

MINUTES

PALESTINE VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

August 3, 2023

Palestine Board of Trustees met on July 6, 2023. Trustees answering roll call were J.R. Dunlap, Tim McDaniel, Mary Michael, Gene Purcell and Twilla Davis and Brian Nethery.

Staff Members present: Stacey Myers, Rita Carmouche, Jeff Besing, Luke McNair and Jake McGuinness.

Visitors present, please see attached sign in sheet.

Meeting called to order by Mayor Byrley.

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

Minutes were taken by the Village Clerk.

The Minutes of July 2023 were accepted as presented.

OLD BUSINESS:

1) No Old Business. Stacey Myers, Village Clerk has applied for the Leo Herning Grant for more work to be completed on the Main Street Building.

New Business:

1) Approval of USDA Squad Car Grant Approval. Gene Purcell made a motion to approve the USDA Squad Car Grant. Tim McDaniel seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

2) Discussion and Approval for Purchasing a Utility Trailer. Gene Purcell presented quotes for utility trailers. 12' trailer was \$2,850.00 and a 16' trailer was \$3,400.00. Discussion was to purchase the 16' trailer. J.R. Dunlap made a motion to purchase the 16' utility trailer at the price of \$3,400.00. Brian Nethery seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

3) Discussion and Approval Allowing a Dispensary to Operate in the Village Limits. Erik Erickson addressed the trustees with a proposal to let the town vote at the next election. The Trustees agreed that the vote should take place by the Board of trustees at this meeting as stated on the Agenda. Twilla Davis read a letter from a resident of Palestine, please see attached letter. J.R. Dunlap made a motion to approve the operation of a Dispensary within the Village Limits. Gene Purcell seconded the motion.

J.R. Dunlap: Yay
Brian Nethery: Yay
Gene Purcell: Yay
Twilla Davis: Nay
Mary Michael: Nay
Tim McDaniel: Nay
Tie Breaker Mayor Rob: Yay

Motion passed to allow a Dispensary in the Village of Palestine Limits.

4) Discussion and Approval to Change how Surveillance/Security Cameras are set up and Monitored. Discussion was a concern on how and who has access to the Village of Palestine Security Cameras. At this time Chief Besing is the only person who has passwords or access to these camera. It was address that there is an app for outside devices to access these cameras at any time. Concern was that Chief Besing and his wife were accessing these cameras at home. Rita Carmouche expressed her concern about a camera being directly placed on her and her work space. She was never asked her feelings, thoughts or permission to allow a camera to be directly pointed at her all day. Since, the camera that was pointed at Rita has been moved to different location (front door). Chief Besing has been persistent on the points that a Mary Heath Grant paid for the cameras and that "secretaries" should not have a say in how that camera system operates or is monitored. Brian Nethery stated that Chief Besing has asked Village Clerk, Stacey Myers to go in front of the cameras when he is off village property accessing the camera from the app on his cell phone. Stacey Myers was asked if this was true and she confirmed that this was truthful information. Brian Nethery conducted research regarding the Village of Palestine Camera System and concluded that access could be made through an app on any device. Further, that the camera system has audio, although Chief Besing argued that it does not. Audio on the camera system was never devolved to the employees of the Village of Palestine. It was discussed that the camera monitors be moved into the Mayor's office at Village Hall and the Mayor and a dedicated trustee would have access to the password and camera. At this time no one other than chief Besing has access to the camera and how they operate. J.R. Dunlap made a motion to table this decision until Brian could get a quote to have the system adjusted. Brian Nethery Seconded this motion. Motion carried anonymously.

DPW REPORT: Luke McNair reported that Chip and Seal will be starting this month. The DPW also received the new tractor. Robinson Street Department has done our street sweeping and did a great job. Luke expressed to the Trustees the need to hire a full-Time DPW labor position due to Mark Newlin wanting to go back to Part-Time. The Board agreed that this was a need and we should start looking for a new Full-Time DPW Labor.

POLICE REPORT: None

PIONEER ROOM/COMMUNITY FACILITY –August 2023 – J.R. Dunlap.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Budget and Finance Committee: Stacey Myers, Chairman. Financials were handed out. The Village also received the first Tax disbursement payment around \$77,000.00.

Bldg Regulations, Permits, Maintenance: Harry Gene Purcell, Chairman. One Fence permit was issued.

Employee Relations Committee: Mary Michael, Chairman.

FOIA/OMA Officers: Stacey Myers, Chairman. The new Trustees Brian Nethery and Twilla Davis still need to complete OMA training.

Ordinance/Grant Committee: Stacey Myers, Chairman. Stacey continues to work on the Squad car grant finalities.

Streets, Sidewalks, Alleys Committee: Tim McDaniel, Chairman. Hopefully Maxwell Concrete has started sidewalks.

Sewer/Lagoon Committee: Brian Nethery, Chairman. Propellers are needed at Harrison Lift Station due to the amount of objects being discovered at this lift station that stop pumps from operating. It was

general concusses that propellers need to be purchased.

With no further business to discuss, Gene Purcell made a motion to convene into Executive Session. J.R. Dunlap seconded. Motion carried at 6:17pm.

PRESIDENT

VILLAGE CLERK

Village of Palestine Meeting Sign-In Sheet

Date: 8/3/23

Time: 5:00 pm

Print Name	Address
1. Joshua Blevins	103 S. Washington St.
2. Cynthia Bantorian	2000 Rush St.
3. Chad Weaver	PO Box 101 Hefrenville
4. Taylor Patisen	1407 N. Walters
5. Carol McElroy	20595 E River (Port)
6. Susan Goodwine	Palestine
7. Dan McElroy	20595 E River Rd
8. Shaika Mikenam	1306 E. 150th Ave, Hulle
9. Mollie Houser	104 S. Main Palestine Ill.
10. Cindy York	14672 E. 105th Palestine, IL
11. Robert York	14672 E 105th Pal. IL
12. Anita Ruch	19123 E. 350 - FR
13. Jim Bush	" " " "
14. Teresa Y. Fielder	305 E Wisconsin - Oldong
15. Don Purcell	300 East Franklin St.
16. Tom Sparks	9797 N 1710 ST.
17. Jaimie Tull	501 W. market 107 S. Main
18. Mark Wiseman	8580 N 1100th ST
19. Melvin Richards	505 E Lamott
20. Scott Campbell	302 S Washington

Doua Tipton

PALESTINE ILL
18993 E. River Road - Palestine

Village of Palestine Meeting Sign-In Sheet

Date: 8/3/23

Time: 5:00 PM

Print Name	Address
1. Rhonda Eller	507 E Tracy Dawn
2. Tim Eller	" "
3. Chris Nida	509 E. Cor Prairie
4. Chris McDonald	S. Main
5. Patricia Neff	300 W. Grand Prairie
6. Ann CANALEWIS	204 Leaverton
7. Julie Heger	Market St
8. Esther Waggoner	Palestine
9. Don K. K.	Palestine
10. Kayce Williamson	Palestine
11. Liz Bates	Palestine
12. Ken Shann	CCDA
13. Mark Shann	Robinson
14. Mark Shann	Palestine
15. Jackie Shann	Palestine
16. Holly Shann	Palestine
17. Dorie Ogle	Palestine
18. Robert McCool	Palestine
19. Colin Wall & Sarah	401 E. La Motte
20. LEOLA LAWHEAD	503 E CONNIE RAE ST
John Nethery	410 W Porter Palestine

Village of Palestine Meeting Sign-In Sheet

Date: 8/3/23

Time: 5:10 pm

Print Name	Address
1. Kristie Neffery	202 N Pike Palestine
2. Wanda Woodward	405 E Market Palestine
3. Brandon Grove	17346 E 1300 th Ave
4. Bret Callaway	Hut
5. Terry Fourny	415 E. Lamotte
6. Cheryl Fourny	415 E. Lamotte
7. Charles & Amanda Harris	309 W. Grand Prairies
8. Mrs. Harris	413 E Frank St
9. Doreen Shaw	17594 E. 500 th Ave. Palestine, IL
10. Linda Collins	17594 E 500 th Ave Palestine,
11. Penny Shaw	17594 E. 500 th Ave Palestine
12. John Birkner	603 W Co. C Rebnick
13. Cady Y7	
14. J/K Shm	8345 N. 2100 St
15. Versa Stiel	21312 E 700 th Ave
16. Burdin Stiel	"
17.	
18.	
19.	
20.	

August 3, 2023

Village of Palestine
Village Board
Palestine Residents

Good Evening,

My name is Vickie Alumbaugh Perkins.
Some of you know me, some of you don't,
some of you don't care who I am.

I am not representing my employer a Palestine
business, any committee I serve on in a
Palestine organization, nor my Palestine Church.

I am writing this letter for myself and my
son Dennis Michael Moore. I moved from
Palestine in 1967 to Evansville, IN where I settled
and raised my children. I would say that Dennis
was introduced to drugs (marijuana) when he was
14 years old. Street drug, school drug, neighbor on
the block drug, large town drug, small town drug.
I was a naive mother as Dennis was my youngest

(5)

of three children. He was a very happy & helpful child, but as time went on something changed in him. I started seeing money disappear in my purse, change we collected disappeared also things of his siblings disappeared. We went through as many as 3 to 4 seasons of "tough love" in our household. Things escalated in his high school years & he moved out. I never, never gave up on him. Things escalated again for him as the need to feel better and better and better got worse for him, just could not satisfy his need. I'll move forward in years. I moved back to my hometown of Palestine in 2007. We kept in touch with Den however he had reached a new level of drugs to feel even better.

I laid my 47 year old son to rest @ Pleasant View Cemetery last Saturday, July 29th from a drug overdose. My family was & still are heartbroken. God gave me enough sense to know that none of us are alike, some can do without, some cannot. My Dennis could not. I am not writing this letter to criticize or argue the point of this dispensary. We all have opinions

which should be heard.

(3)

I just wanted you to know how a little drug.
called marijuana in a little dispencery, in
a little town may lead to a much bigger need
of a feeling for better, better, better that leads to worse.

Thank You for your time.

A grieving Momma & family
and a concerned Palestine Resident