

MINUTES

PALESTINE VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

October 2, 2014

Palestine Board of Trustees met on October 2, 2014, at 6:00 PM. Trustees answering the roll call were Gene Purcell, George Harrison, Ricky Stork, J.R. Dunlap, and Larry Miller. Rob Byrley was absent.

Staff Members present: Police Chief Jeff Besing, Kathy Clark, DPW Superintendent, Margaret Littlejohn, Utility Clerk, and Shirley Adams, Village Clerk, Tom Herlocher, Sr., DPW, and Office Brandon Carpenter.

Visitors present: Red Waggoner, Susie Hancock, Joe Beard, Brian Nethery, Sally Gunn, and Chris Forde (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 September 4, 2014, were accepted as presented.

OLD BUSINESS:

1) Update on lagoon fence – Bid Process – Advertised locally – Bank Loan. Joe Beard addressed the Board concerning the difference between residential and commercial grade fencing. The commercial fencing is a heavier grade and much more durable. Larry Miller moved that we go with the commercial grade fencing at the lagoon. Ricky Stork seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

This was advertised locally and a sealed bid process will be conducted. Bids will be open at noon on October 8th.

Since there is no money available through the USDA for this project, we will get the loan through the First Robinson Saving Bank at 2% interest that has already been approved.

2) Streetscape Project – Meeting with Dale Righter et al on Oct. 16. IDOT, PDA, IHPA, and some State and Federal representatives will be attending. Trustees are requested to attend also.

3) Fall Clean-Up Schedule – Oct. 22, 23, & 24. Paid-up customers only.

4) Golf Cart Access to Dollar General – See Plat. Kathy Clark has mapped out an access road for Golf Carts only. This has been approved by Dollar General. J.R. Dunlap made a motion to proceed with a Golf Cart Access only road to Dollar General. George Harrison seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

5) Update – Matteson Property – 205 N. Rush St. Nothing new has been done with the property. Chief Besing will write a letter to our attorney to follow up since this is in the court

system now.

6) Update – Matteson Property – 415 S. Main St. Nothing done. Same procedure will take place as noted with the 205 N. Rush property.

7) Update – Progress on repair to sidewalk at Verizon Tower. Kathy Clark presented two bids for the sidewalk replacement. Verizon's Regional Representative told Ricky Stork to send him the bid we selected and Verizon would take care of it. After reviewing the bids, the Board felt that Dave Maxwell's bid was more in line with what we needed done. Gene Purcell made a motion to go with Dave Maxwell's bid for the concrete work. George Harrison seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

8) Vacating Alley – Process underway. Frank Weber is still working on preparing petitions to be sent to residents involved.

NEW BUSINESS:

1) Approve final Ordinance – Re: Trash Totes. Frank Weber is still making revisions to this Ordinance.

2) Village Trunk or Treat – Approval of event; candy; food and drink. Amanda and J.R. Dunlap will help head this up. The block between Harrison to Grand Prairie will be blocked off. The Village will provide hot dogs and juice. Chief Besing will have candy in the trunk of his vehicle. This will take place on Friday, October 31 from 5:30 to 7:30 PM. (Actual trick or treat is from 5:00 to 7:00 PM.) J.R. Dunlap made a motion to approve the event and that the Village will serve hot dogs and juice. George Harrison seconded motion. Motion passed unanimously.

3) Lagoon Discussion – Lack of Mowing: Solution. The weeds and some small trees are out of control at the lagoon. The bank is too steep inside and out, especially on the NW side, causing a dangerous situation. Our mower cannot handle this. The EPA requires it to be cleaned and mowed. Kathy Clark suggested we hire someone with insurance, experience, and equipment to mow, or terrace the inner and outer banks to accommodate our equipment. After further discussion, the consensus was to contact the Palestine Township and see if George Fulling thought they could help us. If so, we could pay them a fee to mow it a couple times a year. If this works out, Kathy suggested we sell our mower.

DPW REPORT: Kathy Clark, Superintendent. Work complete on the storm sewer at S. Lincoln/E. Lamotte. Received an e-mail from Rhonda and Kermit Greene thanking the Board Members and DPW "for a job well done on the storm sewer installation".

Major cold patch work to rebuild crumbling intersections is being done as budget allows.

Tanner has begun training for WWTP operations, to meet qualifications for short school.

A sink hole was found next to the new sidewalk, due to a collapsed storm sewer at S. Main and E. Lamotte. Work is scheduled to begin Tuesday, Oct. 7.

POLICE REPORT: Chief of Police, Jeffrey Besing. Officer Carpenter will be attending the Breathalyzer School on Oct. 13, in Carbondale which will certify him to operate the Intoxilyzer used in DUI related arrests.

\$4000 was initially allocated in our budget for the academy tuition training; however, we just found out that the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board covers that cost so our only "out of budget" cost for Brandon's training will be the \$175 for his Taser Certification class.

The Police Dept. received a donation from Lincoln Land Agri-Energy to go toward equipment purchases for the new squad car when we get it, which we are first on the list for funding in the fiscal year October 1, 2014. The grant for Leo Herring has been submitted and we hope to hear something from them later this month.

PIONEER ROOM/MAIN STREET PARK – OCTOBER – GENE PURCELL

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Budget Committee: Shirley Adams, Chairman. Received our second Property Tax Distribution in the amount of \$37,560.12. Our IMRF Contribution Rates for 2015 are 11.37%.

Bldg Regulations, Permits, Maintenance: Harry Gene Purcell, Chairman. One issued one building permit last month.

Employee Relations Committee: Patricia Schofield, Chairman. Jack Murphy was hired as a seasonal employee for the DPW.

FOIA Officers: Shirley Adams, Chairman

Ordinance Committee: Larry Miller, Chairman.

Streets, Sidewalks, Alleys Committee: J.R. Dunlap, Chairman.

Sewer/Lagoon Committee: Ricky Stork, Chairman.

Other business:

Chief Besing wants to create an ordinance to address synthetic type drugs. He will discuss this at the November meeting.

The Gaming Commission may be taking care of smoking in bars.

Ricky said we now have flags for all posts.

With no further business to discuss, Larry Miller moved to adjourn. J.R. seconded motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm.

MAYOR

CLERK