

MINUTES

PALESTINE VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

December 6, 2018

Palestine Board of Trustees met on December 6, 2018, at 6:00 PM. Trustees answering the roll call were Tim McDaniel, Mary Michael, Gene Purcell, George Harrison and Brian Nethery. J.R. Dunlap was absent.

Staff Members present: Police Chief Jeff Besing, Shirley Adams, Village Clerk, Patricia Schofield, Mayor’s Consultant and Kathy Clark, DPW Superintendent.

Visitors present: Janice Fuller, Luke McNair, Twilla Davis, Clint Stevenson and Miles Foltynowicz.

Meeting called to order by Mayor Rob Byrley

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

Minutes were taken by the Village Clerk.

The Minutes of November 1, 2018, accepted as presented.

OLD BUSINESS:

1) Janice Fuller – Alumni Reunion – 2019. A proposal was given to the Trustees at the November meeting. Gene Purcell made a motion that we approve their request to have the Alumni Reunion in our Pavilion/Community Facility at no charge. They will be responsible to get liability insurance if they have alcohol and have it in a segregated area. They will be at more Board Meetings to keep us up to date.

2) Revisit – Discussion of Community Garden: Care, weeds, chickens. The weeds have been cut down and most of the chips dispersed. They are continuing to work on it. The Board will revisit this in a few months.

NEW BUSINESS:

1) REMINDER: Employee Christmas Party – Tomorrow evening, Dec. 7th and 6:00 PM in the Pioneer Room. Meal will be catered by Cindy Allee.

2) Report on Village Caucus held December 3, 2018. Three individuals who will be running on the People’s Party are:

Brian Nethery	29 votes
Tim McDaniel	27 votes
Nancy Jenkins	22 votes

FYI: Mediacom is again raising rates. Local Broadcast will raise \$3.46 per month. Region Sports will raise by \$.34 per month, Family TV will raise \$2.00 per month, and Prime TV will raise \$2.00 per month.

FYI: Update on Ramsey Properties. No update at this time.

FYI: Per a recent inquiry, our attorney reviewed the statute that permits tax abatements for “relocating corporate headquarters”. That statute became effective July 25, 2013. It had a 5-year limitation on it which expired July 25, 2018. Accordingly, tax abatements for relocating corporate headquarters is not now available in Illinois.”

DPW REPORT: Kathy Clark, Superintendent.

The DPW replaced a manhole frame, on E. Grand Prairie, that broke when trying to raise the sunken manhole frame. The broken one was donated to Steve Mitchell for use on the First Christian Church water runoff.

December 13th will be the last leaf vac pick up for leaves. It was announced on social media and the Daily News. It will also be posted on the community sign.

Kathy met with our Village Engineer, Collin Dunn and a state engineer, to tour the treatment plant and discuss our hopes of upgrading certain areas of the plant. These include aeration for the main cell, replacing the aeration fountain apron and rip rapping (correctly) the original main cell. Kathy learned that the areas of the main cell that have rip rap were an add-on and were properly rip rapped.

Jack is now available to work extended hours since he is out of school, so our seasonal employee, Twilla Davis, was laid off.

We are expecting the new volute any time.

POLICE REPORT: Chief of Police, Jeff Besing.

The monthly police report was given out.

The fireworks event at Leaverton Park went really well. Each year Gene and the Chief try to figure out an easier way to get traffic out of the park smoothly.

The Chief spent a week and a half with kids in grades kindergarten through 2nd grade at Palestine Grade School for the “Lunch with the Law” program. They raised \$220 for the “Shop with a Cop” program.

There have been some reports of vandalism to private residents’ Christmas display. The news media has already published warnings that anyone caught doing so will be criminally charged.

Our new squad car arrival date has been pushed back to the last week of January to the first week of February. There was a glitch in the Ford Manufacturing ordering system which caused a back log. Between 500-600 new squads were ordered by Illinois law enforcement agencies within the past 6 months.

The Chief will be starting his “Operation Holiday Traffic Stops” soon, with gift certificates from Pioneer city Meat Market, along with treat bags for the kids, will be given out.

PIONEER ROOM/COMMUNITY FACILITY – DECEMBER – J.R. DUNLAP

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Budget Committee: Shirley Adams, Chairman. October and November financial reports were handed out to Trustees. Our Unemployment rate for 2019 will be .775%, down from 2.425%. Our IMRF rate will be 9.96.

Bldg Regulations, Permits, Maintenance: Harry Gene Purcell, Chairman.

Employee Relations Committee: Harry Gene Purcell, Chairman.

FOIA Officers: Shirley Adams, Chairman. FOIA/OMA Certifications are complete.

Ordinance Committee: Pat Schofield.

Streets, Sidewalks, Alleys Committee: Tim McDaniel, Chairman.

Sewer/Lagoon Committee: George Harrison, Chairman.

Motion to go into Executive Session under Section 2 (C) (1) made by Gene Purcell at 6:41 PM. Motion seconded by Brian Nethery. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to go back into General Session by George Harrison and seconded by Tim McDaniel. Motion carried.

Regular session reconvened at 6:47 PM. The purpose of the Executive Session was to discuss the possibility of hiring a new patrolman for the Village. Gene Purcell made a motion that the Village offer Jordan Bowen the position of patrolman for the Village of Palestine. George Harrison seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Other Business:

Miles Foltynowicz addressed the Board. He was representing the American Institute of Consumer Studies. They have chosen 18 households in our area to participate in the Survey of the American Consumer. He was requesting approval to contact these households. The households that do participate will get a cash gift. They are NOT selling anything. The consensus was to suggest that Chief Besing approve his request. Chief Besing gave his approval but requested that he not go to households after dark.

Kathy Clark said there was an old apple tree on the boulevard that needs removed. George Harrison moved that we take the tree down. Tim McDaniel seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

With no further business to discuss Tim McDaniel moved to adjourn. George Harrison seconded motion. Meeting adjourned at 6:49 PM.

PRESIDENT

CLERK