

MINUTES

PALESTINE VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

April 7, 2011

The Palestine Board of Trustees met in regular session on April 7, 2011, at 6:00 PM. Trustees answering the roll call were Gene Purcell, Greta Dennison, Larry Miller, Larry Surrells, J.D. Kimberlin and J.R. Dunlap.

Margaret Littlejohn, Utility Clerk, was present.

Visitors present: Michael Neikirk, Barbara Webster, Betty Powell, Tom Osborne from the Robinson Daily News, and Chris Ford from WTAY.

Meeting called to order by Mayor Schofield.

The meeting began with all present reciting the Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes were taken by the Village Clerk.

The minutes of the last meeting were accepted as presented.

OLD BUSINESS:

- 1) Neikirk Engineering, LLC – Contract Discussion. Michael Neikirk was present to finalize the contract for Engineering for the Village. There was some discussion and he explained Neikirk's liability limits to the Board. The Board previously voted to accept the contract, therefore, the contract just needed to be signed.
- 2) Budget Meeting. Postponed until Saturday, April 16, 2011.
- 3) Spring Clean-up day. Spring clean-up day will be Wednesday, April 27, 2011, for all paid up customers.
- 4) DCEO Grant update. Barbara Webster updated the Board on the DCEO grant which is aimed at disaster areas affected by the flood in 2008. This is a 'no matching' grant and on a first come, first serve basis. Barbara has submitted the following list of possible projects for which the funds could be used.

ITEP Streetscape Project

Façade and Stabilization Funds for Historic Buildings.

High Speed Internet Connection to Village

10 Computers with software, 1 Overhead Projector, one printer, one digital camera and \$50,000 of Professional Training.

Larry Surrells made a motion to give the Mayor authority to proceed with the necessary applications for this grant as proposed. Greta Dennison seconded motion. Motion passed unanimously.

- 5) USDA – Match Grant update for ITEP Project. Mayor Schofield reported that we did get approval to submit the complete application for the \$99,000 for the ITEP Project.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1) Approval of 2011 Wine & Arts Festival. Received request from the Palestine Development Association to hold the Wine & Arts Festival on October 1 & 2, 2011. J.R. Dunlap moved to accept the PDA's request for approval of the Wine & Arts Festival. J.D. Kimberlin seconded motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- 2) Salt for 2011-2012. Mayor Schofield has submitted a request to North American Salt Company for a quote for salt for the DPW. We are expecting the quote back by May or June, 2011. We are totally out so we will have to purchase salt this year.
- 3) Approve Resolution – Permit for 'PACES FOR PIONEERS'. This is a PTO sponsored walk/run to be held on Saturday, June, 4, 2011, beginning at the park and ending at the park. It starts at 8:30 AM and will last about 1 ½ hours. This resolution needs to be approved by IDOT because the route will cross the highway and the Village has to get permission from the State to close the highway for the event. Larry Miller moved to approve the resolution as presented. Larry Surrells seconded motion. Roll call was taken and motion passed unanimously.
- 4) Estimate for replacement of back door. Life Safety Code – Handicapped Accessible; Addition of lighted EXIT signs as a requirement from our insurance company – Life Safety Code. A bid has been submitted to the Village and reviewed, however, the Trustees felt that we needed at least one more bid, possibly by a company who specializes in the replacement of doors and windows. We will discuss this further at the next board meeting.
- 5) Discussion regarding requests from residents to replace gravel in the 'terrace area' of their driveways. After some discussion, it was decided by the Trustees not to replace the gravel. A motion was made by Gene Purcell that the Village not replace gravel in the 'terrace area' of driveways, unless damage to the driveway is caused or created by the Village. J.R. Dunlap seconded motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- 6) 2011 Illinois Municipal Handbook - \$37.50 each. Mayor Schofield asked the Board how many handbooks they thought we should order. It was decided that we will order one handbook and keep it in the Clerk's office.
- 7) Mediacom rate increase. Mediacom has given us notice of an increase in their rates along with the Annual Report for complaints from January 1, 2010 thru December 31, 2010.

Police Report: Chief of Police, Jim Clark was not present.

Pioneer Room – April – Larry Miller

FYI: Mayor Schofield and the Village Clerk will be attending the IL Central Management Services LGHP Benefit Choice seminar on Monday, May 2, 2011, in Mt. Vernon. Due to the fact that there have been several changes in the plan, it is a requirement that they attend.

Committee Reports:

Budget & Financial Committee: Shirley Adams, Chairman. Financials for March were presented.

Bldg. Regulations, Permits, Maintenance: Larry Surrells, Chairman. There have been a few building permits issued this month.

Sewer Committee: Larry Surrells, Chairman. There was a break in a sewer line this week but it has been repaired. A lab test earlier in the week indicated a level was a little high so another test was taken and it came back normal.

Other business:

J.R. Dunlap asked if we had a spare pump. We do have one spare. Kathy has been working hard on meeting his recommendations.

J.R. Dunlap requested to put the 'Neighborhood Vehicles' back on the agenda. Larry Surrells made a motion to bring this back to the Board at the next meeting. Larry Miller supported the motion.

Larry Miller asked that we all look at our next water report. If you don't agree with your report, make a complaint to the water company.

Larry Surrells asked for an update on Main St. Park. Mayor Schofield said we are waiting on Henry's estimate for studding. After studding is complete, we then can go ahead with electricity.

Greta Dennison asked when the water tower was going to get painted. Mayor Schofield said it supposed to be done in June.

Gene Purcell questioned if the DPW had an "air monitor" to use if they had to go down in a manhole. Larry Surrells said he is sure they do have an air monitor but he will double check with Kathy Fuller to confirm this.

Margaret reported that there are several over due sewer accounts. Some are repeat offenders.

Betty Powell thanked the Village for the new street light. However, she had a complaint about soil that was put over a hole on her property from a tree removed by the Village. The dirt had a lot of rocks in it and it was causing her difficulties. Mayor Schofield assured her that the DPW would take care this for her.

With no further business to discuss, Greta Dennison moved for adjournment. Meeting adjourned at 7:10 P.M.

PRESIDENT

CLERK