

**Village of Pawnee
Board of Trustees
Minutes of April 23, 2007**

Call to Order

- President Manning called the meeting to order at 7:10 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
- Trustee/s absent: None
- Also in attendance: Pawnee Water Commissioner Garry Whitson, Trustee elect Terry Woodcock and spouse Sheldon Woodcock, Marilyn Minder

Recognition/Comment/s of Visitor/s

- Terry and Sheldon Woodcock stated they were in attendance as observers.
- Garry Whitson, Pawnee's representative on the Otter Lake Water Commission, stated he would first like to clarify something published in the Pawnee Post. Each of the communities (Auburn, Divernon, Girard, Pawnee, Thayer and Virden) has one and only one representative serving on the Otter Lake Water Commission. Terry Woodcock spoke up saying that it was her comment Mr. Whitson was referring to as published portion of a candidate survey. She stated she thought Mr. Whitson to be a very good Water Commissioner for the Village of Pawnee. She added what she meant her comment to mean was that as an individual serving on a group of governing individuals; it is very hard for one person to make changes. Mr. Woodcock asked why the water continues to have an off taste with Whitson replying that it is very difficult to get rid of the blue-green algae. This is the first time in eighteen months that we have had any overflow at the damn; we really need rain to help with this problem. Whitson also commented that the Commission as a whole has been working 100 % to alleviate the algae problem including the purchase of the Solarbees. Once the work is completed on the sedimentation damn and plant upgrade over the next several years; that should really help. In closing Mr. Whitson also stated that as long as he has served on the Otter Lake Water Commission, that Kenton Manning has been the only mayor or village representative that has attended a commission meeting.
- Marilyn Minder. Mrs. Minder attended the meeting in order to inform trustees of a proposed "factory farm" to be located near the old North Hole, Christian County, about four miles northeast of Pawnee. While she stated that she knew the Village of Pawnee could not do anything about the large feed lot operation, and that only Christian County residents could sign a petition of objection. However, she did voice her concerns regarding increased truck traffic, as Christian County is already widening roads and more importantly the impact the "factory farm" would have on nearby Lake Sangchris, which she called a treasure, and it's camping, hunting and fishing areas. She stated she spoke with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, the Illinois Agriculture Department and Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. She noted the Illinois EPA informed her they could do nothing until the farm was build and in operation.

Clerk's Comments

- Motor Fuel Transactions and Allotments for the month of March 2007 is \$6,326.77
- Minutes of April 9, 2007 were presented for review and approval.
Motion made by Trustee Gudgel to approve the minutes of April 9, 2007 as presented.
Second by Trustee Thomas
Roll Call Vote Taken: Gudgel-yes, Thompson-yes, Bowen-yes, Manning-yes, Thomas-yes and Miller-yes
Motion Carried (6-0)

Budget Comparison & Investment Report: Village Treasurer, Glenn Smith

- The March 2007 Budget Comparison Report and Investment Report was presented for approval.
Motion made by Trustee Bowen to approve the March Budget Comparison and Investment Report 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)

Gas and Water Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Manning

- Not much going on in Gas and Water right now. There was a slight increase in gas prices from the April cost of 112.5 to May cost of 113. We had a small gas problem at 911 Washington Street. The resident smelled gas; Mike Howard checked it out and found a small leak from a line currently inactive. We received a complimentary letter regarding Mike Howard from resident Barb Clauser.

Park Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Manning

- Designer Landscape completed the spring clean-up and maintenance of the welcome signs flowerbeds.
- The steel door and countertop for the park concession area were ordered and were due to arrive on the 21. We are now trying to coordinate time for installation with the mason.
- JoLynn Anderson as well as Trustee Jeff Thomas has volunteered to help plant flowers for the park.
- As for the movie in the park, we are still trying to coordinate times with the baseball and soccer people; maybe around the first of August. Only family films will be shown and we may sell popcorn and soda only with proceeds going to the Pawnee Education Foundation.
- Sheldon Woodcock asked about an ice cream social, which was discussed several years ago. He wanted to know if the social was still budgeted. Mayor Manning said yes it was; expanding the Fourth of July celebration is a good idea, may be this is something the Chamber (Pawnee Area Chamber of Commerce) would consider.

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 Thompson
Roll Call Vote Taken: Gudgel-yes, Thompson-yes, Bowen-yes, Manning-yes, Thomas-yes and Miller-yes
Motion Carried (6-0)
- The Personnel Committee met with Stan Travelstead week before last to review proposed employee life and dental.
Motion made by Trustee Bowen to approve group health renewal with Health Alliance as the major medical with a 3% increase for family coverage, and to maintain the current carriers for life and dental coverage with no increase to the families.
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)
- Regarding employee pay raises, the committee recommends for the annual cost of living, to maintain at 3% and up to 3% for evaluation for a maximum of 6%.
Motion made by Trustee Bowen to approve a 3% cost of living and up to 3% for evaluation commencing on employee anniversary date.
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)
Motion made by Trustee Bowen to approve Resolution 07-02, A Resolution Authorizing an Interfund Loan for the purchase by the Board of Trustees of the Pawnee Library of the Bowsher Building.
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

Motion made by Trustee Bowen to approve Ordinance 07-01, An Ordinance Amending Chapter 3 of the Village Code of Ordinances Pertaining to Weight Restrictions on Village Streets.

Second by Trustee Miller

Roll Call Vote Taken: Gudgel-yes, Thompson-yes, Bowen-yes, Manning-yes, Thomas-yes and Miller-yes

Motion Carried (6-0)

Sewer Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Thompson

- The Village has yet to receive its waste water treatment plant license renewal.
- (I) asked Gary to do toilet and hand washing stations for Pawnee Prairie Days
- Received a call from the Methodist Minister, the church is getting reading to asphalt the parking lot, so this is a good time to do the drainage tile as well.

Police Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Miller

- Police Committee Chairman Bill Miller thanks everyone for attending the Bertoni Pancake and Sausage Benefit. Chief Bowsler was unable to attend the meeting due to a burglary investigation.

Zoning Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Gudgel

- A Zoning Hearing is scheduled for May 17 at 7 p.m. for a variance to construct a screened-in porch at 1205 Sixth Street.
- Jim Wilson was at the last meeting and he had several complaints about San Terra residents not abiding by village setbacks that were making it difficult for him to farm land adjacent to the property in question. The Village sent a letter to the home owner regarding the mobile home being over too far, not in compliance with ordinance setbacks. The owner is coming to the village office to get permit/variance.

Unfinished Business/Correspondence

- None

New Business/Correspondence

- None

Mayor's Comments

- Can not get any answer from Ameren regarding renting vacant open area west of town. Manning also asked if anyone had talked to Stanley Lederbrand about leasing ground immediately north of the soccer practice fields at Schultz Park.
- Attorney Alex Rabin tendered an offer to UCB for a Washington Street floodplain property. Negotiations are ongoing.
- The Pawnee Post was asked to publicize the village's intention that 2007 will be "Clean-up" summer regarding abandoned/inoperable vehicles, unsightly nuisance areas, and weeds; and also to explain what residents may or may not do regarding home occupation businesses.

Motion to Adjourn

Motion was made by Trustee Manning to adjourn the meeting

Second by Trustee Thomas

Voice Vote Taken: six ayes, 0 nays

Motion Carried (6-0)

Meeting adjourned at 8:48 p.m. on Monday April 23, 2007. The next scheduled meeting of the Pawnee Village Board of Trustees is Monday, May 14, 2007 at 7 p.m. at the Village Hall.

Respectfully Submitted

Cynthia S. Kramer
Village Clerk