

MINUTES

PALESTINE VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

August 7, 2014

5:30 PM

PUBLIC HEARING

PURPOSE: USDA GRANT for purchase of a NEW POLICE VEHICLE for use by the PALESTINE POLICE DEPARTMENT.

Mayor Schofield declared the Public Hearing open at 5:30 PM. Those attending were Staff, Board Trustees, two gentlemen from the media and Greta Dennison. Public Meeting adjourned at 6:00 PM with no remarks.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

Greta Dennison was honored with a plaque for her 11 years and one month of dedicated service to the Village of Palestine as a Board Trustee. Cake and drinks were served.

Palestine Board of Trustees met on August 7, 2014, at 6:00 PM. Trustees answering the roll call were Gene Purcell, George Harrison, Ricky Stork, J.R. Dunlap, Rob Byrley and Larry Miller.

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

Visitors present: Peg Waggoner, Greta Dennison, Joe Dart, Hillary Steffy, Kermit Green, Carol Holbert, Graham Mildrum (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 3, 2014, were accepted as presented.

OLD BUSINESS:

1) Annual Report by Village Accountant. The Village received a clean audit from Carol Holbert. The Village finances are in good condition.

2) Final Approval: Ordinance No. 2014-O-06 Amendment for Section 41.19 for Chapter 41: TRAFFIC Section 41.19: USE OF COASTERS, ROLLER SKATES, AND SIMILAR DEVICES. This Ordinance has been on the books for years. The amendment just changes some terminology. Larry Miller moved to accept the changes in 41.19. George Harrison seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

3) Streetscape Project – Update. Status is the same; no agreement has been reached

between IDOT and IHPA. The Fife is working with us and talking with IHPA. The IDOT Funding Dept. informed Mayor Schofield that they would never allow the money that has been spent to be forgiven. The Mayor is hopeful that we will have enough information to have a Streetscape Committee meeting sometime in August.

4) Update – Apt. Bldg. – Pike St. Blvd. – Report by Joe Dart, Owner. He has one tenant left in the apartment building but that tenant is moving to Robinson soon. He will begin work on the interior as soon as that happens. He'll also be cleaning out some shrubs and keep the yard mowed in the meantime.

5) Update – Matteson Property – 205 N. Rush St. Sale of property is still pending.

6) Update – Matteson Property – 415 S. Main St. Chief Besing said the July 1st and August 1st stipulations per court order have not been completed. He sent a letter to the attorney referencing this information.

7) Update – Progress on repair to sidewalk at Verizon Tower. Mayor Schofield has had no response from Verizon. J.R. Dunlap spoke with Brian Nethery and he said he'd try to contact Verizon also but J.R. hasn't heard back from Brian.

8) Update and discussion re: channeling surface water from Corner of East Lamotte/South Lincoln. Ricky Stork said they planned on routing the water into a ditch or they could replace it with a pipe at a later time if needed. After a lengthy discussion, the consensus was to go ahead and use the pipe system now. Gene Purcell made a motion to cut the road from Green's to Matheny's and cut the road from Matheny's east and lay a pipe from Matheny's to the catch basin on the highway and put in culverts at the two driveways. Ricky Stork seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

1) Official Approval of Phone Poll – Chip and Seal Illinois St. Received a bid from Kintner's to chip and seal Illinois Street from E. Lamotte to E. Harrison St. in the amount of \$2700 with a \$200 discount for scheduling it for the last week in July. George Harrison moved to officially approve it. Ricky Stork seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

2) Palestine Labor Day Parade – does the Village want to have a parade entry? The consensus was that it was too late to have a parade entry this year.

DPW REPORT: Kathy Clark, Superintendent. Kathy reported that environmental rules now mandate we test for dissolved oxygen from the wastewater treatment plant. She said we could contract it out for \$60 a month; however, it was her recommendation that we buy a probe, meter and supplies in order that she could perform the tests. The probe will cost \$1097 and the meter \$629. The equipment to do 50 tests will be \$50.00. Ricky Stork moved to purchase the probe, meter and equipment to perform the tests. Larry Miller seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Ricky has installed a plug on the lagoon overflow.

Street Signs are ready to be sold. Contact Kathy Clark.

POLICE REPORT: Chief of Police, Jeffrey Besing. School will be starting on August 19th and Chief Besing reminded the public to obey speed limits in the school zones and be watchful of kids walking and riding bikes to school. He plans to be at the Grade School early enough to greet kids as they arrive at school on the first day.

There have been two reports of vehicles entered in the daylight hours and money being

taken. There is a suspect that he is working on for these incidents. However, citizens need to remember to lock their vehicles and don't leave purses, wallets, money, keys, etc. in their vehicles.

Chief Besing would like to look into adopting a Village ordinance pertaining to leaving trash containers by the street side. He said "leaving the trash containers out continuously makes the neighborhoods look 'trashy' for lack of better wording."

He will be meeting soon with the County Reserve Officers concerning Labor Day activities in the Village.

PIONEER ROOM/MAIN STREET PARK – AUGUST – GENE PURCELL.

FYI: Copy of Prevailing Wage Ordinance for FY 2015 was distributed.

FYI: Updated Committee Assignments given to Trustees.

FYI: Notice(s) from Mediacom- re: Seasonal Rates and Change in Format.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Budget Committee: Shirley Adams, Chairman. July financial reports were distributed.

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

Employee Relations Committee: Patricia Schofield, Chairman.

FOIA Officers: Shirley Adams, Chairman

Ordinance Committee: Larry Miller, Chairman.

Streets, Sidewalks, Alleys Committee: J.R. Dunlap, Chairman.

Sewer/Lagoon Committee: Ricky Stork, Chairman. Ricky & Kathy will get specs for the fence around the lagoon to the Mayor. They have to be included in the advertisement for bids. Mayor will check with various lending sources for possible loan.

The flags and equipment are in; waiting for approval from Ameren to put them up. Contributions have been wonderful!

The Village has ordered their own flags to put up around the Village Hall.

J.R. said all the help he can get with the cruise in would be welcome. Just let him know if you can help.

Ricky Stork reminded everyone about the September 13th AmVets Membership Drive.

With no further business to discuss, Larry Miller moved to adjourn. George Harrison seconded motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.

MAYOR

CLERK

