

MINUTES

PALESTINE VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

May 5, 2011

The Palestine Board of Trustees met in regular session on May 5, 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.

Chief of Police, Jim Clark; Margaret Littlejohn, Utility Clerk; and Kathy Pethtel, DPW Superintendent were present.

Visitors present: Michael Neikirk, Barbara Webster, Cory Jobe, Steve Mitchell, Chris Forde from WTYE, Sarah Ruholl from Robinson Daily News, and 19 visitors in support of a proposal to include 'Neighborhood Vehicles' to the golf Cart Ordinance.

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 April 7, 2011, and April 18, 2011, were accepted as presented.

OLD BUSINESS:

- 1) Report on LGHP Benefit Seminar-Health Insurance for Employees. Mayor Schofield and Shirley Adams, Village Clerk, attended the seminar in Mt. Vernon on Monday, May 2nd. The contract has not been awarded and rates are not available at this time. We should hear something before the end of May.
- 2) Estimate(s) for replacement of back door & repair to rear exit door-Life Safety Code-Handicapped Accessible; Addition of three lighted EXIT signs as a requirement from our Insurance Company-Life Safety Code. Jim Munson was given information in order for him to submit a quote, however, we have not heard from him since that time. Jeremy was not willing to rebid his quote, therefore, Larry Miller made a motion to accept Jeremy's original bid and Larry Surrells seconded motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- 3) Report of spring Clean-up day – April 27th. The Spring clean-up did not go well. Republic only had one truck available that day and they ended up having to bring in four trucks to finish the job. They have assured us that they will be prepared for the next clean up day and that they will advertise in the Daily News when the fall clean-up will be for Palestine.
- 4) Salt update. We have not received any quotes for salt at this time.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1) Adopt FY2011 Annual Appropriation Ordinance. Larry Surrells moved to adopt the FY2011 Annual Appropriation Ordinance as written. Greta Dennison seconded motion. Motion was passed unanimously. Ordinance number is 2011-O-04.
- 2) Adopt FY2011 Annual Prevailing Wage Ordinance. Frank Weber did not get the Ordinance completed. We will adopt it at the June Board Meeting.

- 3) Approve FY2011 Resolution for Maintenance of Streets and Highways by Municipality Under the Illinois Highway Code. This was postponed until the June Board Meeting.
- 4) Residential Property Clean-up. There are several properties in town that need cleaned up. Our Ordinance Officer will let the owners or renters of said properties know they must get their property cleaned up.
- 5) Discussion of adding 'Neighborhood Vehicles' to the Golf Cart Ordinance (i.e. Side-by-Side, Rangers, Razors, Gators, etc.) There were 19 individuals present to voice their support in favor of this proposal. The pros and cons of adding 'Neighborhood Vehicles' were discussed at length. Other areas are allowing them with seemingly no problems. The Board members are concerned with safety issues. It was suggested we consider allowing them for a 'one year trial period' and if it doesn't work out, then we could prohibit them at that point. After consideration, Larry Miller moved to add the 'Neighborhood Vehicles' for a one year trial period to our Golf Cart Ordinance. J.R. seconded motion. Four votes were for the motion with Greta Dennison and Larry Surrells voting against the motion. Motion passed. Larry Miller will bring proposed changes in the Golf Cart Ordinance to the June's Board Meeting for approval.
- 6) PDA-Submission of the Strategic Plan in conjunction with the PEDC Grant and ITEP Grant for Streetscape. Steve McGahey and Cory Jobe presented the strategic Plan that their committee has put in place. They have short term and long terms goals but wanted us to realize this is just a plan and plans can change and will change along the way. One of the things they will be working on is new branding and marketing concepts and logo designs for our historic preservation district. They basically want us to sign on in support of this plan. Larry Surrells moved to approve the Strategic Plan that has been put in place and proceed with the grant applications that have been applied for; the only exception being that it be at no cost to the Village. Greta Dennison seconded motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- 7) Mosquito spraying-2011 Schedule. Mosquito spraying has been postponed. Plans are to start spraying by the end of May.
- 8) Fred McNair-Requesting approval to place a soda machine on his corner (Main and Grand Prairie) under the awning. A picture was passed around showing exactly where the machine would be placed. It is not on the sidewalk so it will not impede pedestrians. J.R. Dunlap moved to approve Fred's request to place a soda machine on his corner. Greta Dennison seconded motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- 9) Discussion/Approval of telephone/internet/cable carrier. Mayor Schofield submitted a comparison between Frontier and Mediacom quotes. At present, the Village is using Frontier for our telephone services, including a fax line. Mediacom provides our internet service. Both quotes are for a 3-year contract. Unlimited long distance is included. Mediacom's proposal for all the above services is \$56 less per month. After some discussion, Gene Purcell made a motion to accept Mediacom as our provider for telephone, internet and cable. If, at a later date, we feel we need faster internet service, we will then bring it back to the Board. Larry Surrells seconded the motion. Motion was passed unanimously.
- 10) Discussion-Approved Executive Minutes-Allow minutes to be placed on Village Website or be made available for viewing in the office only. After a short discussion, Larry Surrells moved that the Approved Executive Minutes be available for viewing in the office only. Larry Miller seconded this motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- 11) State of Illinois-index Department-Official 2010 Decennial\Census Certificate. Mayor Schofield has received the Certificate. It states that the number of inhabitants in The Village of Palestine is 1,369, up 6 from last census.
- 12) Announcement from Lincoln Trail College: LTC was named one of the top 120

Community Colleges in the Nation.

DPW Report: Kathy and Bud are now certified to spray. Kathy said the salt/sand shed has started to leak so they are in the process of putting up tar paper and putting on a new roof.

Police Report: Jim said there were three DUI arrests this month. Due to the high gas prices there have been reports of gas being siphoned out of cars in the area. Jim feels it might be a good idea to invest in locking gas caps.

Pioneer Room – May – J.D. Kimberlin

Committee Reports:

Budget & Financial Committee: Shirley Adams, Chairman. Financials for April were presented, along with a copy of the approved Budget for FY2012.

FOIA Officers: Annual training is required and should be completed within 30 days.

Streets, Sidewalks, Alleys Committee: Larry Surrells, Chairman. Work will be done when time and money allows.

Ordinance Committee: Larry Miller, Chairman. Larry will be working on an amendment to the Golf Cart Ordinance to allow for 'Neighborhood Vehicles'.

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. said he'd had a complaint about a property on Rush Street. The Mayor said she would let the owner know in an effort to get the problem resolved.

David Hughes had a question about the Village's revenue from the State. The Village Clerk reported that we are receiving Income Tax Revenue each month, but they are paying four months behind.

Bob Taylor reminded everyone that Memorial Day was approaching and encouraged folks to attend some of the Memorial Day Programs being presented by the American Legion and AMVETS.

The Verizon cell tower should be completed by September.

With no further business to discuss, Larry Surrells moved to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 P.M.

PRESIDENT

CLERK