

**POKEGAMA TOWNSHIP
APPROVED REGULAR BOARD
MEETING MINUTES JUNE 8TH, 2023**

Chairman Terry Peterson called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and the Pledge Allegiance was said. Supervisors who were present was Dave Deutschlander, Dean Swenson, Wayne Whited, Also, who were present was Administrative Clerk Christy Belsheim, Zoning Administrator Gordon Johnson. Not present Supervisor Jason Zastera, Treasurer Darla Hall.

AGENDA

Dave Deutschlander **motioned** Wayne Whited seconded to approve the agenda as written. All in favor motion carried.

APPROVE MINUTES

- A. Wayne Whited **motioned** Terry Peterson seconded to approve the May 11th, 2023 Regular Board Meeting Minutes as written. All in favor motion carried
- B. Dave Deutschlander **motioned** Terry Peterson seconded to approve the May 22nd, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes as written. All in favor motioned carried

PAYROLL

Wayne Whited **motioned** Dean Swenson seconded to approve check #14058 through check #14076 Includes PERA, IRS, MN Revenue for a total \$ 17,541.77. All in favor motion carried

SEWER

Dave Deutschlander **motioned** Terry Peterson seconded to approve check #3512 through check #3515 and check #3517 through check #3518 and ECE EFT \$2,198.00 for a total of \$10,723.11. All in favor motioned carried. Dave Deutschlander **motioned** Wayne Whited seconded to approve check #3516 for \$13,199.70 Dave Deutschlander yes, Dean Swenson yes, Wayne Whited yes. Terry Peterson abstains due to conflict of interest. Motion carried.

TOWNSHIP

Terry Peterson **motioned** Dean Swenson seconded to approve check #14077 through check # 14094, Viastat \$175.74 and Verizon \$162.65 for a total of \$108,115.24. All in favor motion carried

TREASURER

Treasurer Darla Hall was not present Administrative Clerk Christy Belsheim read off the ending balances in each account General \$28,925.11, Road & Bridge \$157,742.40, Covid \$140,823.55, Equipment \$15,403.90, Zoning \$24,992.45, Fire \$ 95,141.05 Shop \$49,631.86. Ending balance \$512,660.32. The clerk explained we should be getting the levy check sometime this month. There was a discussion on the COVID money and what it should be used for. The Board of Supervisors decided it should be used for the Audrey Gayle sewer extension and for the shop addition. The

clerk will have the resolution at the next board meeting. Terry Peterson **motioned** Dave Deutschlander seconded to accept the treasurer report as given. All in favor motion carried.

BUILDING

We are still waiting for the spec list.

CLERK- None

ZONING - None

ROADS

- A. The Board of Supervisor looked over the petition we received from our attorney Mike Couri. After, a short discussion they would like it to change we will cover maintenance on the road and they would like the price to be on the petition. The map attached to the petition there was a parcel left off the attorney will need to add that parcel to the map. Administrative Clerk Christy Belsheim will contact the attorney. A public meeting was set for June 28th, 2023 at 6:00 pm the clerk will send out letters to the landowners.
- B. Clerk Belsheim updated the board on the Fema Flood relieve she stated the information was submitted we are waiting to hear back from them.
- C. Envirotech will be dust coating on June 19th, 2023 and Supervisor Dean Swenson will ride with.
- D. Clerk Belsheim stated she had a few inquires on culverts but only received one bid. The only bid was from Jones Construction for \$39,900.00. Dave Deutschlander **motioned** Dean Swenson to accept Jones Construction estimate for culverts for \$39,900.00. Wayne Whited yes, Dean Swenson yes, Dave Deutschlander yes, Terry Peterson abstains due to conflict of interest. Motion carried.

FIRE/ANNEXATION

A short discussion on the fire district was had. The next steps are to pass a grant study resolution in support of submitting the grant study to the Department of Public Safety and The State Fire Marshall's Office. The Board of Supervisors decided that Terry Peterson and Wayne Whited will continue to attend the fire district meetings. Terry Peterson **motioned** Dave Deutschlander seconded to accept Resolution 2023-7 A Resolution in Support for the City of Pine City, Pine City Township, Pokegama Township, Chegwatana Township, City of Rock Creek, and Royalton Township to submit a grant application for the service Planning Program. All in favor motion carried.

SEWER

- A. Sewer Supervisor Dean Swenson mentioned everything with the sewer is good.
- B. Administrative Clerk Christy Belsheim stated we needed to do our yearly update on our sewer user fees resolutions for the Floppie Crappie Lakeside Pub and Lake Appeil. She

explained the rates did not change we just need to update annually. Terry Peterson **motioned** Dean Swenson seconded to accept Resolution 2023-5 Lake Appeal Sewer Usage Fees and 2023-6 Floppie Crappie Lakeside Pub Sewer Usage Fees. All in favor motion carried.

- C. Sewer Access Charges – Chairman Terry Peterson explained the Sewer Committee had a very long meeting on the sewer access charges. The Committee has recommended to the Board of Supervisors that we do not charge a sewer access charge for both of the RV parks extensions. The Board of Supervisor had a moderate discussion on the Sewer Committees recommendation on if we should charge a sewer access charge. The reason for not charging a sewer access charge is they have already paid sewer access charge, paid for their own piping in the ground and they are just expanding. Peterson explained this is what the sewer committee recommended and he wants them to be more involved. Supervisor Dave Deutschlander feels like there should be sewer access charge and does not agree with not charging one. Wayne Whited **motioned** Dean Swenson seconded to accept the Sewer Committees recommendation of no sewer access charge for Pokegama Shores RV Park and Pokegama Lake RV and Mobile Home Park as long as the user fees are current and inspections are done. Terry Peterson yes, Wayne Whited yes, Dean Swenson yes, Dave Deutschlander No. Motion carried. Next, the sewer access charge for the Woods Farm Development there was a moderate discussion on the sewer access charge Dave Deutschlander feels the developer should not have to pay the full \$8,400 due to the fact that he paid for the sewer line in the development. The decision was made to wait for now. Chairman Terry Peterson stated he had contacted the League of MN Cities and the Rural Water Association. He would like to hire someone different to look at our SAC because we are not getting anything from our current engineer. So far, the only information we have received from the current engineer was a short memo with very little information. The developer of the Woods Farm submitted a letter to the Town Board prior to the meeting stating he is hoping that an agreement between him and the township can be made to avoid litigation. (See attached letter). The Board of Supervisors wants to wait for a closed meeting with the developer until we can get some information ourselves for the meeting. Zoning Administrator Gordon Johnson mentioned he had sent the developer a letter stating he had 30 days to pay his SAC and if they were not paid, they would be certified. The Board of Supervisors gave permission to extend that another 60 days. Administrative Clerk Christy Belsheim inquired about the Ordinance that was just passed in the special meeting. If she has to still record it or wait until we know for sure on what the SAC will be. She stated there was really not much difference between Ordinance 2023-1 and Ordinance 2015-1. The decision made was to not record it at this time. The clerk asked for a motion to void the check written to Pine County Recorder. Terry Peterson **motioned** Wayne Whited seconded to void check # 14092 for \$92.00 to Pine County Recorder. All in favor motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Terry Peterson **motioned** Dave Deutschlander seconded to approve the off sale and Sunday liquor license for Beroun Crossing Store. All in favor motion carried.
- B. Dave Deutschlander **motioned** Wayne Whited seconded to approve Off sale and Sunday license for Red’s Liquor Box. All in favor motion carried.
- C. Dean Swenson **motioned** Terry Peterson seconded to approve on/off sale and Sunday license for Wing’s North. All in favor motion carried.
- D. Dave Deutschlander **motioned** Terry Peterson seconded to deny on/off sale and Sunday liquor license for Floppie Crappie Lakeside Pub due to sewer user fees are not current. All in favor motion carried.
- E. Terry Peterson **motioned** Dean Swenson seconded to approve on/off sale and Sunday license for Lake Appeil. All in favor motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS – None

AGENDA REQUEST – None

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was public comment on the Audrey Gayle sewer extension. They asked when the extension was going to be put in, and if they need to hire someone to run the pipe from the house to the main line. It was explained to them that the extension will be put in soon, and yes, they do need to hire a contractor to hook up to the main line and abandon the old system. It was also mentioned to the property owner there is a low interest loan available through Pine County. The property owner also stated they need a drive way culvert placed.


CORRESPONDENCE - None

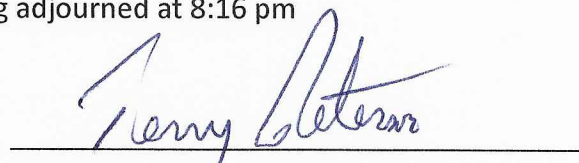
REMINDERS

- A. Clean Up Day Saturday June 10th, 2023 8:00 am – Noon
- B. Planning Commission Meeting June 19th, canceled due to holiday
- C. Fire District Meeting at Pine City Township June 21st, 2024 at 7:00 pm
- D. Regular Board Meeting Thursday July 13th, 2023 at 7:00 pm

ADJOURN

Terry Peterson **motioned** Dave Deutschlander seconded to adjourn the June 8th, 2023 Regular Board Meeting. All in favor motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:16 pm


 Christy Belsheim
 Administrative Clerk


 Terry Peterson
 Chairman

To Whom It Concerns,

I would like this letter included as part of the public record and added to the minutes of the meeting (6/8/23), to be approved at the next board meeting. I have not heard a response from the township in regards to my attorney's letter dated 2/13/23. The only response received from the township was from township staff indicating that an engineering firm is currently doing another cost-of-service study similar to the one performed in 2015.

The approach and tone of this letter changed over the course of this week as I was informed that the township would try to schedule a special/closed meeting for the week of June 19th, 2023 to discuss our differences. The initial letter was a letter from myself informing the township, the sewer committee, and individuals of our intent to litigate and the special grievances/issues we would be litigating.

We are putting all of that on hold at the moment in hopes that our differences can be negotiated in a more appropriate closed meeting with the township and its staff. I do think this is the best route for all involved, and that putting the expensive costs of litigation aside is a smart thing for both the township and our business. I sincerely hope we can come to a resolution in our meetings.

Jacob Kruse



30 Kings Shores AV Resort LLC

Landmaster Holdings LLC 6/8/23

612-518-4042