

## **Regular Monthly Meeting**

Wednesday, August 14, 2024

## **Attendees:**

Erica Reif (President), Lynn Polega (Vice President), Erica Kish (Treasurer), Logan Richmond (Assistant Secretary), Terry Brown, Betty Brunni, Marcie Chandler, Matt Gotham, Shelly Gunden, Esther Hill, Kami House, Lori Kemp, Lorraine LePage, Mike LePage, Ginny Machowicz, Sheila McBride, Mike Pobanz, Amanda Scott, Linda Walsh

- 1. **Call to Order:** President Erica Reif called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m.
- 2. Village Report: Village President, Mike LePage spoke on behalf of the Village of Pigeon. LePage reported that Farmer's Summerfest was overall very successful and apologized about the late notice on changing the location of the tractor show. It was noted that the newly-paved Municipal Parking Lot will be off-limits for the tractor show going forward. The Event Center and Veteran's Memorial Park will soon be paved. He also reminded us all to be mindful on social media and to be open-minded to adding and removing activities to the festival line-up. After the question was raised, LePage said the Village owns the grass lot at the end of James Street and that it is available to be used for the festival. After being questioned, he also verified that the dragway can be used for full size pulls.
- 3. **Treasurer's Report:** No report presented. Treasurer Erica Kish presented the following bills: \$90 Minted (queen float signs), \$74 USPS (p.o. box), \$6 Pigeon Hardware (float repairs). Lori Kemp motioned to approve payment of the bills, seconded by Lynn Polega. Motion passed.
- 4. **Minutes:** Meeting minutes from the July 10, 2024 meeting were passed out prior to the meeting and were looked over momentarily. Lori Kemp motioned to accept the minutes as presented, seconded by Matt Gotham. Motion carried.

## 5. Unfinished Business:

- a. **Farmer's Market:** All is continuing to run smoothly. As temps rise, some vendors are not showing up. There were some complaints about the time and location of the market during the festival. October 18th is the only open date for a food truck. Kami House and Erica Reif will work on the 2025 schedule soon.
- b. **Social Media Sharing:** Erica Reif reminded those present to share Chamber posts and events to their personal Facebook pages as well as to invite Facebook friends to these events. Invites to events have garnered 10x more responses than shares. Shared posts have received 3x more views than the original Chamber post.
- c. **Casino Night:** 250 tickets and 100 thank-you's have been ordered from VistaPrint for \$109.67. Tickets will be sold in Chamber businesses for the first week then will be available online afterwards.

## 6. New Business:

- a. Farmer's Summerfest: Roundtable discussion was had among those present about the tension between the officers and the festival committee. Submitted comments and suggestions were also discussed.
  - i. Terry Brown motioned for a yearly financial report to be submitted by the Farmer's Summerfest Committee to Nietzke & Faupel, PC and the Chamber in December (this report will be included with the Chamber's annual report) and for a summary report after the festival, seconded by Amanda Scott. Motion passed.
  - ii. Erica Reif presented the need for a separate Facebook page for the Farmer's Summerfest, so that shared posts promoting Chamber members are not lost in the algorithm. Amanda Scott motioned the creation of a second page for the Farmer's Summerfest, seconded by Lynn Polega. Motion passed.
  - iii. Comments were noted from the public that the new Chamber volunteer shirts helped those in need.
  - iv. It was noted that bands for 2026 should be booked as soon as possible, as many are booking further out in advance than in years prior.
- b. **Information Booth:** A great response was received from festival attendees on the information and event schedule signs.
  - i. Some confusion was had among morning attendees on where they could purchase tickets for the Lions Club Beef Raffle, as the Lions tent was not up until later afternoon. It was suggested that the Beef Raffle tickets also be sold from the Information Booth. This would allow us and the Lions Club to share volunteers.
  - ii. Two fans were in the Info Booth this year. It was noted to find an improved method of cooling in case of extreme heat next year.
  - iii. Location of the booth was discussed. It was agreed that it should be placed in a more convenient location with the event signs and window both visible.
- 7: **DPW Report:** Mike Pobanz gave a report on the Pigeon DPW's role in the Farmer's Summerfest. Pobanz noted that the DPW does the following: makes sure the park and surrounding area look nice, get bleachers from Caseville (if needed), place trash cans around the park, hang sponsorship banners, set-up/tear down of tent, coordinate power etc. for food trucks, place traffic control barriers (where needed) for the parade, clean up and sweep main streets, and place picnic tables where desired.
- 8. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 1:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Logan Richmond, Assistant Secretary