

**March 5, 2014**

The regular meeting of the Town of Pines Town Council was called to order at 6:30 pm. George Adey led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. In attendance were: George Adey, Cathi Murray, Vicki Kuzio, Alan Murray and Sandra Hall. Cathi made a motion to accept the February 5, 2014 meeting minutes.

**Clerk-Treasurer**

Sandra had the Council to sign her renewed bond. Dave Pickart attended the meeting to explain the umbrella insurance. Cathi made a motion to up the auto insurance to One Million and the worker's Comp to 500,000 in each category and add the umbrella for one million dollar coverage. Vicki seconded the motion and the motion was voted on and passed 3-0. The Porter County Sheriff, David Lain, wrote the Town Council a letter that states because of budget problems the Council is going to have to look into hiring a Town Marshall or looking to contract with the Porter County Sheriff's Department in order to maintain police protection in the Town. Cathi is going to work on having the Porter County Sheriff here to do a workshop on this subject. Cathi made a motion to send a letter from American Tower to our Lawyer for review. This letter is in regards to our cell tower on Florida Ave.

**Building and Zoning Administrator**

Alan issued three permits during the month of February 2014. Culvert on Ardentale is complete except for the asphalt and they will come back in the warmer weather in the spring to complete this. They have put in a 4' concrete culvert. There is some damage to the roadway and Alan will talk to them about fixing this damage. Alan has left letters on the door at the trailer park office about the trailer without the siding, but has not gotten a response. Next step Alan will send a certified letter to the owner of the trailer park.

Same is happening with the house on the corner of Brown Rd and Highway 12. The owner of the old Carpet Cuts building want his tenant to have a variance to live in the building so many days a week to keep an eye on things. He has a meeting before the BZA on March 13, 2014. Mr. Corcoran has a representative and they called Alan about his property and getting a variance to allow it to be an apartment building and Alan explained the process to the representative and they have not gotten back with Alan yet. Alan received a call about the Duplex on Highway 12 and Idaho Street. The tenant is complaining of mold problems and Alan told him to call the Porter County Health Department.

**Street Department**

Vicki reported that Rob is keeping the truck and tractor going for now. Plowing has been done and pot hole patching has started. Vicki is going to contact the trappers about getting rid of the beavers. George will talk to the lawyer about an agreement being drawn up to allow the trappers on peoples properties.

**Old Business**

Cathi made a motion to continue the hearing for the vacation of alley way until the next meeting. Vicki seconded the motion and the motion was voted on and passed 3-0. There will be a Comprehensive Plan meeting on March 19, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. here at the Town Hall. The lawyer is handling the AECOM agreement concerning coming on to the Town of Pines Properties to do soil samplings.

**New Business**

None

**Public Comments**

A gentleman from the community asked about the beaver problem and reported that he looked it up and Indiana beaver pelts are not worth anything. Cathi said that since the trappers are willing to trap the beavers for free then we are going to try this first.

**Claims**

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 7:50 pm.

Sandra L. Hall  
Sandra L. Hall, Clerk-Treasurer

George Adey  
George Adey, Council Vice-President

