



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

## FOWLER VILLAGE COUNCIL

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

DATE: DECEMBER 10, 2024

The Fowler Village Council met Tuesday, December 10, 2024 at 7:00 PM with President Vernon J. Thelen presiding.

ROLL CALL

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

VILLAGE PERSONNEL

Vern Feldpausch.

VISITORS

Dave Pohl – Clinton County Commissioner.

AGENDA

**BOARD ACTION:** Trustee Rhynard moved, supported by Trustee Humphrey, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

MINUTES

**BOARD ACTION:** Trustee Humphrey moved, supported by Trustee Rhynard, to approve the minutes of the November 12, 2024 regular meeting as presented. Motion carried.

BILLS

**BOARD ACTION:** Trustee Fink moved, supported by Trustee Rhynard, to approve payment of \$31,505.21 from the General Fund, \$789.81 from the Major Street Fund, \$789.81 from the Local Street Fund, \$4,985.82 from the Sanitary Sewer O & M Fund, and \$1,029.63 from the Water O & M Fund. Motion carried.

ZONING PERMITS

**BOARD ACTION:** Trustee Fink moved, supported by Trustee Schmitt, to approve zoning permit #AB2024-06 submitted by Ken and Kathy Farley and #AB2024-07 submitted by Brad Rhynard. Motion carried.

CLINTON COUNTY SHERIFF

No one present.

COMMITTEE REPORT

The Payroll Committee met with employees. A wage comparison report compiled by a Village of Lyons representative was provided to council. The committee shared the cost-of-living rate of 3.2% and employee request for 6-7% wage increase for 2025. Further discussions will follow.

TREASURER REPORT

**BOARD ACTION:** Trustee Fink moved, supported by Trustee Rhynard, to accept the Treasurer's report. Motion carried.

Year to date financial reports were made available to the Council.

PLANNING COMMISSION

No report.

DPW REPORT

Vern Feldpausch, DPW Supervisor reported on the following items:

- Meter maintenance and replacements
- Meter reads
- Wash and wax all equipment

SPEED INDICATOR SIGNS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clean shop</li> </ul> <p>The request from Alison Bremer, 631 S Main St., regarding the purchase of speed indicator signs was discussed and council indicated that this is a budget issue so a final decision will be made during the 2025 budget planning meeting at the end of December.</p>
PA 152 RESOLUTION	<p><b><u>BOARD ACTION:</u></b> Trustee Fink moved, supported by Trustee Schmitt, to adopt Resolution #2024-04; a resolution to exempt the village from the requirement of PA 152 for the next succeeding year which reads as follows:</p> <p>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</p> <p>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</p> <p>WHEREAS, the four options available to the village are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) apply the hard cap (capped dollar amount each government employer may pay towards an employee's health care costs;</li> <li>2) adopt by majority vote the 80%-20% cost-sharing model;</li> <li>3) elect not to follow the act;</li> <li>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.</li> </ol> <p>WHEREAS, the Village Council has decided to exempt itself from the requirements of the act for the subsequent year; and</p> <p>WHEREAS, the Village Council recognizes that such exemption requires a 2/3 majority vote of the Village Council;</p> <p>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, 2025;</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Roll Call Vote: Schrauben – Aye, Rhynard – Aye, Schmitt – Aye, Porter – Aye, V. Thelen – Aye, Fink – Aye, Humphrey – Aye. Motion carried.</p>
BS&A INTEGRATED PAYMENTS	<p><b><u>BOARD ACTION:</u></b> Trustee Humphrey moved, supported by Trustee Rhynard, to approve the BS&amp;A Integrated Payment Addendum to the current BS&amp;A contract. Motion carried.</p>
MEDICAL INSURANCE RENEWAL	<p><b><u>BOARD ACTION:</u></b> Trustee Fink moved, supported by Trustee Porter, to continue with current medical insurance coverage for 2025. Motion carried.</p>
CLINTON COUNTY SHERIFF CONTRACT	<p><b><u>BOARD ACTION:</u></b> Trustee Fink moved, supported by Trustee Porter to approve the contract with Clinton County Sheriff Department for additional police services. Motion carried.</p>
MERS CONTRIBUTION	<p><b><u>BOARD ACTION:</u></b> Trustee Fink moved, supported by Trustee Rhynard, to make a \$30,000.00 voluntary contribution to MERS. Motion carried.</p>
DAVE POHL – CLINTON COUNTY COMMISSIONER	<p>Dave Pohl – Clinton County Commissioner sent correspondence outlining the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clinton County Road Commission report indicated the pension and the retiree health care plan are both in good financial condition. The 2024 road projects are all completed.</li> <li>• A Countywide culvert assessment will be conducted in the near future.</li> <li>• Projects being funded with state earmark funds; Dewitt Road M-21 to Kinley 2025 construction, Chandler Road Bath Township 2026, and Airport Road in Dewitt Township 2025-2026.</li> </ul>

- The County BOC authorized the updated Integration Agreements Part I and II with the Michigan Public Safety Communications System. These are our 911 agreements we have with the MPSCS.
- The County approved the Five-Year Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan. This plan includes development of the Clinton Trails Park on Pratt Road as well as enhancements at Motz Park and Clinton Lakes Park. A plan must be in place to apply for Natural Resources Trust Fund grants for projects.
- Also, a Twenty-Year Parks and Green Space Master Plan was adopted. Approved elected official salaries. Those being the Sheriff, Clerk, Treasurer, Drain Commissioner and Prosecutor. These are based on information from comparable counties.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

10 MINUTE OPEN DISCUSSION

- Tree lighting success

ADJOURNMENT

**BOARD ACTION:** Trustee Schrauben, supported by Trustee Schmitt, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.

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Rhonda Feldpausch, Village Clerk