

**Village of Pawnee
Board of Trustees
Minutes of March 12, 2007**

Call to Order

- President Manning called the meeting to order at 7:17 p.m.

Roll Call

- Village Clerk, Cynthia Kramer, called roll
- Trustees in attendance: Steven Gudgel, Phillip Thompson, Tom Bowen, Joette Manning, Jeff Thomas and Bill Miller
- Also in attendance: Attorney John Myers, Chief Bowsher, trustee candidate Lindsey Young, Pawnee Public Library Director Bennett Bess, Library Trustees Floyd Church-Board President, Janet Thomas-Treasurer, Donna Hasse, Andrew Hackethal and Pawnee resident Bill Thomas.

Recognition/Comment/s of Visitor/s

- Lindsey Young, Village trustee candidate, April 17 Consolidated Election. Young stated she was in attendance as an observer; primarily to learn more about the meeting process.
- Pawnee Public Library Director Bennett Bess and Trustees Floyd Church, Janet Thomas (husband, Bill Thomas), Donna Hasse and Andrew Hackethal. Floyd Church, President of the Library Board served as spokesperson. Mr. Church explained that Mr. Bowsher's building, adjacent to the library, was unexpectedly offered for sale. Due to that fact and that Mr. Bowsher had a tentative offer for the building library trustees met during a special meeting held Monday, March 5 with the result being library trustees voted unanimously to make an offer which Mr. Bowsher accepted. Mr. Church stated the Bowsher building was purchased because it was one of two pieces of property, one if which recently sold, that would permit future expansion of the Pawnee Public Library. Mr. Church added that the library had approximately \$40,000 to put towards the purchase price and that the library would be able to secure a loan at 5% interest for the balance. Church asks for any financial help the village may be able to give. Library Director Bennett Bess said "it is important to keep the Bowsher building in government hands and it is doubly important to us because the library shares a common wall with the Bowsher building. Church added that the library will probably use only the first floor of the Bowsher building for a closed stack area thus allowing the shelving of new materials in the main library as trustees develop an expansion plan for optimum use of space and securing remodeling grants to help bring the interior and exterior of the building in line with the current building. He also noted that the large warehouse type addition to the rear of the building could be used by the village for storage purposes. Attorney John Myers asked if a closing date had been set, and Church replied the date was open in order to allow Mr. Bowsher time to get business and personal matters in order. Village trustees stated they would take Mr. Church's request under consideration, discuss the matter and will inform him of the board's decision.

Clerk's Comments

- Minutes of February 26, 2007 were presented for review and approval.
Motion made by Trustee Thompson to approve the minutes of February 26, 2007 as presented.
Second by Trustee Gudgel
Roll Call Vote Taken: Gudgel-yes, Thompson-yes, Bowen-yes, Manning-yes, Thomas-yes and Miller-yes
Motion Carried (6-0)

Gas and Water Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Manning

- Trustee Manning noted that gas prices rose about 20 cents per therm from last month. Trustees Steve Gudgel and possibly Jeff Thomas will attend the April 10 Gas meeting. She stated she met with Mike Howard to prepare the budget for Gas and Water and that more money will be in this year's budget for gas. Mike would also like to order some hand held wands to read meters, the wands can be used on both old and new meters.
- The survey for the water (fire) hydrants is almost completed. Manning stated she still wanted to color code the hydrants and has the name of a gentleman who does this. She would like to get a cost estimate.
- Fire hydrant maps are updated and Mike got updated copies for the Skinner subdivision. Our survey will include hydrant maps show which hydrants are the strongest.

Park Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Manning

- Trustees Manning and Thompson met after the last board meeting and talked about a few projects the committee wants finished at the park. Manning spoke to Don Kern again about wrapping the gutters for the square pavilion and ferns have been ordered for the square. We would like to provide a concession stand for the ball diamond at Schultz Park; as such Manning spoke with a mason about cutting a hole for a 4 to 6 foot window with doors and counter top, which would face the diamond permitting workers to watch the ball game. The budget has been prepared for next year and we would like to see more trees planted. The village has been asked to level the soccer fields at the park. They are basically practice fields and to level is not cost effective for the village. Thompson also stated the village owns other property which could be used for T-ball practice.
- The Pawnee Prairie Days Committee has requested use of the village square for the annual Village-Wide Garage Sale to be held May 5. They also requested a Porta-Potty for the event. Permission was granted. Trustee Thompson asked if it would be cheaper to have the potty remain as Prairie Days follows four weeks later.

Personnel & Finance Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Bowen

- Bills Payable was presented for approval.
Motion made by Trustee Bowen to accept the bills payable as presented.
Second by Trustee Manning
Roll Call Vote Taken: Gudgel-yes, Thompson-yes, Bowen-yes, Manning-yes, Thomas-yes and Miller-yes
Motion Carried (6-0)
- Trustee Bowen presented a request from Paul Earley, Cub Master, Pawnee Cub Scouts, for a donation for the annual Cub Scout Pinewood Derby.
Motion made by Trustee Bowen to donate \$160 to Pawnee Cub Scouts for their annual Pinewood Derby event.
Second by Trustee Gudgel
Roll Call Vote Taken: Gudgel-yes-Thompson-yes, Bowen-yes, Manning-yes, Thomas-yes and Miller-yes
Motion Carried (6-0)

Streets, Alleys and Sidewalk Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Bowen

- Spring banners are up
- A couple of tires need to be purchased for the roller used on the streets. The tires cost about \$650 each.
- Nick Howard also requested they be able to purchase a water kit for the Bobcat which is used to keep the dust down during the rocking of streets or working in dry conditions; keeps the area from being a dustbowl. The cost of the water kit is \$1100
- Trustee Jeff Thomas asked about the status of the requested street lights. Bowen replied he did speak with Ameren and a crew is to be out within the next four weeks. Bowen noted that since Ameren's rate increase the cost to the village for street lights went up about 70 per-cent.

Sewer Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Thompson

- Trustee Thompson met with Gary Eby this date and discussed 2008 budget. Have upped the budget due to the age of some lines and equipment. The sewer is not a financial gain for the village and eventually we are going to have to look at mainstream lines, repair or replacement needs, looking at these things we may have to adjust the revenue plan.
- Thompson stated they also discussed the need for a "floater" employee; he asked Glenn Smith for dates on two newest hires and requested members of the Personnel Committee remain for a few minutes following the meeting.
- Thompson also notes the village as of this date, has not received the application for sewer plant renewal.

Police Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Miller

- Motion made by Trustee Miller to approve the police report as presented.
Second by Trustee Bowen
Roll Call Vote Taken: Gudgel-yes, Thompson-yes, Bowen-yes, Manning-yes, Thomas-yes and Miller-yes
Motion Carried (6-0)
- Chief Bowsher adds that a Identity Theft class will be held at the firehouse April 12
- A fundraiser, a Pancake and Sausage Dinner, will be held for Office Eric Bertoni April 22. Will have a 50/50 drawing, maybe a raffle as well.

- Budget is in, slight decrease except for a new police vehicle. Department is looking at a Dodge Charger.
- Chief Bowsher asked trustees if there were any objections to her working part-time for the Divernon Police Department. She noted she would be helping out Divernon Police Chief Lomelino and new hire, Ryan Pearce. Trustees did not object.

Zoning Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Gudgel

- The Scott property has been demolished and the site cleaned-up. Don Scott arranged for the demolition.
- Mark Bourne was granted a variance for 702 Douglas to reduce square footage for the construction of a duplex.
- The village needs to sign off on the demolition permit for the Kern property.
- Regarding the matter of the Bert Barlow land purchase from Karen Schnapp and Karla Enrietto; apparently there was not a severance of real estate or exception on the deed regarding Parcel 2 (.244 acres and Morton building) of 29.5 acres sold to Mr. Barlow at auction. Schnapp and Enrietto wanted to retain the real estate and Morton building and if they are able to do so once the deed situation is straightened out, can this .244 acres be annexed into the Village of Pawnee. Attorney Myers counsels Trustees that Sangamon County should be consulted, to see what the County says about the matter. If the property can be annexed by Pawnee, it should be noted the building currently is used for storage and is not of proper use in a residential zone. If they want to rezone to Business, it should also be noted that the property can not be used for any other purpose other than its current use.

Unfinished Business/Correspondence

- Trustee Bill Miller speaks briefly about The Daily Bread Program
Motion made by Trustee Miller to give annual donation of \$2500 to Daily Bread
 Second by Trustee Manning
 Roll Call Vote Taken: Gudgel-yes, Thompson-yes, Bowen-yes, Manning-yes, Thomas-yes and Miller-yes
 Motion Carried (6-0)
- Preview of July 4 fireworks display will be held Saturday, March 31 at Greenville High School

New Business/Correspondence

- None

Mayor's Comments

- Mayor Manning met with IEMA to find out what can or cannot be paid for regarding ice and snow storm damages. He also filled out paperwork. He also met with the Ministerial Alliance in regards to the Village Emergency plan. He and ESDA Coordinator Cecil Mathews ordered several cots from same supplier the Red Cross uses. Work is still in progress with Assembly of God, Shelter #1, the Firehouse #2 and Methodist Church for food preparation.

Motion to Adjourn

Motion was made by Trustee Gudgel to adjourn the meeting
 Second by Trustee Thomas
 Voice Vote Taken: 6 ayes, 0 nays
 Motion Carried (6-0)

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m. on Monday, March 12, 2006. The next scheduled meeting of the Pawnee Village Board of Trustees is Monday, March 26 at 7:00 p.m. at the Village Hall.

Respectfully Submitted

Cynthia S. Kramer
 Village Clerk