

VILLAGE OF WESTPHALIA
COUNCIL MEETING
January 2, 2023

The meeting of the Westphalia Village Council was called to order by President Tim Fandel at 7:05 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance given to the flag.

Council Members in Attendance:

Tim Fandel, President	Steve Miller, Member	Tanner Droste, Member
David Boswell, Clerk	Bill Schmitt, Member	Kevin Krzeminski, Member
Phil Smith, Member	Jim Pivarnik, Member	

Guests:

Robert Hafner, resident
Eric Hafner

Minutes & Agenda: Member Krzeminski made the motion, supported by Member Smith to approve the agenda and the minutes of the December 5, 2022 regular meeting. Motion carried.

Appointments: There were no appointments.

Guests:

Resident Robert Hafner and Eric Hafner were in attendance to discuss the Village's zoning requirements for accessory buildings. A suggestion was made that the Village would consider allowing more diversity of building materials used for the exterior of accessory buildings than is currently allowed by the Village's Zoning Ordinance.

The Hafners presented reasonable evidence that the Village should consider expanding the list of allowable materials and/or designs for the exterior of accessory buildings to allow accessory buildings that take advantage of modern, cost effective materials and that do not detract from the value of surrounding structures or properties. After much discussion the subject was tabled to allow the Village to research the matter, have discussions with legal counsel and make decisions on allowing (or not allowing) alternative materials.

Water:

Discussions were had regarding next steps in the water system/water main upgrade project. Tentative start dates for construction were discussed. The water main upgrade project will require some disruption to street accessibility and typical traffic patterns. Discussion was had regarding how to minimize the impact on local residents and businesses.

A resolution was passed by the Council to appoint the Village Clerk as the Authorized Representative to interact with the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE) with respect to the water system/water main upgrade project.

Sewer: No new business.

Financial: Expenditures made during the previous month were presented and reviewed. A motion to approve all invoices was made by Member Schmitt, supported by Member Smith. Motion carried.

Building & Zoning:

Application for Plot Plan Approval #23-001 for an accessory building at 315 N. Chestnut Street was presented.
Application for Plot Plan Approval #23-002 for an accessory building at 314 Windward Drive was presented.
The decision was made to suspend the decision on approval of these applications pending a decision by the Village on changes to the provision of it's Zoning Ordinance as it relates to accessory buildings.

Streets: No new business.

Community Service: No new business.

Planning Commission:

At recent meetings, the Planning Commission has spent considerable time reviewing the provisions of the Zoning Ordinance and has presented recommendations to the Village Council. At the January 2, 2023 meeting of the Planning Commission, guests Robert Hafner and Eric Hafner were in attendance to discuss provisions of the Zoning Ordinance relative to accessory buildings. The Planning Commission made recommendation to the Council to consider modifying provisions of the Zoning Ordinance to allow alternative materials to be used on the exterior of accessory buildings.

The Planning Commission is currently addressing additional items, including:

- The possibility of a new sign at Droste Park
- Enhancements to the facebook page for the Village's Cruise-In
- Zoning issues, as requested by Village Council
- Additional recreational opportunities/facilities within the Village

Next Planning Commission meeting will be on Monday, February 6, 2023, at 6:00p.m.

Parks and Recreation: No new business.

DPW:

In consideration of the upcoming retirement of the DPW Supervisor the Village will have an open position in the DPW. The open position will be posted in accordance with job posting for Equal Opportunity Employers. "The Village of Westphalia is an equal opportunity employer. It is the Village's policy not to discriminate against any applicant for employment, or any employee because of age, color, sex, disability, national origin, race, religion, or veteran status."

Please see below for additional information regarding the open DPW position.

Administrative Issues: No new business.

Next Council Meeting:

- Regular Meeting: Monday, February 6, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

Adjournment: Motion made by Member Smith, supported by Member Droste. Motion carried.

DPW position opening:

The Village of Westphalia currently has a position open for:

"DPW Equipment Operator/Laborer"

A posting of:

- the Essential Job Functions,
- the Required Knowledge, Skills, Abilities, and Minimum Qualifications, and
- the Physical Demands and Work Environment

is posted at the Village Hall, located at 200 North Willow Street, Westphalia MI 48894.

Resumes may be submitted at the Village Hall (during regular business hours) or emailed to village@westphaliami.com

The Village of Westphalia is an equal opportunity employer. It is the Village's policy not to discriminate against any applicant for employment, or any employee because of age, color, sex, disability, national origin, race, religion, or veteran status.