

**September 7, 2011**

The Town of Pines Town Council held the annual Budget hearing here at the Town Hall at 1519 Delaware Street at 6:00 pm. Sandra went over the budget fund by fund and the budget was all that was discussed. The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

**September 7, 2011**

The regular meeting of the Town of Pines Town Council was called to order at 6:30 p.m. Cathi led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. In attendance were: Cathi Murray, Vicki Kuzio, George Adey, Alan Murray and Sandra Hall.

George made a motion to accept August meeting minutes and Vicki seconded the motion and the motion was voted on and passed 3-0.

**Clerk-Treasurer**

Sandra posted the funds received.

**Building and Zoning Administrator**

Alan issued 1 permit and sent out 2 letters. Pumps on 12 has been deteriorating over these past months that it has been closed. The buildings are being broken into, things have been stolen and the grass has not been mowed. PNC bank has sent this to their property management department for them to review and take care of. Council has asked Alan to have the attorney send them a letter and along with the letter an estimate of the cost for us to board up the buildings and to mow the grass.

Second issue has to do with the property that Mr. Roger Bodine is to be working on. Mr. Bodine was in the meeting and he has, since the last meeting, cleaned more up. He has mowed the grass and cleaned up the front yard. He is working on the sides and Alan says that it looks great. Mr. Bodine said that he will continue to work on it as money permits and when he has days off.

Culvert on Ardendale – Council will have the attorney review the drawings of the water line and see what he says about how the culvert was not put back the way it was before they put the water line in. Then have the attorney send a letter to D&M and the EPA that the Town may take legal action if this culvert is not repaired correctly. Alan will talk to the Attorney.

The landscape was put in today and they said that we would need to water the new plants daily.

Hamstra Builders, Inc. would like \$500.00 to fill in the drain for the mop sink, but since it is not our fault that the mop sink is unusable the Council would like someone from Hamstra to come to the next meeting and explain why we should be responsible to pay for this. Alan also received a quote from Hamstra on the new Picnic shelter. Marv Guenther will give us a second quote on the picnic shelter.

**Street Department**

On 1519 Maine Street Mr. Richard Gray would like trees removed, so Dan will go out and determine if they are the Town's trees. A camera was purchased for Railroad Ave, for under the bridge, and will be up within the next two weeks. The tree on Walnut is being removed and should be finished today. The culvert on Ardendale was cleaned out and is flowing. The culvert by the Pines Church was cleaned out and lined with clay and it is now flowing. The sides of Hickory street were fixed where it was crumbling. Vicki took pictures at Mrs. Ahern's house and the flooding but the pictures didn't do justice to the amount of damage that is really there. Nipsco finally fixed the light under the bridge

on Railroad Ave. Brush pickup is going well. State was contacted about mowing along US Highway 12 and 20 and they have since come out and have mowed there. George asked about the signs for a neighborhood crime watch and Vicki will check with the Sheriff's Department. There is a large hole on Ardendale just before you get to Highway 20 on the West side of the street. Vicki will have the men check on this and fix it.

**Old Business**

We have been accepted in the FEMA National Flood Protection. Sandra is to order 30 new chairs for the Town Hall meeting room. George is going to contact Loreli Weimer about our Tag Line. Another Town is using the one that was assigned to us so we are looking into a new one, like, "Eastern Gateway to the Dunes".

**New Business**

Sandra gave George Adey the extra key to the Lock Box at the Porter Bank Pines office. In that lock box the extra master key to the New Town Hall will be kept. George talked to Joe Donnelly about our water situation and Mr. Donnelly will look into the Town's problem with the contamination to the homes that did not get City water.

George would like the Town to have a dedication and open house for the new Town Hall. Tentative date would be Saturday, October 15, 2011. Maybe open the ceremony at noon and have hotdogs, chips, cake and kool-aid.

Sandra asked if we could have someone clean the New Town Hall. She said that her daughter would be able to, but it does not have to be her daughter. George made a motion to hire someone to clean the Town Hall for \$30.00 each time the clean. It is to be cleaned before any meeting or event. Vicki seconded the motion and the motion was voted on and passed 3-0. Sandra's daughter will do the cleaning and if anyone else is interested then they can take turns.

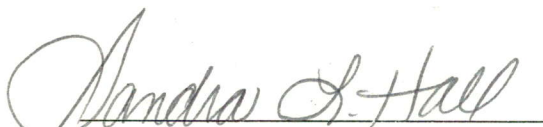
**Public Comments**

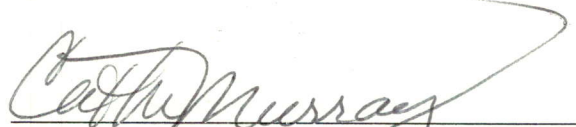
Johnny Morton had a question about what the zoning is in the town? He said that Porter County does not have a record showing the different zonings within the Town of Pines. They show the zoning all the same in the Town of Pines.

Mr. Eric Geckler asked to have the zoning changed from R-2 to R-1 on a property on Florida Ave, so that a single dwelling house could be built. He was advised that he would have to meet with the Town of Pines BZA for a variance. He asked for a meeting date and one will be set up as soon as the members can be reached.

George 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 p.m.

  
Sandra L. Hall, Clerk-Treasurer

  
Cathi Murray, Council President