

Town of Pines Meeting

March 3, 2021

The regular meeting of the Town of Pines, Town Council, was called to order at 6:30 PM. This meeting was held virtually via ZOOM. Until further notice the Town Meetings will be held virtually. The next meeting will be Wednesday, April 7, 2021 at 6:30 P.M. This will be held virtually.

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

MINUTES

James requests a correction in New Business due to no statement of vote for COVID Meeting Guidelines. This had not been voted on in February, it will be addressed today. Janice also requests a update for the Newspaper name which is The Herald Dispatch. Shelby corrected this change immediately. The Minutes from the February 3, 2021 meeting were reviewed with the correction. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Janice, seconded by Vicki. Carried 3-0.

CLERK TREASURER

Shelby requests an administrative meeting to review any issues with the new computers being used, and to update everyone with Microsoft Programs. This meeting will be strictly for technology questions. This meeting will be Wednesday March 10th at 5:00 PM.

The website is up and running. The last 10 Years of Minutes are posted to the site.

The Clerks office is waiting to hear back from Kurt Ott about the Town having a Debit card for Purchases so the town. Once an answer is given, Shelby will share this.

The Annual Financial Report is completed. It was running in the NWI Times and The Herald Dispatch on Wednesday March 7, 2021.

Shelby asks what should be done regarding deposits for Park Rentals that is not reclaimed after multiple attempts. An updated Park Rental Form is presented to address this issue for future references. She suggests that the unclaimed funds be donated to the Town of Pines Parks. Janice makes a motion to accept this solution, Vicki seconds. Motion carried 3-0.

Shelby also requested a change to Rule 4 to include other equipment such as bounce houses, slip and slides, etc. for safety and liability reasons. Janice makes a motion to accept the updates to the Park Form, Vicki Seconds. Motion carried 3-0.

James asks about a woman named Amy contacting the town regarding developing the lakeshore. Shelby is not sure what he's referring to. He states he will get back with more information.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

The fire department had 24 calls last month.

STREET DEPARTMENT

There has been a lot of plowing for snow. He had to replace a light on top of the truck due to a branch while plowing on Railroad Ave. Everything else has been good.

BUILDING AND ZONING

Pete Imperato at 699 Railroad Ave received a permit for a fence.

Sargent & Lundy will be starting the double track project. They will be replacing electric lines and putting in new gas pipes.

The BZA will be meeting at 6:00 PM tomorrow for Alex Firov at 2872 2nd Place for a variance to agriculture. There will be no public comment at this meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

The regulations for any Public Meetings Held at the Town Hall need to be voted on. They are as follows: Maximum of 20 people total in the building, ALL masks must be worn to enter and be within the building, and a 6-foot social distancing is to be adhered to. Janice makes a motion to accept these guidelines, Vicki seconds. Motion carried 3-0.

James spoke to Matt about filing the cracks and resealing. He expects to have an answer mid-March regarding this.

James asks if NIPSCO paid for the Drywell, they sent the Town the check. Shelby has paid Reith Riley now that NIPSCO has paid the Town. This Drywell will still be reviewed in the spring due to the divot it leaves.

James mentions the discussion of the continuation of Connecticut for residential ease of access and emergency access. He will bring this situation up with Reith Riley when he speaks with them next.

NEW BUSINESS

Reminder there is a BZA Meeting being held on March 4, 2021 at 6:00 P.M.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Diane Lawrence comments that the BZA meeting is at 6:30 PM, not 6:00 PM. She is informed that no, the meeting is at 6:00 as that is what Shelby was told and what had been posted. This cannot be changed with such short notice.

1550 Illinois, Tom Brand comments asking for information on the lot near Burton's. James informs him this is owned by the South Shore and is being used as storage while they do their double track project.

2872 2nd Place, Alex asks how people will be involved at the BZA meeting if there is no Public Comment. James explains that he is presenting his proposition, this is not the hearing in which people comment and a decision is made or discussed. That is what would take place at the 2nd meeting to be held. Public Comments can be sent into the Clerk Treasurer by Email, Mail, or Phone. This must be presented 3 days prior to meeting to Clerk's office.

CLAIMS

Vicki makes a motion to pay the claims, Janice seconds the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:16 P.M

James Prast, President

Shelby Mashburn, Clerk Treasurer