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## VILLAGE OF PEPIN BOARD MEETING

Village of Pepin Municipal Building  
Tuesday March 12, 2024, at 7:00pm

### Minutes-

1. **Call Meeting to Order-** Randy called the meeting to order at 7:00PM
2. **Roll Call-**Randy Kallstrom, Toni Raethke, Mike Michaud, Vicki Kosok, Pat Sandstrom, Shannon Van Allen were Present. Carrie Arens was absent. Others present were Julie Wheeler, Tracy Rundquist, Jon Seifert, and Jesse Van Alstine.
3. **Public Comments-** Jeremy Marcks expressed wanting to have "Pepin Days" and asked what he needs to do to be able to have the event. The idea for the event would be to bring back the fireman's fishing contest, with bingo and beer and chicken by the Lions club, and a band in the evening. The tentative date for this event is August 10<sup>th</sup>. There was discussion about the need for permits, event insurance, and to get put on the agenda for approval.  
Shannon VanAllen asked to speak. She expressed that she wants the public to know that she was unaware of the "Meet the Candidate" event that took place at the school last week. She was not invited, not asked, and did not receive a flier in the mail. She knew nothing about it. That is why she was not in attendance. By the time she heard about it she was already out of town for the evening.  
Pat Sandstrom mentioned a 5-year anniversary event that the Tin Roof was thinking about having and if there were any potential issues with the location on the property that they would be hosting the event. They did not think there would be any issues.
4. **Clerk's Report-** Approval of 02.12.2024 minutes. Pat Made a **motion** to approve the February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024, minutes. **Second** by Toni. All ayes, motion approved.
5. **Treasurer's Report-** Approval of Treasurer's Report. The **Motion** was made by Shannon to approve the treasurer's report as presented. **Second** by Vicki. All ayes, motion approved.
6. **Police Report-** The report was provided in the packet. No questions for Jesse. Jesse gave a reminder to the public with spring approaching, he has already received some nuisance complaints. Time to remove junk cars, junk in general from your yards/property. Also, the second solar crosswalk signs will be installed soon.
7. **Ambulance Report-**No one available for the ambulance service. Reports were provided in the packet. After 23 years Tracey Seifert stepped down as the ambulance treasurer. Randy extended a big thank you to Tracey for her dedication and service as ambulance treasurer.
8. **Fire Department Report-**Chief Dustin Gold was present via zoom. No changes to membership currently. One possible applicant. Dustin mentioned some equipment issues with the air compressor but have now been fixed. They purchased some LED

traffic control signs to increase visibility for firefighters on scene control duty. Dustin went over some of the recent calls. The fire department completed ice rescue training and the 2% fire Dept. dues self-certification.

9. **Attorney's Report**-This month Jon had discussions with the village president regarding the LIW Days circumstance and drafted a resolution for the board to discuss. Discussions regarding the Pepin area community club/ Pepin area chamber of commerce and how that has evolved and what that means as far as the village is concerned. It is an ongoing process. Also, discussions with the village president and members of the committee regarding the Marina Lease negotiations and that circumstance.
10. **Zoning Administrator**-Jeff was not in attendance. His report was included in the packet.
11. **Variance Request**-Discussion/Action on a variance request for a car port submitted by Linda Newman. Mike Michaud spoke on behalf of the planning commission. This is a Health hardship variance request. The planning commission met regarding this on January 16th and decided to recommend the board approve the variance with some conditions. The conversation was opened for discussion. There was no discussion. Mike made a **motion** to approve a temporary variance for a carport at 210 fourth street to be in the twenty-foot setback area based on a hardship/health disability. It would be a temporary structure located in the position located on the records and the variance would last for as long as the residence is occupied by the applicant and would extend to no more than six months beyond the residents exiting the property or until the property is sold. Whichever comes first. **Second** by Pat. 5 ayes. Randy Abstained. Motion approved.
12. **Laura Ingalls Wilder Days**-Discussion/Action on resolution for the dissolution and rescindment of authority of the Laura Ingalls Wilder Days committee. Jon Seifert explained what/and why this resolution is needed. As a result of some deep research by Deb Fisher, at some point in time the Laura Days Committee believed it was affiliated with the village as an official committee. It's true that at least some boards at some point in time also thought they were an official committee. But there was never any official action taken by the board to make it such. Being a committee brings along with it oversight by the village board, and appointment of members through a different process than Laura Days has been doing for many years. Also, that would require oversight of the finances which the village board had never done. It was kind of a confusing circumstance that probably got off on the wrong foot without really figuring out what exactly the Laura Days Committee really was. Was it going to be a village committee? Was it going to be a private organization supported by the village? So, the resolution is to rescind any perceived authority that the village of Pepin may have bestowed upon the Laura Ingalls Wilder days committee and make sure that it is absolutely clear that it is **not** an official committee of the Village of Pepin which would require specific formation and auditing requirements the members of the LIW days Committee do not want. They would rather be a private organization supported by the village. Randy made a **motion** to approve and sign the resolution. **Second** by Toni. All Ayes motion approved.
13. **Ordinance Committee**-Update on new alcohol laws. Act 73 Alcohol license changes were passed in December of 2023. Mike said that these changes are going to be quite a challenge for the village. The changes will require the village to take a look at

their authority over the operation of these types of changes and how that may affect the need to recreate the ordinances. The village will also lose some control over some things. It will take some time to figure this all out.

14. **Public Comment-** Jeremy Marcks asked on behalf of some of the VRBO's (short-term rentals) that he is managing/maintaining for owners. Who is in charge of handling them or inspecting them? The process was started under the former zoning administrator. Being this is a fairly new process the village is still working out the structure of it all. But the answer is, the village board is in charge. If you have questions, call the office.

Pat Sandstrom spoke on behalf of the Pepin Peppies. The group will be sponsoring an Easter egg hunt in the park on Mach 30<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am.

15. **Set Next meeting date.** Next meeting will be Monday April 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM.

16. **Adjourn** – Motion was made by Shannon to adjourn. Second by Toni. All ayes, meeting adjourned at 7:40PM.

Julie Wheeler-Village Clerk

**ZOOM MEETING**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87299415324>

**Meeting ID: 88299415324**

Or call:312-626-6799