

## MINUTES

### PALESTINE VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

APRIL 4, 2019

Palestine Board of Trustees met on April 4, 2019, at 6:00 PM. Trustees answering the roll call were Gene Purcell, J. R. Dunlap, Mary Michael, George Harrison, Brian Nethery, and Tim McDaniel.

Staff Members present: Police Chief Jeff Besing, Shirley Adams, Village Clerk, Patricia Schofield, Village Consultant, Margaret Littlejohn, Utility Clerk and Kathy Clark, DPW Superintendent.

Visitors present: Tom Osborne (Robinson Daily News); Chris DeWitt, WTYE; Jody L. Wiseman; Susie Hancock; Linda Best; Len Daugherty; Nancy Jenkins; and Twilla Davis, and Bob Taylor.

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/Pat Schofield, Assistant Village Clerk.

The Minutes of March 7, 2019, were accepted as presented.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Update on Ramsey properties: The Board was advised that the Village of Palestine has received the Tax Deed from Crawford County (JICTB, Inc.), on the Ramsey Property, described as Lot No. 15, Block 10, Wabash Addition to the Village of Palestine, IL., and it has been properly recorded. There will be another court hearing on another lot in August. Hopefully, by December 2019, the Village will be in ownership of all the Ramsey properties, with the exception of the lot that the Eagles purchased.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1) Seventeenth Annual Wabash Valley Wine and Art Festival – Oct. 5 & 6, 2019. The Board of Trustees reviewed and approved the PDA request for their Annual Wabash Valley Wine and Art Festival. Gene Purcell moved and Tim McDaniel seconded to approve their request. Motion carried.

2) VOP and Sewer Budget – 2019-2020. J. R. Dunlap moved, George Harrison seconded, to officially approve the VOP General and Sewer Budget for 2019-2020. Motion carried.

3) Palestine Chamber Labor Day Committee's Request for Illinois State Parade Permit. J. R. Dunlap moved, Brian Nethery seconded, to approve the Palestine Chamber Labor Day Committee's Request for the Illinois State Parade Permit for September 2, 2019. Motion carried.

4). Susie Hancock – Areas of concern. Susie Hancock presented 3 areas of concern.

1) The sidewalk in the front of her home needs to be repaired or replaced. It was damaged when 2 trees were removed from the terrace area. Tim McDaniel has already looked at the area and will make sure this sidewalk is put on the replacement list.

2) The pedestrian crossings at the Railroad on North Main Street are in poor condition and need to be repaired/replaced. Mayor Byrley assured Susie that he would be in contact with the Railroad immediately to make sure they are aware of the condition of the crossings, and get them repaired as soon as possible.

3) Where the Bridge and street meet on North Main St., there is a large hole there that keeps getting bigger. Kathy Clark took immediate steps to make sure this was taken care of. She got in touch with the County Engineer, and they came over quickly to determine what needed to be done to make it safe for travel.

5). Linda Best – Areas of concern. Linda Best presented 3 areas of concern.

1) Bryan Street is in need of attention. Half of the street is paved, and half of it is dirt. The grain truck traffic, etc., has caused the dis-repair to the street, making it difficult to deal with at her driveway. Kathy Clark addressed this situation and has it on their list for chip and seal, which should help.

2) Alley between Casey's and Bryan Street. She is tired of the traffic in this alley, and all the debris that she picks up. This alley should be barred from traffic. Chief Besing addressed that we cannot legally block the alley, due to the possibility of any emergencies, whereby it needed to be used.

3) The Storm Drain on Bryan Street is of no value to that area. The water runoff does not reach the storm drain and ends up in her driveway. She is tired of having to clean out the mud and silt at the end of her driveway.

**DPW REPORT:** Kathy Clark, Superintendent

The lighting of the Community sign is complete. Many thanks go to Palestine Development Association for their facilitating the funds that made this possible.

We have a current MFT budget, so work began on larger patching areas with cold patch. We have started re-rocking the alleys.

Next week, we are scheduled to raise a sunken manhole in the 200 block of East Harrison, and work will continue raising manholes through the summer. We will be replacing an existing patch of concrete in the 400 block of W Grand Prairie. Further street repairs are upcoming.

Repairs are complete on the East LaMotte St. life station and the South Bryan St. life station. All pumps are up and running.

The Village received an IPRF grant for \$444. The DPW Department purchased lightweight folding barricades, traffic cones and extendable cone bars.

We will have the leaf vac out on the 10<sup>th</sup> for a one time spring clean-up.

**DPW REPORT:** (continued)

Though not DPW related, I contacted the County Engineer concerning the hole at Sugar Creek Bridge. (As Susie Hancock had earlier reported) There was a washout under the bridge approach. The county excavated and filled the void. On inspection, there was no evident issue with the structure.

PER in final stage of completion.

Kathy said that she will take a look at all of Bests' areas of concern.p

**POLICE REPORT:** Chief of Police, Jeff Besing.

1) I have advertised through the news outlets and social media of the different types of ordinance violations that we will be strictly enforcing through the summer months with those being:

- a) Grass & Weeds, as well as no grass clippings on the street
- b) Trash, Junk & Debris accumulating on residents properties to include stagnant water
- c) Abandoned or Inoperable vehicles specifically stating that we will no longer allow vehicles to be "tarped" as a means of covering them from public view
- d) Trash totes are to be removed from curbside within 24 hours of pickup

2) I will be making a sweep of the community after I return from vacation the first week of May

3) I am still trying to get an "abandoned vehicle" title for the Dodge truck in our impound lot. Every submission of paperwork requests that I comply with results in something else that they want. I am on my 4<sup>th</sup> go around with the Secretary of State License Bureau.

**PIONEER ROOM/COMMUNITY FACILITY – APRIL – MARY MICHAEL**  
FYI: Spring Clean-Up days – April 24, 25, and 26

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Budget Committee:** Shirley Adams, Chairman.

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

**Employee Relations Committee:** Harry Gene Purcell, Chairman. One building permit issued.

**FOIA Officers:** Shirley Adams, Chairman - Due April 1, 2019

**Ordinance/Grant Committee:** Pat Schofield

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

**Sewer/Lagoon Committee:** George Harrison, Chairman.

With no further business to discuss Tim McDaniel moved to adjourn. George Harrison seconded motion. Meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM.

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PRESIDENT

CLERK