

MINUTES

PALESTINE VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

October 6, 2016

Palestine Board of Trustees met on September 1, 2016, at 6:00 PM. Trustees answering the roll call were Rob Byrley, Gene Purcell, Tim McDaniel, George Harrison, and Mary Michael. J.R. Dunlap was absent.

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

Visitors present: Carol Holbert, Francis Murphy, Jim Clark, Scott Campbell, Damian Tingley, Brian Nethery, Alex Pleasant, Tom Osborne and Chris DeWitte.

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 1, 2016 were accepted as presented.

OLD BUSINESS:

1) Discussion – Updated Condemnation of Ramsey Properties. The DPW have done a wonderful job of getting the property cleaned up. Mayor has an appointment with our attorney on Tuesday. We'll know more then.

2) Main Street Halloween Trunk or Treat Gathering and Village Trick or Treat – October 31, 2016 from 5:00-8:00 PM. Work schedules for Trustees. Volunteers needed.

3) Bridge Completion Update. It is close to being completed, just not there yet.

4) REMINDER: Village Wide Fall clean-up – Tentatively Scheduled for October 19, 20, 21, 2016. (Note: paid up customers only.)

NEW BUSINESS:

1) Approval of Ordinance for Sale of Real Estate- VOP to Guyer. Title work complete. Ready to close. Gene Purcell made a motion that we approve Ordinance No. 2016-O-08, "An Ordinance to approve a Sale of Real Estate" to the Guyer family. George Harrison seconded motion carried unanimously.

2) Discussion of the need to increase Sewer rates in 2017. The Trustees were presented with an overview of our Sewer Account – Income & Expenses. With projected income/expenses for 2016-2017 it is estimated that we may end up being in the red \$34,800. Payoff of the loan for the lagoon fencing will be in December 2017. That will bring the deficit down significantly. We will discuss this more in the coming months.

DPW REPORT: Kathy Clark, Superintendent. An MFT extension was granted for the repair of highway storm gutter. We are waiting on the permit so we can begin the work.

Ramsey Project: Most all yard trash was bull dozed into 2 piles, which were loaded into dumpsters. The damage to equipment was 2 tire repairs and a new tire for the GMC.

The Township mowed the WWTP banks.

Still waiting on a hard copy from Matt Kline for written quote for barn roof replacement.

The fuel injection pump has gone out on the JD 5400. Due to the tools necessary for the repair, we've sent it to Alliance.

Kathy said we need to discuss aeration devices on the facultative pond, at the WWTP. We will probably need to use some help from Lamac.

POLICE REPORT: Chief of Police, Jeffrey Besing. The ILEAS (Illinois Law enforcement Alarm System) which we are a member, is asking for 25 officers to help with a security detail for a Luke Bryan concert on Oct. 15th in Effingham, IL. Officer Carpenter and Chief Besing have volunteered to help with that detail. They are expecting close to 20,000 people to attend this concert.

Chief Besing is working on an emergency services exhibition to include the Air-Evac helicopter for this year's Red Ribbon Week at the schools. He hopes to have an auto extrication demonstration, fire, ambulance and police vehicles on display as well as both Robinson & Crawford county K-9 units.

Chief will be introducing a new ordinance at our November meeting concerning a Cannabis Ordinance proposal.

PIONEER ROOM/MAIN STREET PARK – OCTOBER – MARY MICHAEL.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Budget Committee: Shirley Adams, Chairman. Presented the August and September Financials to the Trustees.

Bldg Regulations, Permits, Maintenance: Harry Gene Purcell, Chairman. Gene reported that we had one building permit issued for a fence and one demolition permit issued.

Employee Relations Committee: Patricia Schofield, Chairman.

FOIA Officers: Shirley Adams, Chairman.

Ordinance Committee: Larry Miller, Chairman.

Streets, Sidewalks, Alleys Committee: Rob Byrley, Chairman. Plans are to do more work on sidewalks early to mid-November.

Sewer/Lagoon Committee: George Harrison, Chairman.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Carol Holbert presented the Board with the FY 2015-2016 audit results. It was a clean audit, comparable to the previous year.

Gene asked if we the Village could waive the sewer 'tap' fee for the new food pantry. The consensus was that we would forgo the fee.

With no further business to discuss Tim McDaniel moved to adjourn. Gene Purcell seconded motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM.

PRESIDENT

CLERK