



FOWLER VILLAGE COUNCIL

President
 Vernon J. Thelen
 President Pro-Tem
 Mike Porter
 Trustees
 Codi Schrauben
 Brad Rhynard
 Dan Schmitt
 Rick Fink
 Melissa Humphrey

Treasurer
 John C. Rademacher
 Clerk
 Rhonda Feldpausch
 DPW Employees
 Vern Feldpausch
 Brad Smith

DATE: DECEMBER 13, 2022

The Fowler Village Council met Tuesday, December 13, 2022 at 7:00 PM with President Vernon J. Thelen presiding.

ROLL CALL

Roll was called and a quorum reported.
 Present: Brad Rhynard, Rick Fink, Mike Porter, Dan Schmitt, John Rademacher, Melissa Humphrey, Codi Schrauben, and Rhonda Feldpausch. Absent: None.

VILLAGE PERSONNEL

Vern Feldpausch.

VISITORS

None.

AGENDA

BOARD ACTION: Trustee Fink moved, supported by Trustee Porter, to approve the agenda presented. Motion carried.

MINUTES

BOARD ACTION: Trustee Humphrey moved, supported by Trustee Rhynard, to approve the minutes of the November 8, 2022 regular meeting as presented. Motion carried.

BILLS

BOARD ACTION: Trustee Porter moved, supported by Trustee Rhynard, to approve payment of \$71,895.54 from the General Fund, \$1,295.75 from the Local Street Fund, \$22,355.59 from the Sanitary Sewer O & M Fund, and \$2,250.81 from the Water O & M Fund. Motion carried.

ZONING PERMITS

None.

CLINTON COUNTY SHERIFF

Sgt. Scott Clark – Clinton County Sheriff Department called make the community aware of catalytic converter thefts.

COMMITTEE REPORT

BOARD ACTION: Trustee Fink moved, supported by Trustee Humphrey, to enter into closed session to discuss personnel issues. Motion carried. 7:20 PM

BOARD ACTION: Trustee Schrauben moved, supported by Trustee Rhynard, to end the closed session. Motion carried. 8:06 PM

BOARD ACTION: Trustee Rhynard moved, supported by Schmitt, to increase Vern Feldpausch's annual wages from \$67,168.28 to \$69,855.01; Brad Smith's annual wages from \$57,734.27 to \$60,043.64; Rhonda Feldpausch's annual wages from \$50,867.39 to 52,902.09; John Rademacher's annual wages from \$6,300.00 to \$6,552.00, Vern Thelen's annual wages from \$3,600.00 to \$3,744.00. Vern Feldpausch, Rhonda Feldpausch and Brad Smith will receive a 457 company match of up to \$750.00. DPW employees will received double time for hours worked on holidays. Vern Feldpausch, Brad Smith, and Rhonda Feldpausch will receive a \$500.00 bonus and a \$100.00 bonus will be paid to Mike Koenigsknecht – Crossing Guard and Napoleon Watts – Summer Help. Motion carried.

TREASURER REPORT

BOARD ACTION: Trustee Fink moved, supported by Trustee Porter, to accept the Treasurer’s report. Motion carried.

PLANNING COMMISSION

December meeting canceled due to lack of business. The next meeting will take place January 10, 2023 at 4:45 PM.

DPW REPORT

Vern Feldpausch reported on the following topics:

- GPS valves and water boxes
- Lagoon valve installation on hold until spring
- Meter replacements and reading
- Camera installation
- Countertop installation at wellhouse
- Update computer files and year end statistics
- Year end inventory restock
- 2023 budget work

PERSONNEL POLICIES

Personnel Committee is working towards creating procedures for employee reviews. The goal is to ensure competitive wages and compensation packages. The efforts will benefit current and future employees.

PROPERTY SALE

John Rademacher will continue to work towards the sale of village property located downtown.

MEDICAL INSURANCE

Brad Smith’s stepdaughter will be added to the village medical insurance policy.

PA 152 RESOLUTION

BOARD ACTION: Trustee Fink moved, supported by Trustee Porter to adopt RES#2022-04 which reads as follows:

A RESOLUTION TO EXEMPT THE VILLAGE FROM THE REQUIREMENTS OF PUBLIC ACT 152 FOR THE NEXT SUCCEEDING YEAR

WHEREAS Public Act 152 of 2011, passed by the legislature and signed into law by the governor, was designed to lessen the burden of employee health care costs on public employers; and

WHEREAS, communities are given four options for complying with the requirements of Act 152, depending on the impact of the Act on the employees of each community; and

WHEREAS, the four options available to the village are:

- 1) apply the hard cap (capped dollar amount each government employer may pay towards an employee’s health care costs;
- 2) adopt by majority vote the 80%-20% cost-sharing model;
- 3) elect not to follow the act;
- 4) opt out of (exempt itself from) the cost-sharing model as set forth in the act and revisit it prior to the next plan year.

WHEREAS, the Village Council has decided to exempt itself from the requirements of the act for the current year; and

WHEREAS, the Village Council recognizes that such exemption requires a 2/3 majority vote of the Village Council;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Village Council for Village of Fowler hereby exempts itself from the requirements of Public Act 152 of 2011 for the calendar year beginning January 1, 2023;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Village Council for the Village of Fowler acknowledges its responsibility to revisit its options and responsibility under Public Act 152 of 2011 in one year.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Schrauben, Rhynard, Schmitt, Porter, V. Thelen, Fink and Humphrey.

Nays: None

Motion carried.

DAVE POHL – CLINTON COUNTY
COMMISSIONER

Dave Pohl – Clinton County Commissioner provided the following information:

- An employment agreement has been approved for John Fuentes for the administrator position subject to successful background check and standard pre-employment requirements.
- LEAP provided an update of the American Rescue Plan Act funds regarding business assistance activity.
- Clinton County Road Commission project on track.
- The board of Commissioners signed a buy/sell agreement for 7575 Pratt Rd. The \$868,000 price includes a parking area, beach grading and an emergency access path around a portion of the water feature.
- The county will share the cost of updating the land use plan for MSU property along Wright Rd. South of Grand River and I-96 with Eagle Township following an inquiry regarding business development.
- Possible vertical expansion of a solid waste cell between Grand River and I-96.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

10 MINUTE OPEN DISCUSSION

- Tree lighting
- 2023 Budget

ADJOURNMENT

BOARD ACTION: Trustee Rhynard moved, supported by Trustee Porter, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:56 PM.

Rhonda Feldpausch, Village Clerk