

TOWN OF PINES COUNCIL MEETING

December 5, 2018

The regular meeting of the Town of Pines Council was called to order at 6:30 pm. Cathi led in the Pledge of Allegiance. In attendance were Vicki Kuzio, Cathy Murray, Alan Murray, James Prast and Janice Lowe. James noted an error in the November minutes to be changed. Cathi made a motion to accept November minutes. Vicki seconded the motion. The motion was passed 3-0.

CLERK TREASURER

Budget received approval by the State for 2019. Janice provided the board with a copy of a letter received from Porter Bank informing town that the interest rate would be increased to .50% in the Money Market Account.

Cathy made motion to add Attorney David Newman to the agenda to speak next. Motion was seconded by Vicki and carried 3-0. Atty. Newman was representing David Newman Sr. and the Estate of Walt Newman in regard of the property on Hwy 12 and Hwy 520. A engineer had inspected the property but a report was not available yet. Bud voiced concern about further damage and the possibility of collapse thru the winter. Discussion about the eye sore for the town and the negative effect of property value due to the condition of the building. Attorney Newman has agreed to provide the board with results of the engineer report and a timeline for the building.

BUILDING AND ZONING

1 permit issued for property on Hickory St for rehab.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

3 calls for October and 4 for November. Contract was presented with no changes for 2019. Tammy Watkins ask the council to approve payment for gear for 2 new firefighters, it was approved for \$5000.00 with Cathi making motion seconded by Vicki and carried 3-0.

STREET DEPARTMENT

The street dept has been working on breaking up beaver dams to help lower the water level in the town, Vicki has talked to INDOT in regard to the blockage on the south side of Hwy 20. Porter Co did have a drone go over the area for information. The leaf machine needs to be stored inside for the winter to prevent damage. A report of a tree being taken care of on Connecticut St. The slide that is down at Pines Park can't be taken care of until Spring. There is a tree thats needs be taken down on County Line Rd, Rob will take care of that.

Vicki talked about the street dept employees needing a raise, they had not received a raise in several years. After a discussion Cathi made motion to approve raise Vicki seconded the motion, approved 3-0. Employees will receive a dollar an hour raise.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion in regard to changing Security Co for the town hall. Alan has received bids and Martin Security is the best fit for the town, Jan will contact Martin Security to see what the next step is and after system is changed to Martin the current provider will be cancelled.

Alan has been communicating with the atty in regard to the problem property on Colorado Ave and progress has been made. Attorney advised Alan to not issue any more citations to property owner while this court matter is going on.

Unable to contact Motel owner at 1630 Maple St regarding broken sign, will continue to try.

NEW BUSINESS

Date was set for December 28, 2018 for end of year meeting. Notices will be posted in town and on web site with meeting information.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Fireman thanked the council for their assistance in purchasing new gear for fire dept.

Resident mentioned Pines Church allowed fireman to use building for roof training and a card should be sent to show our appreciation. Jan will send card to church.

Newly elected Pine Twp Trustee, Tammy Watkins, thanked everyone that supported her and shared some of her goals for the office

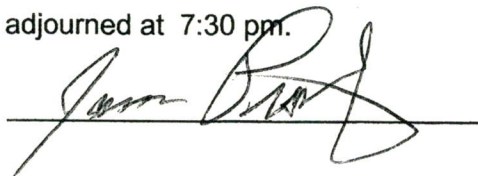
CLAIMS

The claims for the month of November were approved with a motion by Cathi and seconded by Vicki. Voted on and passed 3-0.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.



Janice Lowe, Clerk-Treasurer



James Prast, Council president