

MINUTES

PALESTINE VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

July 6, 2017

Palestine Board of Trustees met on July 6, 2017, at 6:00 PM. Trustees answering the roll call were Tim McDaniel, George Harrison, J.R. Dunlap, Mary Michael, Brian Nethery and Gene Purcell.

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

Visitors present: Kent Boyd, Larry Surrells, Jim Clark, Francis Murphy, Bob Taylor, and Chris DeWitt (WTYE).

Meeting called to order by Mayor Rob Byrley

The meeting began with all present reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes were taken by the Village Clerk.

The Minutes of June 1, 2017, were accepted as presented.

OLD BUSINESS:

1) Remove from table: Discussion of Swimming Pool Ordinance. George Harrison made a motion to remove this from table. J.R. Seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously. During the discussion, some Trustees felt that the ordinance should not require a fence around a pool no matter the size and others felt the ordinance should stay the same. The consensus was that Mayor Rob check with our attorney for his advice and then we revisit it at next month's meeting.

2) Further Discussion and approval of "Call-In" pay. George Harrison made motion that we approve a one hour call-in pay for off duty call-ins for the DPW. Motion died for lack of a second. It was suggested by Mayor Rob that a committee be formed in order that more information can be gained before it goes to a vote. J.R. moved that we form a Committee concerning Call-In pay. George Harrison seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously. The Committee will consist of J.R. Dunlap, Mary Michael, Brian Nethery and Shirley Adams. We will revisit this at our next meeting with suggestions from the Committee.

3) UPDATE: Purchase of Chamber of Commerce Pocket Park – Completed 6/22/17. The sign has been relocated and electric will be connected at a later date. We are requesting donations for shrubs for the park. Chief Besing told Kathy to go to the PDA meeting tomorrow. They might help with a donation. Gene Purcell made a motion that the Village donate \$100 to the cause. J. R. seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

4) UPDATE: Condemnation proceedings. Mayor Rob has been in contact with our attorney and Mr. Matteson. Mr. Matteson's intentions are to remove the back wall on the N. building and shorten it, which will be done by Labor Day. Then he will have the South building taken down and cleaned up by the end of the year. The Mayor is going to insist we get an update by Sept. 15th on the south building. Court date is July 18th. It's Frank's opinion that the court will accept this proposal as Mr. Matteson would have the first opportunity to take care of the building.

5) UPDATE: Labor Day Permit has been approved by IDOT. Received confirmation that the permit was approved.

6) PDA Pavilion Committee – Presentation of Proposed Site Development Plan. Review and approve the proposed Pavilion Plan and Project. Larry Surrells and Kent Boyd brought a large drawing of the plans for the pavilion to show the Trustees. It is more than a single phase project. It will happen in stages. One of the first things they want to do is have an Amish built storage building constructed to hold all the sound equipment and speakers. Then they will start additional phases. All they need at this time is the Village's approval. They may have to make some minor changes for the 'car exit' as needed but we will still have final say. George Harrison moved that we approve and proceed with the plan presented, with changes as necessary. J.R. Dunlap seconded motion. Motion was passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

1) Approve Annual Fish Fry and Cruise-In – August 18th. They wish to close Main St. from Grand Prairie to LaMotte Street. Gene Purcell moved to approve the Fish Fry & Cruise-In and their request to close Main St. as needed. George Harrison seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

2) Approve Chamber of Commerce request for Beer Tent/Labor Day Weekend. J.R. Dunlap moved to approve the Chamber's request. Brian Nethery seconded motion. Motion passed unanimously.

DPW REPORT: Kathy Clark, Superintendent.

Maxwell's have begun E. Franklin/N. Lincoln storm outlet repairs.

Kathy has provided a list of the Village's depreciable DPW equipment and vehicle information, including life expectancy, in most cases.

She has also formed an emergency Plan for the DPW.

Currently waiting for a call from Mark Kintner concerning chip and seal start date.

POLICE REPORT: Chief of Police, Jeffrey Besing.

Chief Besing said they have resolved the incidents where windows were broken, one in a residence and one in a business, along with trash totes being turned over and a wood fence being painted. Juveniles were responsible for these acts. Since there has been an increase of juvenile criminal activity, we will be enforcing the Village curfew ordinance. Curfew hours for anyone under the age of 18 are 11:00 pm, Sunday through Thursday, and 12 midnight on Friday and Saturday.

The Village Police Dept. participated in the County Wide DUI detail last weekend which our department issued 9 traffic citations with two being for Illegal Transportation of Alcohol and one Driving While Suspended and the rest for speeding and other traffic related offenses.

PIONEER ROOM/MAIN STREET PARK – JULY – GENE PURCELL

FYI: Illinois OMA Motion to close a meeting to the public (Executive Session)

FYI: REMINDER: Freedom of Information – due 90 days from election (July 4, 2017)

FYI: FALL CLEANUP SCHEDULES: Oct. 18, 19, & 20, 2017

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Budget Committee: Shirley Adams, Chairman. May & June financial reports were given to Trustees. Reminder: Our Auditor, Carol Holbert, is scheduled to perform our audit on the 27th & 28th of this month.

Bldg Regulations, Permits, Maintenance: Harry Gene Purcell, Chairman. One permit for a fence was issued last month.

Employee Relations Committee: Patricia Schofield, Chairman.

FOIA Officers: Shirley Adams, Chairman. Due 90 days from election (July 4, 2017)

Ordinance Committee: Pat Schofield.

Streets, Sidewalks, Alleys Committee: Rob Byrley, Chairman. Until State budget is passed, MFT monies will be held.

Sewer/Lagoon Committee: George Harrison, Chairman.

Motion to go into Executive Session was made at 6:55 PM by J.R. Dunlap and seconded by Tim McDaniel for the purpose of Section 2(C)21 – Review of Executive Session Minutes.

Regular Session reconvened at 7: 02 PM. Gene Purcell made a motion that we approve the Executive Session Minutes for the past six months be open for public viewing. Tim McDaniel seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Other business:

Margaret gave a report on the sewer fund. She reported that there are 136 customers behind on their sewer bills at this time. A discussion was held to see if anyone had any ideas how to get customers to pay in a timely manner. Margaret suggested maybe we should at least up the late fee from \$5.00 to \$15.00. Since folks use cell phones more and more, it is difficult to try to collect by phone. We'll be thinking of more ideas to help in getting customers to pay on time.

Shirley brought up the fact that expenses from our General Fund have been considerable in the past few months. If the General Fund gets to a point that it needs additional funds for a short while, she requested permission to 'borrow' from the Workman's Comp. or Social Security Fund. Gene Purcell made a motion that, if needed, General Fund could borrow from our Workman's Comp. Fund and/or Social Security Fund to be paid back as soon as funds are available. George Harrison seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Rob asked what the Trustees felt about the Village looking into getting a "radar speed sign". The one he has in mind has 3 programs and costs around \$2500. In addition to showing speed it could also show time and temperature. He said Pat thought we might be able to get a grant for it. Rob will put it on the agenda to discuss and or approve next month.

With no further business to discuss Gene Purcell moved to adjourn. J.R. Dunlap seconded motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:25 PM.

PRESIDENT

CLERK

