

**Village of Pawnee  
Board of Trustees  
Minutes of October 27, 2008**

**Call to Order**

- The meeting convened at 7:08 .m.

**Roll Call**

- Clerk Cynthia Kramer called roll
- Trustees in attendance: Steve Gudgel, Phillip Thompson, Tom Bowen, Lindsey Young and Bill Miller
- Absent: Trustee Terry Woodcock
- Also in attendance: Pawnee Water Commissioner Garry Whitson, Otter Lake Water Plant Superintendent Dennis Ross, Joe Greene – Greene & Bradford, Inc. William Gregurich, C.P.A., Village Treasurer Glenn Smith and Chief Jan Bowsher.
- Pledge of Allegiance recited

**Recognition/Comment/s of Visitor/s**

- Pawnee Water Commissioner Garry Whitson, Otter Lake Water Plant Superintendent Dennis Ross. Ross gave a brief Power Point presentation regarding what the plant is now and what it will be following completion of plant upgrade. Ross noted that bids came in just a bit higher than expected. He added that by upgrading rather than building new the commission was able to stay in the 6 million dollar range. The upgrade is finance through a retirement of a Rural Bond Bank Loan, increased water rates and an IEPA low interest loan at approximately 2.5% over the next twenty years. The upgrade includes claircones with building, two additional water filters, and a 500,000-gallon clean well with baffles, new lab and control room. All building is staying on current site. Continuing Ross stated that treatment changes will make some cost changes as well, noting that caustic soda will be used rather than lime saving the commission \$50,000 to \$60,000 a year to clean up lime sludge. Water will come up and filter through carbon, which should greatly improve water odor and taste. A groundbreaking ceremony will be held Tuesday, October 28 at 2 p.m. and he invited village officials to attend.
- William Gregurich, C.P.A. Mr. Gregurich and trustees quickly reviewed on a page-by-page basis the Village of Pawnee Financial Statements for 2008. Trustees did not have any questions regarding the annual audit. Mr. Gregurich noted that the debt limit for the village is \$2,487,233.
- Joe Greene, Greene and Bradford, Inc. Greene and trustees discussed causes, solutions and costs regarding drainage problems within the village and the aging storm sewer system. Drainage problems within the village have resulted in numerous complaints, the latest from resident Ernie Schrage in October of this year. Greene and Bradford completed a drainage problem study with recommendation in December of 2002. Mr. Greene met with Calvin Aumiller to observe and report on a number of drainage problem areas within Pawnee in September of 2008. While Mr. Greene noted that Pawnee has an old-field tile system passing as a storm sewer system. Mr. Greene's 2008 recommendations are very similar to those made in 2002. Greene recommended bringing a large diameter storm sewer from Horse Creek west to 4<sup>th</sup> Street, north to Sherman Street, west to 8<sup>th</sup> Street, south to Franklin Street, west along Franklin Street; extend west to a point approximately 500 feet west of 10<sup>th</sup> Street. This storm sewer will relieve most of the drainage problem in that area of Pawnee. He noted that the cost for this project would be very high and recommended that it be completed in 4 to 5 phases. He included a revised cost estimate for Phase 1, Horse Creek to Fourth Street, from a 2002 estimate of \$95,380 to the 2008-estimated cost of \$149,045.00. While this will not provide an immediate solution for Mr. Schrage, Trustee Bowen did ask if several other things could be done to alleviate the Schrage drainage problem, but with further discuss came to the conclusion that in order to solve all drainage problem areas within the village, the village must start at the low end and go up, start at Horse Creek. Both Trustee Bowen and Joe Greene stated they would speak with Mr. Schrage regarding his complaint.

**Clerk's Comments**

- Minutes of October 13, 2008 were presented for review and approval.  
Motion made by Trustee Thompson to approve the October 13, 2008 minutes as presented  
Second by Trustee Young

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

Motion Carried (5-0)

Motion made by Trustee Bowen to approve the October 16, 2008 special meeting minutes as presented.

Second by Trustee Miller

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

Motion Carried (5-0)

**Budget Comparison and Investment Report: Village Treasurer Glenn Smith**

- Treasure Glenn Smith presented the Budget Comparison and Investment Reports for September 2008. Motion made by Trustee Bowen to approve the treasurer's Budget Comparison and Investment Report ending September 30, 2008 as presented.

Second by Trustee Thompson

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

Motion Carried (5-0)

**Gas and Water Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Woodcock**

- Committee Chairman Woodcock was absent; however, she emailed a report. Trustee Steve Gudgel read the report stating that forty-two red letters were delivered. There were 18 delinquent accounts resulting in 11 shut-offs. However, as of this date, all customers are in compliance and accounts are duly paid.
- After reviewing level payment accounts, three accounts needed to be adjusted and letters of notification were sent.
- During the next committee meeting, the committee will discuss landlord/tenant accounts as to who will be liable for utility payment if tenant(s) do not pay.

**Park Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Woodcock**

- Park restrooms are to be closed sometime during the first week of November, following the last scheduled event at the park. Gary Eby will notify Sports Boosters to clean out refrigerators for the winter closing.

**Personnel & Finance Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Bowen**

Motion made by Trustee Bowen to approve bills payable ending Friday, October 22, 2008 as presented.

Second by Trustee Thompson

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

Motion Carried (5-0)

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

- Chairman Bowen noted that village engineer Joe Greene covered the report during an earlier portion of the meeting.

**Police Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Miller**

- Committee Chair Miller noted that the Lincoln Street property has been cleaned up
- Chief Bowsher informed trustees she sent a contract asking for prevailing wage and bond to Blackhawk for the new roof, police department building. Blackhawk turned down the contract. Chief Bowsher stated she would look at this project again after the first of the year and that she would like to receive four to five bids for a new roof.

**Sewer Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Thompson**

- Not much to report, other than the village is still waiting to receive the permit for the water treatment plant.

**Zoning Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Gudgel**

- Chairman Gudgel noted that Kenny Burke, 1210 Rutledge, is requesting rezoning from R1 to R3. As such, he will be able to employ home occupation status. Burke will stipulate that upon leaving said property, property will revert to R1 zoning

### **Unfinished Business/Correspondence**

- The village now has a union, police department full-time personnel voted yes.
- Trustee Phillip Thompson thanks village employees for picking up windstorm debris (tree limbs and branches). Elderly residents in the area greatly appreciated their employee efforts.
- Trustee Lindsey Young asked about village Trick or Treat hours. She was informed that the hours are Thursday, October 30 and Friday, October 31 from 6 until 9 p.m.

### **New Business/Correspondence**

- None

### **Mayor's Comments**

- As Pawnee Police Department Personnel voted to join a union, Mayor Manning named himself as well as Trustee Tom Bowen, Chairman of the Personnel and Finance Committee, Trustee Terry Woodcock, Chairman of the Gas and Water Committee and Chief Jan Bowsher to serve on the Bargaining Committee. He explained that the choice was made due to several factors. Trustee Steve Gudgel cannot serve on the committee due to conflict of interest. His sister, Melissa Gudgel, is a police department dispatcher. He also noted that Trustee Lindsey Young is new to the board while long-term Trustees Phillip Thompson and Bill Miller have a few months left on their terms of office and both have stated that they are not seeking re-election. Young, as an appointee, must also seek re-election, at this time, however, she is uncommitted
- Office Manager Glenn Smith and Billing Clerk Michelle Featherston have read and initialed copies of the Identity Theft Program.
- The first meeting of the Sangamon County Planning Commission is scheduled for December 11, 2008 at 6 p.m. at the County Board Chambers.
- Michelle Featherston has been called for Coroner's Duty. She will be on call November 1 through December 1, 2008

### **Motion to Adjourn**

Motion was made by Trustee Miller to adjourn the meeting.

Second by Trustee Bowen

Voice Vote Taken: Ayes-5, Nays-0

Motion Carried (5-0)

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m. on Monday, October 27, 2008. The next scheduled meeting of the Pawnee Village Board of Trustees is Monday, November 10, 2008 at the Pawnee Village Hall.

Respectfully Submitted

Cynthia S. Kramer  
Village Clerk