

**Village of Pawnee
Board of Trustees
Minutes of February 11, 2008**

Call to Order

- President Manning called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

Roll Call

- Village Clerk, Cynthia Kramer, called roll
- Trustees in attendance: Steven Gudgel, Tom Bowen, Terry Woodcock, Lindsey Young and Bill Miller
- Trustee/s absent: Phillip Thompson
- Also in attendance: Village Attorney John Myers, Police Chief Bowsher and Officer Shawn Burnley

Recognition/Comment/s of Visitor/s

- No guests present

Clerk's Comments

- Minutes of January 28, 2008 were presented for review and approval.
Motion made by Trustee Gudgel to approve the minutes of January 28, 2008 as presented.
Second by Trustee Bowen
Roll Call Vote Taken: Gudgel-yes, Bowen-yes, Woodcock-yes, Young-yes and Miller-yes
Motion Carried (5-0)

Gas and Water Committee Report

- There were two water breaks, the first on January 31 and the second, the following day, February 1. The boil order was lifted on February 7.
- The Gas and Water Committee will meet February 20. Hydrants will be discussed. A meeting can then be scheduled with the village engineer and the Pawnee Fire Protection District.
- As soon as the weather breaks, employees will begin installation of gas and water meters.
- There is a slight increase from the February gas rate of 108.7 cents per therm to the March rate of 109.1 cents per therm. Last year at this time the rate was 111.1 and five years ago, the rate was 82.3 cents per therm.
- All trustees have a copy of the Natural Gas Agreement in their box for review. Trustee Woodcock requested that Ordinance 08-03, AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A GAS MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT WITH UTILITY GAS MANAGEMENT, be placed on the meeting agenda for February 25, 2008.

Park Committee Report

- No report was given as parks are closed for the winter.

Personnel & Finance Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Bowen

- Bills payable was presented for review and approval with one addition, due to late arrival, for \$148,873.64 to Utility Gas Management.
Motion made by Trustee Bowen to approve bills payable ending February 7, 2008
Second by Trustee Young
Roll Call Vote Taken: Gudgel-yes, Bowen-yes, Woodcock-yes, Young-yes and Miller-yes
Motion Carried (5-0)
- Regarding CD renewals, Trustee Bowen stated that Treasurer Glenn Smith requested not to renew the \$75,000 CD, instead cash it in and move to the General Revenue Fund. Continuing he stated the village would like to keep the remaining \$375,000 Gas Fund CD, \$500,000 Water Fund CD and a \$150,000 Motor Fuel Tax CD, all with United Community Bank for a six month period at 3.94 % interest.
Motion made by Trustee Bowen to transfer \$75,000 CD to the General Revenue Fund.
Second by Trustee Gudgel
Roll Call Vote Taken: Gudgel-yes, Bowen-yes, Woodcock-yes, Young-yes and Miller-yes
Motion Carried (5-0)
Motion made by Trustee Bowen to renew the Gas Fund CD, the Water Fund CD and the Motor Fuel Tax CD, with United Community Bank for a six-month period at a rate of 3.94% interest.

Second by Trustee Young

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

Motion Carried (5-0)

- Trustee Bowen spoke briefly about the standard mileage rate that has continually gone up noting the village currently pays either 44 or 45 cents per mile while the IRS figure is 50.5 cents per mile. Motion made by Trustee Bowen to raise the rate for reimbursement for mileage for business purposes as recommended by the IRS as 50.5 cents per mile.

Second by Trustee Gudgel

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

Motion Carried (5-0)

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

- Trustee Bowen stated he met with Nick Howard and they did a brief study regarding handicapped signs and parking areas. He noted the village might move the handicapped parking area currently located on the southwest corner of Douglas and Seventh Street, adjacent to the Boy Scout Hall to an area in front of the Village office. The committee will be addressing other handicapped parking signs and areas as well.
- Regarding the proposed Fourth Street traffic pattern change, Bowen noted a number of residents have voiced concerns. He spoke with Pawnee Schools Superintendent Lyle Ridgon and as such, would like to schedule a public hearing, possibly during or prior to a school board meeting. He asked attorney Myers if that would present a problem. Myers replied no, as long as proper notification was given.
- Trustee Gudgel asked that during heavy snowfall when street department crews clear the square that workers also use the snow blower to clear the sidewalk in front of the village office, hall and police department.

Police Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Miller

Motion made by Trustee Gudgel to approve the police report for January 2008 as presented

Second by Trustee Young

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

Motion Carried (5-0)

- Trustees heard a presentation from Chief Bowsher and Officer Shawn Burnley regarding implementing a Pawnee Police Department K-9 program. Chief Bowsher told trustees that it is important for us to do something to fight drugs in our community. Citizens ask why we cannot do something about this issue, but citizens have no idea about the involved complications of a drug investigation and the associated enormous cost, or the difficulty getting a conviction in a state or federal court. Given our size and available resources, the department would like permission to implement a K-9 program. Officer Shawn Burnley then gave an overview of the necessity for the program, the expected benefits of the program and some concerns associated with a K-9 program. The initial start up cost of the K-9 program is approximately \$11,000 but the police department submitted a funding plan showing that existing funds from the Task Force and Forfeiture plus training reimbursement would cover all but \$1000 of the total cost. The cost of the dog alone is \$6000. The department would purchase a dual-purpose dog, sniff/search, search/rescue, possibly a Belgian Malinois, a dog well suited to police work. Officer Burnley will train and serve as the K-9 handler. Burnley added that associated costs for the K-9 program after the first year is approximately \$1500 per year, primarily for food, veterinarian care and other miscellaneous items. However, the K-9 program could assist Pawnee in acquiring more funds through the asset and forfeiture program when dealing with drug arrests or when used for another agency.

Motion made by Trustee Gudgel to approve implementation of a K-9 program for the Pawnee Police Department.

Second by Trustee Woodcock

Roll Call Vote Taken: Gudgel-yes, Bowen-no, stating he would like more time to review the program and to check with Glenn Smith regarding budgeting, Woodcock-yes, Young-yes and Miller-yes

Motion Carried (4-1)

- Chief Bowsher reported the motherboard had burned out on a dispatch computer that runs LEADS and CAD over the weekend. She stated the computer must be repaired and that she thought the cost would not exceed \$500. Computer Works, Chatham, is doing the repair work.

Sewer Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Thompson

- No report given

Zoning Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Gudgel

- Trustee Gudgel will meet with Virginia Naufel to discuss her replacement for appointment to the Pawnee Zoning Board due to her recent resignation from the board.

Unfinished Business

- Trustee Terry Woodcock asked Trustee Bowen if recommendations were ready from the Personnel Committee regarding hiring practices. Bowen replied that the committee is still in process and that he was going to speak with attorney Myers following this evening's meeting regarding the matter. He also told Trustee Woodcock that committee recommendations would come before the full board for consideration and approval. Woodcock also noted that if the Village is going to lose three highly experienced employees over the next several years, now might be time to consider the hiring of a Village Superintendent.

New Business/Correspondence

- None

Mayor's Comments

- None

Motion to Adjourn

Motion was made by Trustee Gudgel to adjourn the meeting.

Second by Trustee Woodcock

Voice Vote Taken: Ayes-5 Nays-0

Motion Carried (5-0)

Meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m. on Monday, February 11, 2008. The next scheduled meeting of the Pawnee Village Board of Trustees is Monday, February 25, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. at the Village Hall

Respectfully Submitted

Cynthia S. Kramer
Village Clerk