

**MINUTES  
PALESTINE VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
February 4, 2016**

Palestine Board of Trustees met on February 4, 2016, at 6:00 PM. Trustees answering the roll call were George Harrison, Rick Stork, Rob Byrley, Gene Purcell, Tim McDaniel and J.R. Dunlap.

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

Visitors present: Scott Campbell, Dr. Wylie Jenkins, and Chris DeWitte from 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 January 7, 2016, were accepted as presented.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1) Dr. Wylie Jenkins – SIU School of Medicine – Community involvement in a Diversity Impact on Cancer in our local community with the guidance of SIU School of Medicine.

Palestine has been selected to be one of three rural communities in the state to participate in this study which was approved in last month's Board Meeting. Dr. Jenkins said the next step is to form a focus group of eight to ten individuals. The focus group will then proceed with recruitment to get 50 to 70 people to give saliva samples for the study.

2) Formally approve phone poll for purchase of MIG Welder for DPW Department.

Gene Purcell made a motion to formally approve the MIG Welder purchase. J.R. Dunlap seconded motion. Motion passed with four ayes and two nays from Rick Stork and J.R.

3) Update on train situation – Tom Livingston from CSX and Bob Babcock from INRD- results of the Office of Reggie Phillips inquiries to them.

A meeting is scheduled for the 19<sup>th</sup> of February with Nicolette Halmark from Representative Reggie Phillips Office and representatives from INRD, along with the Mayor and Trustees.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1) Approve Resolution for Maintenance of Streets and Highways – Year 2016.

J.R. Dunlap moved to approve the Resolution for Maintenance of Streets & Highways for 2016. George Harrison seconded motion. Motion passed unanimously.

2) Budget Work Day – March 26 or April 2.

The consensus of the Board was to have our budget work day on Saturday, March 26<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 AM.

3) Jay Wilson – Social Media as it pertains to the Village of Palestine/Employees.

Jay did not attend as he had a prior commitment.

4) Discussion of possible new Art Gallery with a Tattoo Salon.

Mayor Schofield passed out a business plan from Mr. Charles Morehead. He would like to locate his business, Inkphoria Art Gallery and Tattoo Studio, in Palestine. He plans to attend our next Board Meeting.

**DPW REPORT:** Kathy Clark, Superintendent.

Kathy reported that the snow route parking ban was successful on Main Street.

The DPW have taken advantage of the mild winter to gravel alleys and remove trees at the lagoon that may have threatened the integrity of the fence.

BRI (Vandevanter's sub-contractor), came Friday to address issues at the effluent station. They diagnosed the alternating relay fail and we are waiting on the part to get it installed.

Kathy asked Otie and LaFever to bid a central switching station for alternating between influent and effluent operations but both agreed that it cannot be done as they are 3 phase. It would require on-site permanent generators at each stations.

**REPORT:** Chief of Police, Jeffrey Besing.

Someone used a high powered assault rifle and shot 3 rounds into the Illiana Core front entrance. Officer Carpenter helped work this case and was instrumental in resolving the case and a suspect is in jail. This shows that serious things can happen in small communities and Chief Besing was proud of the job Officer Carpenter did on this case.

The new squad car quit running and had to be repaired due to water in the gas tank. The gas was from our tank at the barn. Kathy and the Mayor have spoken with Jim Fuller and he has given us some suggestions on how to keep this from happening which Kathy implemented. Jim said a new tank would cost around \$1500.

Chief Besing asked if he could apply for a Casey's Gas card for both squads to keep and use when traveling to training and meetings and as a back-up, thus keeping our business local.

With the release of state funding, our training facility is back in service. We will be hosting our annual yearly training on Hazmat Blood Borne Pathogens here in March and our Taser certifications in April or May.

## **PIONEER ROOM/MAIN STREET PARK – FEBRUARY 2016 – ROB BYRLEY**

**FYI: Reminder: Freedom of Information Updates – March 2016**

**FYI: CLOSING UPCOMING – Title work complete – Purchase of Brock Lot**

**FYI: SPRING & FALL CLEANUP SCHEDULES: SPRING April 20<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>; FALL October 19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>.**

**FYI: Purchased new fuel pump for village per Mayor's email.**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Budget Committee:** Shirley Adams, Chairman. December financials were handed out. The balance of the loan for the Lagoon fence is now \$35,750.00.

**Building 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:** Rob Byrley, Chairman

**Sewer/Lagoon Committee:** Ricky Stork, Chairman.

Other business:

The Garrard trailer on South Pike Street is in the process of being dismantled and taken to the dump. This may be an ordinance situation. Chief Besing will speak to them.

Ham property on East Market

The Ramsey's were given a time frame to clean up around their property or they will be issued a citation.

With no further business to discuss, Tim McDaniel moved to adjourn. J.R. Dunlap seconded motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM.

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PRESIDENT

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CLERK