

MINUTES

PALESTINE VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

January 5, 2017

Palestine Board of Trustees met on January 5, 2017, at 6:00 PM. Trustees answering the roll call were Rob Byrley, Tim McDaniel, George Harrison, and Mary Michael. J.R. Dunlap and Gene Purcell were absent.

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

Visitors present: Brian Nethery, Chris DeWitt (WTYE) and Tom Osborne (Robinson Daily News), Frances Murphy and Jim Clark.

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 December 1, 2016, were accepted as presented.

OLD BUSINESS:

1) UPDATE-Condemnation Proceedings – Ramsey Properties – Per our attorney, we have received a JUDGMENT FOR DEMOLITION(s) which has now been entered.

2) Report on Caucus which was held on Monday, December 5, 2016. Nominated to run: For Mayor: Rob Byrley; and 3 Trustee positions; J.R. Dunlap, Gene Purcell, & Mary Michael.

3) Revisit Workmen’s Compensation Insurance – Public Risk Group – Premium savings. The Village received a letter informing us that Traveler’s Insurance would not renew our insurance policy. The IL Public Risk Fund will now be our Workmen’s Comp. Insurance. It is a non-profit company and they have a lot to offer, including on line safety training. In addition, the premium is considerably lower.

4) Official Approval of Phone/Email Approval of new ORDINANCE NO. 2016-O-11 – An ordinance regarding travel, meal and lodging expenses – (approved by phone poll on December 7, 2016). This was a mandated Ordinance and was required to be passed by January 1, 2017. George Harrison made a motion to formally approve Ordinance 2016-O-11 and Rob Byrley seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

1) New list of Meetings for the year 2017 – as posted. Posted and distributed.

2) New list of Trustee volunteers for Pioneer Room/Community Facility for 2017 was distributed.

3) Discussion and Official approval of an Ordinance to amend the Sewer Rates, effective January 1, 2017, as preliminarily approved at our December meeting. This Ordinance was passed and issued on December 1st.

4) FOIA notice for Administration and Trustees for 2017.

5) Thoughts and discussion on burn ban 24/7 for the Village. The Village has received more complaints lately concerning the burning of leaves. We have several folks in our Village whose health is at risk from the smoke. Mayor Schofield asked that the Trustees really consider a burn ban and speak with their constituents to get their opinions. We will revisit this at our February meeting.

DPW REPORT: Kathy Clark, Superintendent. Kathy explained how the DPW wants to modify the GMC to accept leaf-vac. After some discussion, the consensus was to go forward with the modification.

There are three sewer manholes needing repairs. One is west of the one we fixed on W. Franklin. It will require a State permit and detour, as did the last one. Kathy will file for that permit in early spring, as they require 6 weeks to process the permit.

On Gene's and J.R.'s recommendation, a trailer was purchased for mower and 4 wheeler hauling. This will free up Kathy's time and spares taking a crew member away from other duties.

Kathy inquired about a future account with Detroit Salt after reading an INDR publication, featuring the company's involvement with community salt needs. She is seeking to find a source who will serve Palestine. In the past, we've had to rely on CCHD for a limited supply of mix, however, this puts a strain on their stock.

After meeting with IPRF's Bill Bloch this morning, Kathy is putting together a Department Policy Manual. It will include Standard Operating Procedures. There is also on-line training she plans to implement.

POLICE REPORT: Chief of Police, Jeffrey Besing. The new year brings new requirements for law enforcement mandated training which could have an effect on our part-time officers who will need to attend required mandated training or they will not be able to maintain their certifications which will not allow them to work as a part-time officer. Chief Besing will be sending letters out to our part-time officers (Ed Meyers and Jacob Baxter) advising them of these new requirements. Our other part-time officer (Isiah Osborne) is a full time Robinson police officer so he will be able to get his training through them.

Another mandate for law enforcement officers is the requirement that we carry two (2) forms of emergency medications. One is NARCAN, which is an antidote for Heroin overdoses. Officer Carpenter and Chief Besing has been certified on this drug antidote. The Chief is currently working on writing a policy which is required by the Health Department. The Health Department will supply the 'nasal mist' antidote.

The other required medication is the "Epi-Pen" which is a subcutaneous injection device for anaphylactic (allergic) reactions. The training course has not yet been approved for law enforcement officers yet.

PIONEER ROOM/MAIN STREET PARK – JANUARY 2017 – GEORGE HARRISON

FYI:

Copy of Ordinance No. 2016-O-09 – Ordinance to Amend the Palestine Village Code to add Chapter 12B, Cannabis.

Copy of Ordinance No. 2016-O-10 – Ordinance to Amend Chapter 41, Traffic, Section 41.22, Golf Carts and Section 41.23, Neighborhood Vehicles.

Copy of Ordinance No. 2016-O-11 – Ordinance Regarding Travel, Meal & Lodging Expenses.

Copy of Ordinance No. 2016-O-12 – Ordinance Regarding increase of Sewer Rates effective January 1, 2017.

Mediacom raising prices again, effective January 3, 2017 – see copy of letter.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Budget Committee: Shirley Adams, Chairman. A 2016-2017 Budget Summary was handed out for review.

Bldg Regulations, Permits, Maintenance: Harry Gene Purcell, Chairman. None last month.

Employee Relations Committee: Patricia Schofield, Chairman.

FOIA Officers: Shirley Adams, Chairman.

Ordinance Committee: Pat Schofield

Streets, Sidewalks, Alleys Committee: Rob Byrley, Chairman. Harmon's was pleased with the sidewalk work done by their business on W. Market.

Sewer/Lagoon Committee: George Harrison, Chairman.

Motion was made by Tim McDaniel at 6:45 PM to go into Executive Session for the purpose of 2(C)(21) Semi-annual review of Executive Session Minutes. George Harrison seconded motion. Motion carried.

Regular session resumed at 6:50 PM. Mary Michael moved that the Executive Session Minutes of January 7, 2016, be placed in the regular session minutes and be open to the public. Tim McDaniel seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

With no further business to discuss Tim McDaniel moved to adjourn. George Harrison seconded motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:55 PM.

PRESIDENT

CLERK