

MINUTES  
PALESTINE VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
May 7, 2009

At 5:00 PM, a reception was held in honor of the newly elected Officers of the Village Board, and also in honor of Walt Fritchie, who is ending his four-year term as Trustee, having chosen not to run again.

Prior to the regular Board meeting, two Public Hearings were held, as follows:

1. At 5:30 PM, two representatives from Peoples Economic Development Corporation, held the first Public Hearing. Maynard Crossland, Executive Director, and Cory M. Jobe, Economic Development Specialist and Business Director for the Central Illinois market, presented information on the Peoples Economic Development Corporation, and how they, with a CDAP Grant, through the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, will be able to develop a demonstration model for communities such as the Village of Palestine.

The Mission of the Peoples Economic Development Corporation is to provide communities in Illinois and Missouri with the experience and the expertise to utilize historic resources for community growth and economic development.

Crossland and Jobe have looked at our downtown businesses with an eye on restoration of the existing buildings. We are good prospects for grants and low interest loans to building owners to do restoration work on their buildings. The federal government will allow each owner a 20% tax credit for the cost of the restoration. The state of Illinois is considering a tax credit of 25% for the cost of restoration work done.

The block grants issued will not require the business owners to follow prescribed changes on updates they wish to make with the grant money. They will also be able to assist the Village in preparing for our 2011 Bi-Centennial Celebration.

2. At approximately 5:45 PM, Kara Gill, representative from the Greater Wabash Regional Planning Commission, held the second Public Hearing, to explain the need to re-submit a CDAP Design Engineering Grant Application for the Robinson-Palestine Water Commission. The grant is for the engineering phase of planning of new water lines for the Village of Palestine. The prior grant was not approved for lack of funds.

At 6:00 PM the regular board meeting of the Village of Palestine was opened.

The Palestine Board of Trustees met in regular session on May 7, 2009, at 6:00 PM. Trustees answering the roll call were Gene Purcell, Greta Dennison, Larry Surrells, J.D. Kimberlin, David Branson, and Walter Fritchie. Chief Jim Clark and Margaret Littlejohn, Utility Clerk, and Tom Osborne, representing the Robinson Daily News, were also present.

Visitors present were: Kathy Fuller, Jim Goodwine, Jim Kincaid, J. R. Dunlap, Susan Goodwine, Cory Jobe, Maynard Crossland, Mark Wilson, Beulah Bowen, Robert Bowen, and Larry Miller.

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

The minutes of the last meeting were approved as presented.

Mayor Schofield read the ratification of the vote count in the last election, furnished by the Crawford County Canvassing Board, submitted by the Crawford County Clerk, Patty Lycan. Ratified were Pat Schofield, Mayor- 193 votes; Floyd M. Fuller, Clerk - 183 votes; Gene Purcell - 174 votes; David Branson - 167 votes; and J.R. Dunlap - 146 votes, as Trustees.

Floyd M. Fuller, Clerk, then installed Pat Schofield as Mayor. Mayor Pat Schofield then installed Floyd M. Fuller, Clerk, and Gene Purcell, David Branson, and J.R. Dunlap as Trustees.

Retiring Trustee, Walter Fritchie, was presented a plaque in recognition of his four-year term as Trustee, with best wishes for his retirement.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

1. Gene Purcell moved to take from the table the Permanent Burn Ban Ordinance. Two letters from persons adversely affected by leaf burning were presented, and several in attendance were requesting the elimination of all burning within the Village. By various documents furnished, the CC Health Department suggests that banning all burning within the Village would be very beneficial to the health of our residents. Gene Purcell remarked that any friendly fires should continue to be controlled in appropriate containers, such as chimenias, individual "fire" pits, etc.

Larry Surrells was concerned with the cost of an additional spring leaf pickup and whether or not we had adequate personnel to handle the extra work load. David Branson wondered if a cost could be determined. Greta Dennison noted that the extra cleanup would take more help than we now have. Mayor Schofield said she would continue to act as an advocate for those who suffer from the smoke emitted from burning leaves, etc. Gene Purcell moved, seconded by J.D. Kimberlin, to adopt a permanent burn ban ordinance. The motion was not passed, based on a count of 4-2.

2. The Annual Budget was presented for final approval. Larry Surrells moved, seconded by David Branson, to approve the Annual Budget. The motion passed unanimously.

3. The Swimming Pool Ordinance, 09-0-01, was presented for approval. The ordinance states that all swimming pools, as defined in the Ordinance, must be fenced. Children's wader pools are excepted. Gene Purcell suggested that ladders should be also be removed while the pool is not in use.

David Branson wondered if proper chlorination was a part of the ordinance. It was noted that the pool sales and installation covered the use of proper chemicals. The DPW workers can be contacted for further information. Larry Surrells moved, seconded by David Branson, to accept the ordinance. The motion passed unanimously.

4. The Life Safety Code Ordinance, 09-0-02, was presented for approval. This code only pertains to life safety and does not reflect any other provisions of the State Code. Greta Dennison moved, seconded by J.D. Kimberlin, to approve the Life Safety Ordinance. The motion passed unanimously.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

1. The assignment of the new Village Department Chairs along with job descriptions will be presented at the next board meeting.

2. The 2009 Annual Appropriation Ordinance, 09-0-03, was presented for approval. Mayor Pat Schofield noted that Clerk Fuller and Legal Counsel, Frank Weber had worked on the finances for the Ordinance. Larry Surrells moved, seconded by Greta Dennison, to approve the ordinance. Motion passed unanimously.

3. The 2009 Tax Levy Ordinance, 09-0-04, was presented for approval. Greta Dennison moved, seconded by David Branson, to accept the Ordinance. The motion passed unanimously.

4. A Resolution to urge the passage of a comprehensive Capital Infrastructure Pilot Grant Program Application as presented earlier by Maynard Grassland was introduced. This will be Resolution 2009-01. Greta Dennison moved, seconded by J.D. Kimberlin to accept the Resolution. Motion passed unanimously.

5. The 2009 Annual Prevailing Wage Ordinance, 09-0-05, was presented for approval. Larry Surrells moved, seconded by J.D. Kimberlin, to approve the Ordinance. The motion passed unanimously.

6. A Resolution of Support and Commitment of Funds — Illinois department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Application as presented earlier by Maynard Crossville was presented for approval. This will be Resolution 2009-02. Greta Dennison moved, seconded by David Branson, to approve the Resolution. The motion passed unanimously.

7. A Resolution of support of CDAP Design Engineering Grant Application for Robinson-Palestine Water Commission as presented earlier by Kara Gill was presented for approval. This will be Resolution 2009-03. J.D. Kimberlin moved, seconded by David Branson, to approve the resolution. Motion passed unanimously.

8. A Resolution Adopting the Crawford County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan was presented for approval. This will be Resolution 2009-04. Larry Surrells moved, seconded by Greta Dennison, to adopt the resolution. Motion passed unanimously.

9. The Waste Water Lagoon has been examined by Shannon Woodard, Connor and Connor, and found to be out of balance. This condition is caused each spring when the water in the pond "turns over". A short time later the chemical balance comes back into compliance. Flow meters to monitor this condition cost \$5,000. Our DPW keep close watch and regulate as best they can. EPA officials have said that they would accept the results without installing a meter so long as we continue as in the past since we are not on the verge of serious non-compliance. No action was taken.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Police Report - Jim Clark reported one theft for the month. It was among household members. Several teens were charged with possession of tobacco.

Building Regulations Chairman - Larry Surrells reported that a permit for a new construction (pole barn) on Connie Rae had been issued and was to make one more inspection before approval.

Streets, Sidewalks and Alleys Chairman - Larry Surrells noted that some alley work had been done and that this had corrected a water drainage problem.

The meeting adjourned to executive session at 6:46 P.M.

The Meeting reconvened at 7:13 P.M.

The deed from Gregory and Tammi Kasinger, for the property at 210 West Harrison Street, has now been received but not recorded. There are outstanding taxes, which have been paid by the Crawford County Trustee, and will become a lien if not paid in full, including costs. There are still 2 outstanding liens which have a few years before they will die for lack of renewal. The question was whether to pay off these costs now or to wait until the liens die.

Larry Surrells moved, seconded by J.R. Dunlap, to record the deed and have Attorney Frank Weber negotiate a settlement with the lien holders. Motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Larry Surrells move for adjournment.

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM.

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President, Pat Schofield

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Clerk, Floyd Fuller