

## Town of Pines Meeting

### October 6, 2021

The regular meeting of the Town of Pines, Town Council, was called to order at 6:30 PM. This meeting was held as an open meeting with restrictions, meeting was shared virtually via ZOOM for residents who are unable to come to the Hall. The next meeting will be Wednesday, November 3, 2021, at 6:30 P.M. This will be a regular meeting located at the Town Hall, with restrictions. The COVID-19 Town Hall Meeting Restrictions are still in place until further notice; Masks must be worn in the Hall, Six (6) foot social distancing, and maximum occupancy of 20 people.

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

### MINUTES

The Minutes from the September 1, 2021, meeting was reviewed. A motion to accept the minutes was made to approve the minutes by Janice, seconded by Vicki. Janice voted to accept, Vicki voted to accept, James voted to accept. Carried 3-0.

### CLERK TREASURER

Shelby mentions the Adoption Meeting for Budget 2022 that was held today, October 6, 2021 at 6:00 PM at the Town Hall. 2022 Budget was passed with no further adjustments.

Shelby asks about ADA issues that need to be addressed as outlined in the ADA Guidance and Review done for the Town in 2020. The issue of the Microwave has been resolved. The next issue needed to be addressed is the window for the clerk's office measuring a max height of 36" needing addressed by the end of 2022. The refrigerator/freezer needs replaced with a lower freezer or a side by side for freezer access at a lower level by 2023. Lastly one of the 2 restrooms needs adjusted to allow for enough room between the sink and toilet. They can be labeled unisex if only one is remodeled. This needs done by 2025. Phil states he will reach out to contractors for bids for the window and bathroom. Janice and Shelby state they will work on finding a proper replacement fridge.

### FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Fire Department had 28 calls. There were 21 EMS assists, 3 accidents, 1 CO alarm, 1 natural gas leak, and 2 assists to other fire departments. They are preparing for Halloween with the rest of the Town.

## **STREET DEPARTMENT**

Vicki announces Trick or Treat will be on Halloween this year in the Pines. It will be held Sunday, October 31, 2021 from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM. She will reach out to Porter County Sherriff and Flyers will be mailed.

Vick states that a slide has been ordered from WillyGoat, but it is now delayed from the original delivery and installation estimation. It is now estimated to be arriving in early December. Vicki voiced concerns with the weather, and installation. Shelby asks her to recontact WillyGoat and find out what options there are for winter installation and what they can do as the date is well past what was agreed upon with the original purchase contract. Vicki will find out more information and get back to everyone.

Leaf pickup will start towards the end of October/Early November. Rob is waiting for Porter County to come address the Compost site so it can be used with our Fall Leaf pickup.

## **BUILDING AND ZONING**

There was a building permit at 1659 N 500 E for Debbie Hyndman for trim repair work.

There was a building permit at 3620 W Dunes Highway for Jeff Reboy for new roofing.

There was a building permit at 3901 W Dunes Highway for Virk Mart, with new windows, roof patching, and updating plumbing.

Phil asked council what they would like to do regarding Municode. He states that the Estimation for the reworking of the code book is approximately \$10,550. He asks council if this is acceptable with everything discussed and presented by Municode. Janice makes a motion to accept this proposal for Reworking the Code book, Vicki seconds. Janice votes yes, Vicki Votes yes, James votes yes. The motion is carried 3-0. It is decided to have a workshop for Council to being the process of organizing all current code matters for this process to begin. This workshop will be held October 19, 2021 at 5:00 PM.

Phil also brings up Jeff Burton's request for an alley Vacation. He owns all the surrounding lots to the alley, and the other portion of the alley is already closed. All paperwork and payments were complete and received. Janice makes a motion to accept this allyway closure, Vicki Seconds. Janice votes yes, Vicki votes yes, and James votes yes. The alley closure is passed 3-0.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

James talked about the status of Railroad Ave. He has reviewed the area with Matt from Abormache. Matt is going to be working with Porter County for assistance on the project. This project will hopefully be able to be organized with the Towns 2022 CCMG projects.

Shelby brings up the previously mentioned and approved repairs to alleyways. The alley from the Bank to Birch, from Ash to 520, and the alley from Louisiana to Ardendale. Vicki and Rob state she will reachout to get quotes from companies that can handle this in our area.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

No new Business

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Diane Lawrence asks about updating the zoning book. She also asks if it is possible to withhold any further building permits until the new Code Book is up to date. Phil states that he will check with the attorney, Shelby states she does not think this is okay or possible, due to the needs of people's possible repairs or improvements to their homes. And she reminds Council they cannot pick and choose permits.

Sharon Stich asks about a variance and about vacating an alley to build a garage. Phil tells her to meet with him after the meeting to go over paperwork.

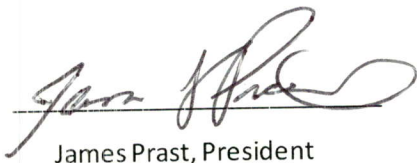
Rodney Burton voiced concerns over placement of vehicles and being told to move them back. He was told by James that it would be referred to the state as it is a state highway. Rodney is okay with this decision. Jason who is renting a property from Rodney also voiced concerns over the lighting provided by the state on the highway. Again, they were both referred to state with these issues.

Alex had questions for the Fire Department and regarding minutes. He was asked to speak to Rob about the Fire Department Records and to speak to Shelby after for minutes and BZA record. He agreed to meet with each after regarding his records.

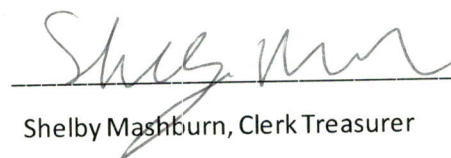
#### CLAIMS

Janice makes a motion to pay the claims, Vicki seconds the motion. Janice votes yes, Vicki Votes yes, James votes yes. Carried 3-0.

*As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 P.M*



James Prast, President



Shelby Mashburn, Clerk Treasurer