

## MINUTES

### PALESTINE VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

December 2, 2010

The Palestine Board of Trustees met in regular session on December 2, at 6:00 PM. Trustees answering the roll call were Gene Purcell, Greta Dennison, Larry Miller, and Larry Surrells. J.D. Kimberlin and J.R. Dunlap were absent.

Police Chief Jim Clark, and Margaret Littlejohn, Utility Clerk, were also present.

Visitors present: Chris Ford from WTYE, Tom Osborne from Robinson Daily News, Kathy Fuller, Bob Taylor, Barbara Webster, and Leroy and Betty Powell.

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) Report on Ordinance Re: Residents planting trees/bushes in the 'terrace' area between the sidewalk and streets. Larry Miller presented a rough draft of a proposed ordinance on this issue. After some discussion, it was agreed that the Board Members would look at this proposal more closely and were asked to call Larry with suggestions in order that he can prepare a second draft for the Board to review and discuss in January.
- 2) Repairs to truck-transmission. Actual cost was \$2,851.41. Dustin Kennedy inadvertently ordered the wrong transmission and the one that was needed was \$351.41 more than the original quote.
3. Contract for Management of Sewer/Lagoon. The contract with Lawrence Quick for management of our sewer/lagoon has been executed and is effective December 1, 2010, for a period of one year. He will be attending one of our Board Meetings in the future.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- 1) Approve resolution for Safe Routes for Schools. Barbara Webster, Preserve America Grant Coordinator, presented information on this grant which is through the State. One of the aspects of this grant is that it has already gone through the school district and discussions were held in a public meeting a couple weeks ago. Safety concerns for kids biking and walking to school were addressed. Of greatest concern was LaMotte Street. The Village is concerned about the safety hazard due to the insufficient sidewalks from the main entrance of the Palestine Grand School South on Washington Street and then East on LaMotte Street. The Village of Palestine believes the Safe

Routes to School Project will assist in the goal of decreasing the risk of child injuries and fatalities. This grant would be for the needed addition of sidewalks and bicycle area, especially on W. LaMotte St., from Main to Washington St., and on Washington Street. The \$250,000 grant is a full grant and would not require the Village to put up any matching money; however, it is a reimbursement grant. Neikirk Engineering has been contacted for a free estimate of the work that would be required. Larry Miller moved to accept the Resolution in Support of Grant Application for Illinois Transportation Safe Routes to School. Larry Surrells seconded motion. Motion passed with four Ayes.

2) Barbara Webster – Report on a possible new DCEO Grant. Barbara is looking into another grant possibility for the Village from DCEO. It is coming down to flood counties of 2008 which were federally declared disaster areas. The funding is just now being rolled out. The final report was ready only two weeks ago. The program is called IKE, and is designed for a Community Stabilization Program available for possible economic development opportunities for the Village. Barbara presented a list of possible projects based on some of the needs in the area that might be considered for the grant. She will continue to research the possibility of the Village applying for this grant.

3) Permission to set metal storage units – Kurt Holscher. Mr. Holscher would like to set metal storage units on his property to rent out as storage buildings. They would be 8'x8'x8' or 8'x8'x10' buildings. The Trustees would like to see a site plan but no concerns were voiced. Gene Purcell moved to give Kurt Holscher permission to set the metal storage units. Larry Surrells seconded motion. Motion passed with four Ayes.

4) Report from DPW. Kathy Fuller reported on the leaf removal for the Village. There was a savings of 73 machine hours this year. She attributed this to more efficient man power and a more efficient approach. In addition, the leaves were drier this year which required less work to pick them up. The removal of over 20 trees and limbs from the Village streets also contributed to the decrease.

5) Consolidated Election: April 5, 2011 (10ilcs 5/10-4). Caucus to be held: January 10, 2011. First day of filing: January 18, 2011. Mayor Schofield reminded the trustees of the upcoming consolidated election. Larry Surrells, Greta Dennison and JD Kimberlin are running again as their terms have expired. Larry Miller will be running to fill the final two year term vacated by David Branson.

**Police Report:** Chief of Police, Jim Clark. Jim reported there were several animal control issues in November; otherwise it was a pretty good month.

### **Committee Reports:**

Budget & Financial Committee: Shirley Adams, Chairman. Financials were not available in time for December's meeting. They will be presented in January. The Village received the Final Notice of Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund Contribution Rate for Calendar Year 2011. Our rate will be 15.31%, down slightly from 2010.

Streets, Sidewalks, Alleys Committee: Larry Surrells, Chairman. Larry reported that there is sidewalk work that needs to be done soon.

Sewer Committee: Larry Surrells, Chairman. Everything is going well. Lawrence Quick's assistance has been of help to the Sewer Dept. personnel already.

**Additional business:**

Bob Taylor reminded everyone not to forget December 7<sup>th</sup>.

Greta Dennison made a motion to adjourn to Executive Session at 6:55 PM.

The regular session of the Board Meeting resumed at 7:26 PM.

The purpose of the Executive Session was to share with the Board Members the actions that took place this past week concerning Jim Baker and Kathy Fuller. Kathy has been made Supervisor of the DPW Staff and Jim resigned on November 30<sup>th</sup> with his employment to end on December 7, 2010, because he had PTO time.

With no further business to discuss, Gene Purcell moved for adjournment. Meeting adjourned at 7:35 PM.

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PRESIDENT

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CLERK



