

**VILLAGE OF PELLSTON**  
**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES of JANUARY 8, 2024**

Regular meeting called to order at 7:00pm.

**Location:** Village Hall

**Council Present:** Jim Gillett (President), Steve Hall (Pro Tem President), Kayla Schlappi  
Jane Ann Rose & Eric Ward

**Council Absent:** Mark Givens & Carolina Mallory

**Officials/Staff Present:** Randy Bricker (Fire Chief), Art Massey (DPW Supervisor) & Rebecca O'Neil  
(Clerk)

**Officials/Staff Absent:** Brenda Blakemore (Treasurer)

**Minutes:**

Motion was made by Jane Ann Rose, seconded by Eric Ward approve the minutes of December 11, 2023 meeting as amended.

Yay 5, Nay 0, Motion carried.

**Opening Comments/Agenda Items:** Mr. Gillett and the Council thanked/awarded a plaque  
To Kevin Hessel for his 44 years of service to the Village and wished him well in his retirement.

**New Business:** Mr. Gillett stated that the proposed AT&T cell tower at Pioneer Park has been in the  
works for over two years and noted the current deed restriction (recreational use only) is blocking the  
progress. Mr. Gillett stated that AT&T has placed a pause on all tower construction projects at this time.  
Mr. Gillett reviewed the options that were presented to him by Erin Evashevski (Village attorney).

Motion was made by Eric Ward, seconded by Steve Hall to proceed in removing the deed restriction on  
the property known as Pioneer Park.

Yay 5, Nay 0, Motion carried.

Mr. Gillett stated that the Village will not renew the \$3,500 contract with Drost Landscaping this year as  
Mr. Massey and staff can do the work in-house.

Motion was made by Kayla Schlappi, seconded by Jane Ann Rose to allow Andrea Jacobs from Housing  
North to proceed with an application for a \$40,000 Housing Readiness Incentives grant on behalf of the  
Village.

Yay 5, Nay 0, Motion carried.

**Bills for Approval:** Motion was made by Jane Ann Rose, seconded by Eric Ward to approve the bills of  
\$23,713.78

Yay 5, Nay 0, Motion Carried

**Committee Reports:**

**Fire:** Mr. Bricker introduced Chris Rybinski, Assistant Fire Chief along with his wife Pam Rybinski. Mr.  
Rybinski reviewed the year to date EMS runs (292) and year to date fire runs (78) by township. Mr.  
Rybinski also reviewed staff training hours and staff time spent on calls/runs. Mrs. Rybinski reviewed

her grant writing experience and noted she would be helping the Fire Department/Village apply for a FEMA grant and others as well.

OEO: Mr. Bricker stated cars on the road in the way for plowing is currently the biggest issue.

Zoning: Mr. Bricker stated that the PC has adopted a new fee schedule that is more in-line with other communities.

Motion was made by Jane Ann Rose, seconded by Steve Hall to approve/adopt the revised Planning & Zoning Fee Schedule.

Yay 5, Nay 0, Motion carried

Planning Commission: Mr. Gillett stated that the PC discussed the Housing Readiness Incentive grant and the revised Mater Plan that is under progress with a new staff member.

Museum/Historical Society: None

Maintenance: Mr. Massey stated that Doyle Roofing has finished the new roof on the high school concession stand at the baseball field and that Wayne's Electric is finishing up the electrical work.

Recreation: None

DDA: Mr. Gillett stated that the DDA discussed the PFAS issue, approved a \$10,000 contribution towards the new plow truck and will transfer \$3,000 to the Fire Fund annually.

Beautification: None

Website: None

**Correspondence:** None

**Old Business:** None

**Public Comment:** None

**Adjournment:**

Motion was made Steve Hall seconded by Eric Ward to adjourn the meeting at 7:44pm.

Yay 5, Nay 0, Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted by:  
Rebecca O'Neil, Clerk