

Town of Pines Meeting

September 2, 2020

The regular meeting of the Town of Pines, Town Council, was called to order at 6:30 PM.

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

MINUTES

Motion to accept the minutes for the regular meeting held August 5, 2020 made by Vicki, carried 3-0.

Motion to accept the minutes for the Budget Meeting held August 25, 2020 made by Vicki, carried 3-0.

It was announced the next Budget Meeting will be Friday, September 4, 2020 at 6:30 P.M.

CLERK TREASURER

Clerk Treasurer has nothing new to report at this time.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Fire Department had 23 Calls.

4 Car accidents, 3 required helicopter. 14 EMS calls.

Porter County Burn Ordinance and where they adopted it was given to council, there have been 2 problems with people burning where they shouldn't in the county.

Received a \$2,000.00 grant from South Shore. Rob will also be checking with Mike about the Radios the Town will be purchasing.

STREET DEPARTMENT

Rob is keeping on top of mowing and working to trim trees to finish up the season.

Rob has gotten all the trees and bushes trimmed near signage to ensure everything is visible.

Rob has checked the park for bees again and treated any possible holes and removed old nests.

Rob is working with county to have compost site ready for leaf pickup. They had to add water and treat the compost to prepare it.

BUILDING AND ZONING

Permit for foundation repair for George Adey on Dunes Highway.

There was a fencer permit for Joe Mackey at 3140 West Dunes Highway.

A letter was sent to Mary and Jose Patino regarding their Storage trailer that they have not moved. This is their second notice and they have not gotten back to Phil.

Alex was issued a Stop Order at 2872 2nd Place for no permit on fence installation. His permit will be issued tonight after Phil completed research on the matter.

There was also a no permit violation at 1620 Columbia Street for Megan McGuire regarding foundation repair she is having done. She is working with the contractor to get the permit and certificate of Liability to the Town.

Dave Newman sent a letter to the Town letting everyone know that he is working with a buyer who will be purchasing the property in the immediate future and it will be a retail or commercial facility

OLD BUSINESS

James met with Haley & Aldridge regarding the water issue at the end of 2nd Place. He also met with a blacktop specialist who reviewed multiple roads. It is being considered to add in drainage or the best way to handle the situation before winter to try and prevent ice buildup.

Vicki spoke to Porter County Sheriffs regarding the speeding issues of the side streets being used instead of 520. They have not gotten back to her yet. She has ordered signage to slow down. She is working on a solution continually.

NEW BUSINESS

The Budget Meeting will be held Friday September 4, 2020 at 6:30.

Vicki asked if there are to be any changes on the fall flyers. Vicki will check with towns in the area regarding Halloween. This will be discussed at the next meeting. She will meet with Tammy regarding any suggested safety ideas.

PUBLIC COMMENT

A Property owner states a complaint of the traffic that speeds down County Line Road. This gentleman is in Michigan City/ Porter County. James states that we will reach out to the proper officials about this and presenting the issue.

Alex at 2872 2nd Place brings up that he has an issue with the Fire Department and a fire that he had burning in a grill for cooking. He was burning a combination of clean wood and charcoal. Rob stated that the flames were 3 to 4 feet high and visible to from the road.

1664 Rail Road Ave Gentleman asks a question regarding building a 6 foot fence between his home and the Rail Road to block train noise as the traffic from the trains has become more heavy and frequent. It is disruptive to his home. James states that the trains are due to the South Shore making changes and it will be there for a while. James states that they will speak with him and look at the issue to try and work out a solution with him that will work for him.

Kent Verhage asked regarding the political signs on Birch Street. James states that there is nothing we can do as a Town to make them remove it as it is a political sign put up by the home owner and is a freedom of speech no matter the language.

A question was raised about the holes on Rail Road Ave. James says they will look into the holes and see what can be done.

CLAIMS

Vicki makes a motion to pay the claims. Approved 3-0.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:12 P.M

James Prast, President

Shelby Mashburn, Clerk Treasurer