

## MINUTES

### PALESTINE VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

August 2, 2012

The Palestine Board of Trustees met on August 2, 2012, at 6:00 PM. Trustees answering the roll call were Gene Purcell, J.R. Dunlap, Greta Dennison, Larry Miller and Larry Surrells. J.D. Kimberlin was absent.

Other Staff Members present: Police Chief Jim Clark; Margaret Littlejohn, Utility Clerk and Shirley Adams, Village Clerk.

Visitors present: Javier Barrios, Mr. & Mrs. James Houston, George Harrison, Judy Adams, Debbie Goodwin, Elwood Riggins, Tom Osborne (Robinson Daily News), and Chris Forde (WTYE).

Meeting called to order by Mayor Patricia Schofield.

The meeting began with all present reciting the Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes were taken by the Village Clerk.

The Minutes of July 5, 2012, were accepted as presented.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

1) Update of Matteson property-205 S. Rush St. The Trustees received a copy of a letter from Mr. Matteson. Mayor Schofield questioned the Trustees on the accuracy of his letter (complaints). It was the consensus of the Trustees that no matter how Mr. Matteson sees it, the letter was filled with inaccuracies. Larry Miller recused himself on the issue. It was strongly felt that any correspondence on the matter should have been handled through his attorney and the Village's attorney. Larry Surrells said the Board has gone out of their way to work with the owner to no avail to avoid condemnation and he feels we are at the end of the road. Gene Purcell made a motion to proceed with condemnation of the property. Larry Surrells seconded motion. Greta Dennison, J.R. Dunlap, Gene Purcell and Larry Surrells voted 'yea', and Larry Miller abstained from voting. Motion passed. It was then suggested by Larry Surrells that we give Mr. Matteson a time limit to remove personal belongings from his property. Gene Purcell moved to give him two weeks, after notification from our attorney, to remove anything he wanted off his property before demolition. Larry Surrells seconded motion. Gene Purcell, Greta Dennison and Larry Surrells voted 'yea', J.R. Dunlap voted 'nay' and Larry Miller abstained from voting. Motion carried.

2) Update on Overland Group re: real estate property purchase. The Engineering group has not completed their assessment. We should get their report within the next 10 days.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1) Javier Barrios, Good Energy Corp. – Aggregation/Energy Savings. Mr. Barrios gave a presentation to the Board and guests. He said that Ameren will still bill the customers, deliver the electricity to the homes and maintain the lines; however, the aggregation would look for the best rate for the actual supply of electricity. Even if approved by voters, residents still have an option to 'opt out'. There will be public meetings held in the near future giving the public more information.

2) Approve and adopt resolution for “Providing for the Submission to the Elector of the Village of Palestine, IL the question whether the Village of Palestine should have the authority under Public Act 096-0176 to arrange for the supply of electricity for the Village of Palestine for its residential and small commercial retail customers who have not opted out of such operation”. Greta Dennison moved to approve and adopt the resolution as written to get it on the November 6, 2012 ballot. Larry Surrells seconded motion. Motion passed.

3) Does the Village of Palestine want to have a float in the Labor Day Parade this year? Theme is: “Wish I Could Have Been There”. A short discussion was held and it was felt that we do not have the money to spend on a float this year. Larry Surrells made a motion that we do not have a float in this year’s Labor Day Parade. Gene Purcell seconded motion. Motion passed.

4) Adopt Resolution (Supplemental) for Maintenance of Streets and Highways by Municipality - \$3,000.00 – January 2011–December 2011. Larry Surrells moved to adopt the Resolution. Greta Dennison seconded motion. Motion carried.

**DPW REPORT:** Kathy Clark, Superintendent. Mayor Schofield said we have received around 15 applications for the DPW position and the Personnel Committee will be reviewing them.

**POLICE REPORT:** Chief of Police, Jim Clark. Jim reported on three thefts last month; one behind the rodeo arena, one was clothing taken from the laundromat and there was a \$72 gas drive off at Casey’s. The violators have been caught. Jim also reported that the Sheriff’s Dept. was called out due to domestic battery and the person responsible for the battery is in jail. They were also called out concerning a dead body found; no foul play was involved.

### **Pioneer Room – August – Gene Purcell**

#### **Committee Reports:**

**Budget Committee:** Shirley Adams, Chairman. The Board was made aware that we received our audit report from the Illinois Dept. of Transportation covering the receipt and disbursement of Motor Fuel Tax funds by the Village for 2011.

**Bldg Regulations, Permits, Maintenance:** Larry Miller, Chairman. Two building permits were accepted this week.

**Ordinance Committee:** Larry Miller, Chairman. Ordinances completed and ready to put in Code Book from last month.

**Streets, Sidewalks, Alleys Committee:** Larry Surrells, Chairman. We’ve been assured that the demolition at the old Dunlap’s will be repaired and looking good before Labor Day.

**Sewer Committee:** Larry Surrells, Chairman. We had one sewer hookup this week.

#### **Other Business:**

J.R. Dunlap questioned if the Village is still looking for a generator for the lagoon. Mayor Schofield said we are still interested in finding one. We need a 3 phase; however, Larry Surrells said that we could get one that was not 3 phase and we could convert it to 3 phase, so she will call her contact and see what he has to offer. J.R. said he found a

magazine that has generators for sale, presumably at reasonable prices. He will get with Larry and they will check it out.

With no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Larry Surrells. Meeting adjourned at 7:35 PM.

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MAYOR

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CLERK