

MINUTES

PALESTINE VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

August, 2013

The Palestine Board of Trustees met on August 1, 2013, at 6:00 PM. Trustees answering the roll call were Gene Purcell, J.R. Dunlap, Greta Dennison, and Ricky Stork. Larry Surrells and J.D. Kimberlin were absent.

Staff Members present: Police Chief Jeffrey Besing; Kathy Clark, DPW Superintendent; Margaret Littlejohn, Utility Clerk, and Shirley Adams, Village Clerk.

Visitors present: George and Tina Murphy, Brett Callaway, Steve Stork, Mark Wilson, Chris Forde (WTYE) and Tom Osborne (Robinson Daily News).

The meeting began with all present reciting the Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes were taken by the Village Clerk.

The Minutes of July 11, 2013, were accepted as presented.

OLD BUSINESS:

1) Update on purchase of real estate for new business. The purchase of the Daugherty property, located on North Washington Street, has been finalized. The Village has great hopes that a Dollar General will be located there; however, a Phase II soil analysis on the property must pass before they will commit.

2) Wagoner proposal on burning issues. The Trustees were given the proposal last month for their review. Gene Purcell made a motion that we do not change anything on the existing burning Ordinance. Greta Dennison seconded motion. Gene Purcell, Ricky Stork and Greta Dennison voted yea and J.R. Dunlap voted nay. Motion carried.

3) Approve Draft for amending Traffic Chapter 41.17 & 41.19 Riding on Sidewalks & Use of coasters, roller skates and similar devices. It was suggested that we amend this Ordinance to allow children/residents to ride on any sidewalks in Palestine, except on Main Street, beginning at Franklin Street, South to Lamotte Street. Gene Purcell moved to approve the Draft, amending 41.17E. Ricky Stork seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

4) Approve Draft for amending Streets Chapter 5:19. The Draft amends the language for limitations on use of alleys. Alleys are to be used for property owners as access to their property and shall not be used as a thoroughfare by motorists. J.R. Dunlap moved to approve the Draft amending 5:19 of the Ordinance. Greta Dennison seconded motion. Motion passed unanimously.

5) Update on Perrine Property. Mayor Schofield has been in contact with the people that purchased the trailer. It would cost the Village \$1,020.42 plus expenses and interest to purchase it. The Trustees voiced concerns over any legality we might face; therefore, the consensus was to contact our attorney for his advice on how to proceed.

6) Update on apartment complex on Pike St. Blvd. Mayor Schofield sent a letter to the owner concerning the condition of the property, requesting a reply within 10 days. We've received no reply as of this date.

NEW BUSINESS:

1) Discussion & Approval of Village Ordinance to support Smokers Law-Public Health – 410LCSs82, Smoke Free Illinois Act. A resident complained to a Village Trustee about people smoking in private clubs. We were advised by our attorney that we cannot enforce the smoking law unless the Village has an ordinance in place. which we do not have at present. Steve Stork said they have tried to stop the smoking in AmVets and folks have left, creating lost business. Brett Callaway, owner of the Saratoga, said it will cause him to close his doors. Mark Wilson said people join the Eagles knowing they allow smoking. . He feels they would also have to close their doors if smoking is prohibited. Chief Besing stated that this type of ordinance would be very difficult to enforce. After further discussion, Gene Purcell made a motion that the Village not support the smoking law. Motion was seconded by Greta Dennison. Motion passed unanimously.

2) Discussion & approval of Good Energy – Resolution for the Supply Agreement-Electrical. Our current agreement expires May 31, 2014. Rates are expected to rise in the future and by approving the new agreement with Good Energy before the current agreement expires, we expect to get the lower rates. Greta Dennison made a motion to approve the Resolution for the Electrical Supply Agreement. Gene Purcell seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

DPW REPORT: Kathy Clark, Superintendent. The DPW have done a lot of work preparing for Labor Day. Kathy wanted to thank Fred McNair for donating paint for the barricades. They are going to purchase a used boat and trolling motor for \$150.00, to be used at the lagoon. Steve Mitchell is going to remove the concrete on our property on North Washington St. (formerly Daugherty's).

POLICE REPORT: Chief of Police, Jeffrey Besing. Police report was distributed. We have a raw sewage problem on East Franklin. The owners have been given 30 days to get it cleaned up and the problem corrected. A 4-wheeler was stolen but it has been recovered; it was found in the Wabash River. Chief Besing said he has been appointed to the 911 Board and the Crawford County Crime Stoppers Board.

PIONEER ROOM – JULY – GENE PURCELL

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Budget Committee: Shirley Adams, Chairman. Our Police Dept. has received \$3382 in revenue in the last three months.

Bldg Regulations, Permits, Maintenance: Harry Gene Purcell, Chairman.

Employee Relations Committee: Greta Dennison, Chairman.

FOIA Officers: Shirley Adams, Chairman. Greta Dennison, Secondary.

Ordinance Committee:

Streets, Sidewalks, Alleys Committee: Larry Surrells, Chairman.

Sewer/Lagoon Committee: Larry Surrells, Chairman.

Other Business:

George Murphy addressed the board requesting his store at Gordon Junction be annexed into the Village. He would like to be able to sell alcohol. He said he would appreciate any help he could get and he would like to keep the taxes in Palestine. The Trustees were agreeable; however, our attorney says it would be very costly and difficult as there would need to be contiguous properties from the Village to his store.

With no further business to discuss, Gene Purcell moved to adjourn. Ricky Stork seconded motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM.

MAYOR

CLERK