

MINUTES

PALESTINE VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

August 6, 2015

Palestine Board of Trustees met on August 6, 2015, at 6:00 PM. Trustees answering the roll call were George Harrison, Ricky Stork, J.R. Dunlap, Rob Byrley, Gene Purcell and Tim McDaniel.

Staff Members present: Margaret Littlejohn, Utility Clerk, Shirley Adams, Village Clerk, Kathy Clark, DPW Superintendent.

Visitors present: Larry Miller, Larry Surrells, Randy Urfer, Jim Ellis and Chris DeWitte (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 July 2, 2015, were accepted as presented.

First order of business was to open the sealed bids for the 2009 Dodge Nitro and the 2003 Chevy Monte Carlo. We received six bids for each vehicle; the person's name with the amount of the bid was read aloud. After some deliberation, it was the consensus of the Board to reject any of the bids. The highest bid for each vehicle was considerably lower than the NADA value. At this time, we will pursue different avenues to sell the vehicles.

OLD BUSINESS:

1) Matteson – 205 N. Rush St.- Building has been demolished; neighbors are complaining about the smell because apparently the sewer line has not been capped. It was the consensus of the Board that we get a quote to get it cleaned up and then approach David for his permission for us to have this done. We would then put a lien on his property for the cost of the cleanup.

2) Update – YICAN Property – Met with attorney – Pending court action. First Robinson Savings Bank has determined that they want the judge to rule on the matter.

NEW BUSINESS:

1) Lift Station Failure – Insurance denial of claim – Garrards. After discussing this issue at length and even though the insurance company concluded the Village had no liability for this claim, it was the consensus of the Board that the Village felt we should reimburse Earl and Marty Garrard for cleaning the waste out of their basement. George Harrison made a motion that the Village pay the Garrards \$1903.47 for labor and supplies. Tim McDaniel seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

2) Approve AmVets request for closing street – Sept. 26th – Membership Drive. J.R. Dunlap made a motion that we close W. Grand Prairie during the AmVets Membership Drive. Gene Purcell seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously. After further discussion J.R. amended his motion. He moved that the Board approve the AmVets request for their membership drive on Sept 26th to

close the first block of W. Grand Prairie for the purpose of music and food, same as last year, and that they can serve mixed drinks in plastic cups and guests be allowed to take them into the designated area and that the confined area have proper security. Gene Purcell seconded amended motion. Motion carried unanimously.

3) PDA request – we need to order the placement of new power pole by Ameren on the southeast side of Municipal lot, with a distribution panel on the pole. Larry Surrells and Jim Ellis were present to represent the PDA. Larry addressed the Board with a request from PDA and he wanted to make certain there was complete transparency on this request. More power is needed for the Labor Day and Wine and Arts Festival vendors, and in front of the Village Hall for the pancake breakfast. The PDA has an estimate from LeFever Electric for the electrical cost, in the amount of \$4,128.76, which PDA will pay. Ricky Stork made a motion that we approve the request to order the placement of a new power pole by Ameren, with a distribution panel on the pole, on our property. George Harrison seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

DPW REPORT: Kathy Clark, Superintendent. A resident reported that she fell and was injured on one of our sidewalks. We made it a priority to get it repaired. The cost for the repair was \$1600.00.

The DPW monitored the capping of Mike Jenkin's sewer on burnout lot, also monitored Leon Parker's connections to an existing line and monitored Glen Deckard's new tap.

Otie determined that the lift station fail was due to a blown fuse governing a float control.

Vandevanter/Bri have been in town for two days inspecting and servicing all the lift stations.

Kathy contacted Mt. Carmel Stabilization, as directed by Ambrow asphalt. The company owns Ambrow, as well as Kintner Resurfacing.

REPORT: Chief of Police, Jeffrey Besing. The Chief was unable to attend so Patrolman Carpenter gave the report.

The new squad car was put in service on July 16th. The Mayor and Village Board was thanked for their cooperation and help in obtaining the new squad car as well as help with the private and grant funding obtained. Chief Besing will provide an actual dollar cost at the September Board Meeting.

A third vehicle was seized from an arrest on July 24th. It is a 2005 Dodge Stratus and we are currently in the court proceedings and should have a ruling within the next 45 days.

FYI ... Sales Tax Report was handed out and Shirley reported on the 1st Installment of Taxes. FYI ... Updated list of Village Committees distributed to Trustees.

PIONEER ROOM/MAIN STREET PARK – AUGUST 2015 – RICKY STORK

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Budget Committee: Shirley Adams, Chairman. July Financials were handed out. The first tax distribution was received on August 3rd in the amount of \$69,924.47.

Bldg Regulations, Permits, Maintenance: Harry Gene Purcell, Chairman. A request to have a mobile home moved from one location to another in the Village was approved.

Employee Relations Committee: Patricia Schofield, Chairman.

FOIA Officers: Shirley Adams, Chairman.

Ordinance Committee: Larry Miller, Chairman.

Streets, Sidewalks, Alleys Committee: Rob Byrley, Chairman. Rob addressed a complaint we received last fall from Jay Wilson concerning the condition of his sidewalk up to John Seaney's sidewalk. An estimate from Dave Maxwell for the sidewalk replacement is \$6,525.00.

There are two trees which need to be removed at the same location at cost of \$1,100 for both. After some discussion, Rob made a request to table both issues until the Sept. meeting.

Sewer/Lagoon Committee: Ricky Stork, Chairman. The Township mowed the lagoon and sprayed areas where they couldn't mow.

Other business:

Rob and Ricky are on the "train committee". They met with Todd Monty, the dispatcher, concerning the trains blocking the streets for an extended time. He says they have been working on the problem and they are doing better. He confirmed that they can do the switching in the backlot area. Rob called the IL Commerce Commission and they confirmed that we cannot impose a fine on the rail road. They said they are frustrated too and agree that the long waits are unacceptable.

With no further business to discuss, Tim McDaniel moved to adjourn. J.R. Dunlap seconded motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM.

MAYOR

CLERK