

**Point Marion Borough Council Regular Meeting
Minutes
November 25, 2024**

Council meeting was opened with a moment of silence and Pledge of Allegiance by President Joseph Corcoran.

Members present: Jack Stewart via conference call, Jim Cottrell, Mitch Cottrell, Joseph Corcoran, Bob Goodwin, Carl Ables and Doug Sholtis.

Absent: Billie Jo Nicklow, Officer Wilson, Anthony Jordan

Others present: Helmet Binder, Wendy Cottrell, Kimberly Cougar, Renee Tucker, Harley King.

Roll call was taken by the Secretary and quorum was established.

Minutes of the November 11, 2024 meeting were presented and a motion was made by Mitch Cottrell, seconded by Bob Goodwin to accept the minutes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Home on Keiser Avenue – people are living there. Officer went and cleared the home, but we are being told that John Butcher is letting someone sublease. There is no water there. Council will involve Officer Wilson.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Report of bills coming due in December were provided, as well as the bank account balances. Bills currently being paid were provided. A motion was made by Jim Cottrell, seconded by Mitch Cottrell to pay bills. Motion carried.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Big K hearing has been moved to another date. Letter was sent to Mr. Shriver as well as a phone call that the borough is not responsible for the sewage that came into their home.

Serving papers has been attempted with the Blosser home, and the mail has always come back. Doug has talked to the owner as well as the borough's attempt. He will file an affidavit before the holidays.

One Call situation solved itself.

Possibility of consolidating the members of council to 5. There must be 5% of the population of the borough to sign a petition to go to 7 to 5. The Court of Common Pleas and it goes on the ballot after the petition is signed. Council to decide.

Need to complete the Hazard Mitigation information. Needs to get in as soon as possible. Email from Mallory Oswald is requesting a new judge. No hearing scheduled at this time.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

To discuss things we can talk about in Executive Session.

CODE OFFICER'S REPORT:

In court last week with Butcher and Carly Ponceroff. She did not show up for the hearing. Mark talked about procedures on what should occur when water is terminated at homes. John Butcher is not permitted to sub lease the home that was brought up from the public.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Administrative/Water/Sewer: None.

Infrastructure: Daily operations overall: cleaned out ditch on Sadler Street; took truck for inspection and oil change; handled PA 1 Call marking. Salt ordered and delivered for the plows and trucks. Heater is at

the pump station. People are turning their water on after being terminated. There are two we are pursuing as such for fines. Amount of water we are producing has been cut in half due to fixing the leaks and new pipes.

Public Safety: None.

Park: Wendy noted that Vitalink will be at the park to mark for telephone poles needed to put in the new camera system. Camera system is free for the first 5 years, then the cost will be \$10 per camera. There are currently 8. Santa in the Park is December 7th. Horse and buggy will be there for rides and will also ride through the town before coming to the park.

Unfinished Business:

Number of Council seats.

Raising taxes: A motion was made by Jack Stewart and seconded by Mitch Cottrell for Doug Sholtis to prepare two resolutions – one to raise taxes, and the other not to raise taxes. Three council members voted yeah, and two voted nay. Motion carried to create two resolutions.

New Business:

Signing of the Resolution for the Pump Station Grant for \$91,000.00 more. At the council of the Borough of Point Marion is hereby enter into resolution for \$91,611.00. A motion was made by Mitch Cottrell and seconded by James Cottrell. Motion carried.

Hiring new union employee: Motion to hire Drew Huval, full time street utility operator pending background check, drug test and union contract. 1 Bob 2 Mitch. Motion carried.

Budget Proposal: Motion to adopt the tentative budget. Motion to advertise budget. Motion by James Cottrell, seconded by Mitch Cottrell. Motion carried.

Raising Taxes: A motion was made by Jack Stewart and seconded by Mitch Cottrell for Doug Sholtis to prepare two resolutions – one to raise taxes, and the other not to raise taxes. Three council members voted yeah, and two voted nay. Motion carried to create two resolutions.

Car repairs: Motion to have repairs on police car, not to exceed \$770.00. Motion by Bob Goodwin, seconded by James Cottrell. Motion carried.

Police: Motion to hire two part time officers depending on finances, and passage of all background and drug tests, to include contract. Motion by Bob Goodwin, seconded by Mitch Cottrell. Motion carried.

Announcements:

None.

A motion was made by Mitch Cottrell and seconded by Bob Goodwin to enter into Executive Session. Motion carried. 7:25pm

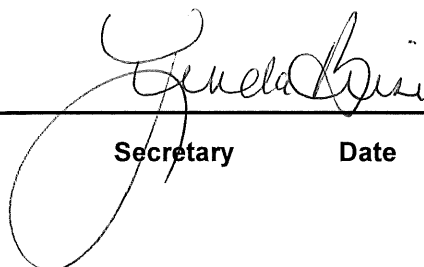
A motion was made by Bob Goodwin and seconded by James Cottrell to enter into regular session. Motion carried. 8:37pm

A motion was made by Bob Goodwin and seconded by James Cottrell for the meeting to be adjourned. Motion carried. 8:44pm.

President

Secretary

Date

 *General Goodwin* 11:10:25