

VILLAGE OF PELLSTON
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES of NOVEMBER 10, 2025

Location: Village Hall

Time: 7:00pm

Council Present: Jim Gillett (President), Steve Hall (Pro Tem President), Mark Givens, Jackie Pierce & Jane Ann Rose

Council Absent: Kayla Schlappi & Eric Ward

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

DDA Public Hearing

Public Hearing for the DDA Plan opened at 6:30pm and with no comments closed at 6:55pm.

Minutes:

Motion was made by Steve Hall, seconded by Jane Ann Rose to approve the minutes of October 13, 2025, meeting as submitted.

Yay 5, Nay 0, Motion carried.

New Business:

Motion was made by Steve Hall, seconded by Jackie Pierce to accept resignations as offered from Memory Massey (DDA), Larry Smith (DDA), Diane Kowalski-Smith (DDA) & Pam Rybinski (Fire Department).

Yay 5, Nay 0, Motion carried.

Motion was made by Jane Ann Rose, seconded by Steve Hall to adopt ordinance #59 to approve and adopt a new DDA plan for the Pellston Downtown Development District.

Yay 5, Nay 0, Motion carried.

Mr. Gillett reviewed a grant award for \$145,325 from MDOT/FY 2026 Transportation Economic Development Fund (TEDF) Category B for Mill Street and Edgard Blvd. Mr. Gillett noted that this a 50% grant match and that funds will come from major street, local street & general fund.

Bills for Approval: Motion was made by Jane Ann Rose, seconded by Mark Givens to approve the bills for \$90,604.98.

Yay 5, Nay 0, Motion carried.

Public Comment: John Eby expressed concern for the Village regarding the Emmet County Master Plan and the suggested dumping locations. Mr. Gillett invited Mr. Eby to attend the Planning Commission meeting on December 1st.

Jim & Julie Bolter expressed concerns regarding the accuracy and verification of the voting cards for the water system. Mr. Bolter noted it may be a conflict of interest if OHM receives and tallies the votes as they have potential to make a huge amount of money on this system. Mr. Gillett stated that the cards are mailed back to the Village and that OHM is tallying the QR code votes. Mr. Gillett stated that the cards are for a "show of interest" that requires 51% approval to receive the grants and start the design. Mrs. O'Neil noted that there will be an actual contract for each owner when it comes to hook up time.

Committee Reports:

Fire: Mr. Bricker stated that there have been 437 Fire/EMS runs to date. Mr. Bricker reviewed concerns regarding the resignation of Pam Rybinski and the grant projects she was working on as well as requested final payment.

Motion was made by Jackie Pierce, seconded by Jane Ann Rose to authorize the Village attorney to send a letter to Mrs. Rybinski requesting a detailed cost breakdown of her final invoice.

Yay 5, Nay 0, Motion carried

Motion was made by Jane Ann Rose, seconded by Jackie Pierce to approve \$900 for a new copier for the Fire Department for ESO required documents.

Yay 5, Nay 0, Motion carried

QEO: Mr. Bricker stated current issues include motor homes & campers in alleyways and trees to be cut.

Zoning/PC: Mr. Gillett stated that the PC attended the water meeting at the Hall and that no action was taken. Mr. Bricker stated that permits have been submitted for storage, shed & a solar panel.

Historical: Mr. Gillett stated that the Wenger Foundation will be donating \$5,000 to the museum for historical activities for children.

Maintenance: Mr. Massey stated that the first roads/streets plow in the new truck went well. Mr. Massey stated that Johansen's Tree Service will have the road/street tree removal work done by the week of the 17th.

Recreation: None

DDA: Dr Gillette stated that there was no DDA meeting and no action taken. Dr Gillette stated that the next step is to work on a new TIF plan before a new DDA committee can be formed and estimated a 3-6 month timeline.

Beautification: Mr. Massey stated that the holiday decorations will go up the week before Thanksgiving. Mr. Massey stated that Shosanna Williamson(11 years old) raised funds for suicide awareness benches located at Veterans Memorial & Pellston Public Schools.

Website: None

Adjournment: Motion was made by Jackie Pierce seconded by Jane Ann Rose to adjourn the meeting at 8:09pm.

Yay 5, Nay 0, Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Rebecca O'Neil, Clerk