

**MINUTES**  
**PALESTINE VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**  
**December 4, 2008**

The Palestine Board of Trustees met in regular session on December 4, 2008, at 6:00 PM. Trustees answering the roll call were Gene Purcell, Greta Dennison, Walter Fritchie, David Branson, J. D. Kimberlin and Larry Surrells.

Chief Jim Clark was present, and Margaret Littlejohn, Utility Clerk, who also filled in for the Village Clerk, who was absent.

Visitors present were Dee Fulling, Steve Mitchell and Bob Taylor.

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

The minutes of the last meeting were approved as presented.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Recent communication from Frank Weber indicated that the Condemnation Proceedings, on the property at 205 N Rush St, had been filed and requisite notice made prior to the commencement of litigation. Matteson will have 30 days in which to respond to the notice. It was noted that Matteson has started doing some repair work to the property.

Mayor Schofield reported that \$1300 has been accumulated for the Sign/Monument for our servicemen/women. The Palestine Chamber office and the Main Street Park Committee are selling tickets for a drawing for a 3 foot Snowman Wreath. The proceeds will go toward the placement of a sign and a War Memorial Stone for our local men and women who have served, and are now serving, in Iraq.

Steve Mitchell reported that the demolition of the property at 210 W Harrison has been almost completed, with only the fill sand and top soil left to level off the lot.

The Village has received final distribution of 2007 R E Taxes, in the amount of \$16,523.70. A comparison was made between the 2006 and 2007 R E Taxes, and if everything stays in proportion this year to last, the tax levy will remain primarily the same.

The Village Employee Christmas Party is to be held Friday, December 5, 2008, in the Pioneer Room. Grace Methodist 3-M Sunday School class will be serving the meal at 6:00 PM.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

A request from Fred McNair, for \$200.00, to help defray the cost of the Main Street Christmas Trees, decorations and tree stands, was discussed. Larry Surrells moved, seconded by David Branson, to donate as requested. Motion passed unanimously.

The Sewer Tap Fee for the new library was discussed, and motion to waive the \$400 fee was made by David Branson, seconded by Larry Surrells. Motion passed unanimously.

It was noted the last week for picking up leaves will be the week of December 8, 2008.

Posting of all normal monthly meetings for the 2009 calendar year will be posted in the Posting Display Window on the North side of the building, and on the bulleting board inside. Copies of the post have been delivered to each Trustee.

Police Chief Jim Clark reported arrests of 3 persons were made for the thefts of several four-wheelers and dirt bikes, worth several hundreds of dollars. He stated he is fairly certain that they will also be charged with other unsolved burglary and thefts that have been committed in the past several weeks.

The Employee Handbooks have been completed, pending the approval of each Trustee and will be effective January 1, 2009.

Reminder was made regarding the Consolidated Election April 7, 2009, and the Caucus will be held on January 12, 2009.

Larry Surrells reported on the sidewalks which are now being repaired and replaced. There are several needing attention. Several alleys are also in need of repairs.

David Branson reported that the Annual inspections of all the lift stations, as well as the sewer lagoon, has just been completed and everything was found to be in good operating condition. Replacement of only one part (an alternating controller) was required. Other recommendations were made and given to the DPW Staff.

The regular session was adjourned to go into Executive Session at 6:35 PM.

Regular session reconvened at 6:45 PM.

Motion was made by Larry Surrells to pursue taking title to the Kasinger property with full knowledge that there were outstanding liens. Gene Purcell

seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion was made by David Branson to pay the balances due on the Main Street Park, out of the General Fund, not to exceed \$2775.15, until further grants are received. J. D. Kimberlin Seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Board, David Branson moved for adjournment, seconded by J. D. Kimberlin.

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 PM.

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President

*Howard M. Fuller*  
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Village Clerk