None

Public Comments

A complaint was made that the plow for RJ Imports was plowing the snow from their parking lot into the parking spaces for the Pines Park. Vicki reported that it has been addressed and that the snow has been moved from the parking spaces. Pines Lounge has been plowing their snow into the street and Vicki has already called them on this situation as well.

Cathi made a motion to pay the claims and Vicki seconded the motion and the motion was voted on and passed 3-0.

As there was no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm



Sandra L. Hall, Clerk-Treasurer



George Adey, Council President