

MINUTES

PALESTINE VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

December 1, 2016

Palestine Board of Trustees met on December 1, 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: Brandon Carpenter, Patrolman, Kathy Clark, DPW Supervisor, and Margaret Littlejohn, Utility Clerk. Absent: Chief Besing and Shirley Adams, Village Clerk

Visitors present: Brian Nethery, Chris DeWitt (WTYE) and Tom Osborne (Robinson Daily News).

Meeting called to order by Mayor Patricia Schofield.

The meeting began with all present reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes were taken by the Margaret Littlejohn.

The Minutes of November 3, 2016, were accepted as presented.

OLD BUSINESS:

1) UPDATE – Condemnation Proceedings – Ramsey Properties. Our attorney informed us that the papers have been filed and the Ramseys have until December 4th to answer. If no dispute, we will be able to start demolition.

2) UPDATE – Sale of 17.73 Acres – This sale was consummated on Nov. 18, 2016. Appraisal and title work complete. Net amount of sale was \$24,648.

3) Discussion and approval of increase in Sewer Rates in 2017. After some discussion, Mary Michael made a motion that we increase the Sewer Rate by \$1.00 per month, making the quarterly billing \$45 and increasing the Sewer Deposits to \$45.00 (from \$40). George Harrison seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously. The new rates will become effective January 1, 2017.

4) Approval of Ordinance for Amendment to Golf Cart/Neighborhood Vehicle. Tim McDaniel moved for approval of the Amendment. J.R. Dunlap seconded motion. Motion passed unanimously. (Ordinance No. 2016-O-10)

5) Final Approval of Ordinance to Amend the Palestine Village Code to Add Chapter 12B, CANNABIS and DRUG PARPHERNALIA. This Ordinance has been acknowledged by our attorney. The consensus of Trustees gave final approval for Ordinance 2016-O-09).

NEW BUSINESS:

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

2) REMINDER: Caucus Notice – Caucus will be held on December 3, 2016 at 6:00 PM. Filing Period: December 12-19, 2016. Up for re-election: Mayor and 3 Trustee positions held now by: J.R. Dunlap, Gene Purcell, and Mary Michael.

3) Discussion: Workmen's Compensation Insurance – IL Public Risk Fund. We have changed to IPRF beginning Dec. 15th. The annual cost is considerably lower. We'll discuss this further at the January meeting.

4) Discussion and approval of Bella Vista request for street closing on July 15, 2017, corner of Main St. and Harrison East to alley for wedding reception. Bella Vista will provide security and, in addition, Brandon Carpenter will be on duty. J.R. Dunlap moved that we approve this request. George Harrison seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

DPW REPORT: Kathy Clark, Superintendent. New Christmas decorations are up. Made the request to add additional decorations each year. Have ok from Mayor.

Still having continual problems with Ford Pickup. Kathy is going to put in for a new truck in the new budget.

DPW is done with leaves but is preparing for winter weather.

The DPW is saving the liner of new truck bed by lining it with plywood & plastic.

Nothing has been done at the sinkhole at the lagoon. It is workable, not an emergency.

Steve helped with repairs on W. Franklin.

POLICE REPORT: Chief of Police, Jeffrey Besing. The Chief and Brandon participated in the county wide DUI detail on Nov. 23rd. Our Department wrote (4) traffic related citations and responded to a theft report at the high school during the detail.

We will be assisting with the Santa Train detail on Dec. 4th.

Chief Besing would like to remind the residents to make sure that they are locking their vehicles and keeping their Christmas purchases hidden in their vehicles as well as removing them from their vehicles once they are home. Also, another problem is the theft of packages being delivered to homes from Internet Christmas shopping. If ordering on line, make arrangements to be home when the package is delivered or have it delivered to your work place.

PIONEER ROOM/MAIN STREET PARK – DECEMBER – J.R. DUNLAP

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Budget Committee: Shirley Adams, Chairman. Oct. Financials were handed out.

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. Mayor Schofield reminded everyone that their annual FOIA training is due by March 1st.

Ordinance Committee: Larry Miller, Chairman.

Streets, Sidewalks, Alleys Committee: Rob Byrley, Chairman. Sidewalk repairs have been done on E. Market & N. Pike and a drive on Franklin. The East side of Harmons need repaired also.

Sewer/Lagoon Committee: George Harrison, Chairman.

Motion was made at 6:30 PM to go into Executive Session by J.R. Dunlap, Seconded by Gene Purcell for the purpose of 2(c) (3) and 2(c).

Regular session resumed at 6:49 PM. Gene Purcell made a motion that someone on the Board contact Brian Nethery and see if he would be interested in filling the Trustee position that will be available in March when Rob Byrley resigns. Motion seconded by George Harrison. Motion passed.

J.R. Dunlap made a motion that we increase the salary of the Mayor for a four year term beginning in May 2017. The salary will be \$12,000 per year (\$1,000 per month). Tim McDaniel seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Tim McDaniel moved that we employ Patricia Schofield as the Mayor's Assistant (in May 2017) on an as needed bases at a wage of \$16.00 per hour. Mary Michael seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

With no further business to discuss Tim McDaniel. J.R. Dunlap seconded motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned 6:51 PM.

PRESIDENT

CLERK