

## MINUTES

### PALESTINE VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

November 3, 2016

Palestine Board of Trustees met on November 3, 2016, at 6:00 PM. Trustees answering the roll call were Rob Byrley, Gene Purcell, Tim McDaniel, George Harrison, Mary Michael and J.R. Dunlap.

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

Visitors present: Brian Nethery, Tom Osborne and Chris DeWitt.

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 October 6, 2016, were accepted as presented.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

1) UPDATE – Condemnation Proceedings – Ramsey Properties. Received a letter from Frank saying a petition has been filed in court against Danny Ramsey, Federal National Mortgage Association and The IL Dept. of Health Care & Family Services and Unknown owners for court approval for demolition at 420 E. Franklin. A legal publication of this will be in the Robinson Daily News. If we do not hear from the parties within 30 days, we can go forward with the demolition.

We will be doing the same with all the other Ramsey properties.

2) UPDATE – Main Street Halloween Trunk or Treat Gathering and Village Trick or Treat on October 31, 2016. The turnout was great. We fed about 90 people.

3) UPDATE – Bridge Completion will be in approximately 2 weeks. Only thing they are waiting on now is the guard rails.

4) UPDATE – Fall Clean-Up – Check with Republic. Mayor didn't get a chance to speak with Republic but all in all things went well. Most everything got picked up that was out.

5) UPDATE – Sale of 17.73 Acres. We should be closing on this very soon.

6) UPDATE – Discussion of need to increase Sewer Rates in 2017. It was July of 2012 when we last raised the sewer rates. We will definitely visit this in our December meeting. The information the Trustees were given last month still stands.

7) Discussion and Approval of possible amendment to Golf Cart/Neighborhood Vehicle Penalties. The following concerns 'renewals of permits' only. The Golf Cart & Neighborhood Vehicle permits are due on or before April 30<sup>th</sup> of each year. Margaret has sent out 'past due' letters for those who have not renewed their permits in a timely manner and yet people still come in all summer to renew

their permits even though they have been driving their golf cart or neighborhood vehicle all along. After further discussion, Gene Purcell made a motion that we add a \$5.00 penalty for a Golf Cart or Neighborhood Vehicle permit more than 30 days late. George Harrison seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

In addition, Gene Purcell made a motion that Golf Cart and Neighborhood Vehicles be allowed to be in operation anytime during a 24 hour day, as long as they are properly permitted. George Harrison seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1) Discussion and Approval of (Draft) Ordinance to Amend the Palestine Village Code to Add – Chapter 12B, CANNABIS. Chief Besing said the State of Illinois lessened criminal law for cannabis. Anyone found with 10 grams or less of cannabis, will be charged with a civil offense. The \$250 fine will come back to the Village to be put in the drug fund in our General Fund. Gene Purcell made a motion to approve an amendment to add Chapter 12B for Cannabis. Tim McDaniel seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

2) Route 33 South Bridge Replacement – FAP Route 781 (IL 33 State Section (108BR) B) – Bid letting November 4, 2016. This proposed project includes removal and reconstruction of the structure carrying IL 33 over LaMotte Creek.

3) Discussion – Change in Policy Manual – DPW Certification. Kathy has recommend that two employees be certified as Public Pesticide Applicators, ensuring always having a licensed applicator on staff. In order to complete appropriate exams, we must test for Mosquito/General Standards. It is a practical common practice in most municipalities. Eventually it will be mandatory. The general consensus of the Trustees was that this was a good idea and that we should proceed with this.

4) Employee Christmas Party – December 2, 2016 – 6:00 PM – Main Street Bistro.

5) Caucus Notice – Caucus will be held on Dec. 5, 2016 – Filing period: December 12-19, 2016. Up for re-election: Mayor; 3 Trustee positions held now by: J.R. Dunlap, Gene Purcell, and Mary Michael. Rob Byrley said he will be running for the office of Mayor.

**DPW REPORT:** Kathy Clark, Superintendent. Kathy has scheduled a dig/repair at the influent station, at the lagoon, with Steve Mitchell. She has been watching a sinkhole, indicating damage to a D.I. pipe to discharge tank. The line is approximately 4' deep. It should be an easy fix

Waiting for state permits, one for a highway gutter, another for “Detour” and sanitary sewer manhole repair.

Kathy has a salesman coming next week, to look into information on aeration systems. (This is only one option.) The EPA is soon going to add phosphorus monitoring. This will most likely be a condition of our new permit (2018). Aeration on the facultative pond will not only ensure proper dissolved oxygen, acceptable algae levels and low odor levels, but will also help in increasing the biological process. If we cannot control the phosphorus with an efficient process, we will be required to chemically control it. She would like to further explore this with a Village engineer.

Leaf season has begun. The DPW modified the headache rack of the new Chevy bed to allow full view of the crew during operation. They scrapped an old trailer for the expanded metal.

Received the quote from Kline Construction for the barn roof.

**POLICE REPORT:** Chief of Police, Jeffrey Besing. Chief reported that their Red ribbon week at

the schools ended last Friday with their Emergency Services Expo and auto Extrication. The helicopter was not able to attend so the K-9 units did a suspect apprehension.

The next main event will be the “lighting of the park” and fireworks show on Friday after thanksgiving (Nov. 25<sup>th</sup>) which brings in a big crowd. Would like to remind those attending to be patient after the event as the traffic flow will be heavy.

Chief Besing checked on a CPR/AED recertification class for Village employees with Scott Rawlings (Athletic Trainer) @ Crawford Memorial. He advised that we could do the online course for \$20 per person and then the practical exercise check-off with him for \$10.00 per person.

Mayor Schofield said she had another avenue for this training and would follow up.

**PIONEER ROOM/MAIN STREET PARK – NOVEMBER – TIM McDANIEL**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Budget Committee:** Shirley Adams, Chairman. The new IMRF Contribution Rate for the Village for 2017 is 11.06%.

**Bldg Regulations, Permits, Maintenance:** Harry Gene Purcell, Chairman. Gene said we had permits for one fence and one demolition.

**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:** George Harrison, Chairman.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

J.R. Dunlap questioned if we could ever replace the payment on Main St. sometime, from LaMotte to the Highway. Mayor Schofield said the only way we could get this done is to get a low percent loan from Rural Development.

With no further business to discuss J.R. Dunlap moved to adjourn. Tim McDaniel seconded motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned 7:00 PM.

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PRESIDENT

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CLERK

