

**Village of Pawnee
Board of Trustees
Minutes of July 14, 2008**

Call to Order

- The meeting convened at 7:10 p.m.

Roll Call

- Village Clerk, Cynthia Kramer, called roll
- Trustees in attendance: Steven Gudgel, Phillip Thompson, Tom Bowen, Terry Woodcock, Lindsey Young and Bill Miller
- Also in attendance: village attorney John Myers, Police Chief Bowsher, Howard Pense, Tom Dozier, Tim Boblitt, Patty Williams and Gail Chevalier Zini - Pawnee Area Chamber of Commerce.

Recognition/Comment/s of Visitor/s

- Patty Williams served as spokesperson for the Chamber of Commerce. She informed trustees that the Chamber is sponsoring a Farmer's Market. The market will be held on the square beginning this Tuesday, July 15, and every Tuesday thereafter until possibly mid October. Hours will be 4 until 7 p.m. and the market will be limited to Pawnee area gardeners. In addition, she asked Trustee Tom Bowen (radio host) to do some advertising for the market. Moving on Williams stated that the Chamber is planning a mixer for chamber and proposed chamber members at Horse Creek Deli and Bakery owned by Bart Fontana. She asked that since Fontana did not have a liquor license, could liquor be brought in for the event. Trustees did not see a problem providing it was treated as a private party for community business people and all alcohol remained inside the establishment. For the last order of business, Williams stated that the Chamber would try to do the Dec. 5, Old Fashioned Christmas on the square again this year.
- Pawnee resident Howard Pense appeared before the board requesting help, stating that a storm drain at the corner of 13th and Rutledge was not working allowing water to pool and that he needed help due to a clogged culvert. Mr. Pense had photos however; Street Committee Chairman Tom Bowen said the photos were not needed, as he was aware of the 13th and Rutledge situation. Bowen stated he would take a look at the culvert problem as well and that he would get back to Mr. Pense concerning both of these issues.
- Pawnee residents Tom Dozier and Tim Boblitt returned to the village board following denial of a variance request for each to build a fence onto a utility easement. The requests were denied during the June 23, 2008 village board meeting, due to a number of concerns raised by Trustees Bowen and Woodcock. Trustees however, asked for a two-week period to allow Trustee Bowen time to examine the issues further. In addition, trustees opted during the June 23 meeting to reimburse both men the variance fee as the requests came solely to the Village Board of Trustees as the Zoning Board was unable to meet to determine any recommendation due to lack of a quorum. Trustee Bowen stated that he spent several hours with both men discussing the matter and that they arrived at a "gentlemen's agreement" that they could live with 10 ft. off the easement. Bowen also contacted the utility companies and was told the distance noted would not be a problem. However, Bowen questioned if this is going to be a reoccurring thing, should we change the ordinance or can we change the ordinance to state 20 feet rather than 30 feet off easement? This question initiated a discussion regarding amending the ordinance for the noted existing subdivision or all future subdivisions, Trustee Steve Gudgel stated that he would like to clarify the Dozier and Boblitt situations now and to discuss what needs to be done, ordinance wise, at a later date. Attorney John Myers amended by hand, the ordinances granting both Dozier and Boblitt a variance to build a fence 5 feet into a utility easement.

Motion made by Trustee Gudgel to approve Ordinance 08-11, AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A ZONING VARIANCE AS TO CERTAIN PROPERTY (Dozier – 1404 Horse Creek Trail)

Second by Trustee Thompson

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

Motion Carried (6-0)

Motion made by Trustee Gudgel to approve Ordinance 08-13, AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A ZONING VARIANCE AS TO CERTAIN PROPERTY (Boblitt – 1408 Horse Creek Trail)

Second by Trustee Young

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

Motion Carried (6-0)

Clerk's Comments

- Minutes of June 23, 2008 were presented for review and approval.
Motion made by Trustee Thompson to approve the minutes of June 23, 2008 as presented.
Second by Trustee Gudgel
Roll Call Vote Taken: Gudgel-yes, Phillip Thompson-yes, Bowen-yes, Woodcock-yes, Young-yes and Miller-yes
Motion Carried (6-0)

Gas and Water Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Woodcock

- The Gas and Water Committee will meet next Tuesday to discuss the hydrant flushing test results compiled by the Pawnee Fire Department. The committee is not going to ask the engineers to attend at this time.
- Dinner and the Gas Safety Presentation was held July 2. Woodcock noted it was a wonderful dinner, but a short presentation. She stated she would have preferred a more in depth presentation noting individual and department responsibilities. The safety presentation will be an annual event.
- Gas rates are going up again, three cents per therm for the August rate of 137.5 cents per therm. Regarding gas purchase, the village will hedge 15 percent. Regarding the Ten Year Gas Purchase Discount Program, the cut off date to reply was July 10, however the village did not receive the request until July 10. As such, the coop is giving the village an extension of going into the next offering. Let it be noted that the village signed only intent that the village would be interested in participating in the Ten Year Program.
Motion made by Trustee Woodcock to approve Ordinance 08-14, AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT OF THE GAS UTILITIES ALLIANCE.
Second by Trustee Bowen
Roll Call Vote Taken: Gudgel-yes, Thompson-yes, Bowen-yes, Woodcock-yes, Young-yes and Miller-yes
Motion Carried (6-0)

Park Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Woodcock

- Chairman Woodcock noted that the fireworks display was very impressive this year. It was also noted that various trustees received numerous compliments regarding the quality of the event as well as the village receiving several thank you notes commenting positively on and thanking the village for a wonderful community event.

Personnel & Finance Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Bowen

- Bills payable was presented for review and approval.
Motion made by Trustee Bowen to approve bills payable as presented as of July 14, 2008.
Second by Trustee Young
Roll Call Vote Taken: Gudgel-yes, Thompson-yes, Bowen-yes, Woodcock-yes, Young-yes and Miller-yes
Motion Carried (6-0)
Motion made by Trustee Bowen to approve Ordinance 08-15, AN ORDINANCE MAKING APPROPRIATION FOR ALL CORPORATE PURPOSES FOR THE VILLAGE OF PAWNEE, ILLINOIS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING ON THE 1ST DAY OF MAY, 2008, AND ENDING ON THE 30TH DAY OF APRIL, 2009.
Second by Trustee Miller
Roll Call Vote Taken: Gudgel-yes, Thompson-yes, Bowen-yes, Woodcock-yes, Young-yes and Miller-yes
Motion Carried 6-0
Motion made by Trustee Bowen regarding Pawnee Police Officer Eric Bertoni and village employee Jason Clauser, to pay them their normal base pay on regular work week for the emergency military activation, and to let them reimburse the village the difference upon receipt of their state funds.
Second by Trustee Miller
Roll Call Vote Taken: Gudgel-yes, Thompson-yes, Bowen-yes, Woodcock-yes, Young-yes and Miller-yes
Motion Carried (6-0)
- Attorney John Myers notes an old section of the Personnel Code is inconsistent with state law regarding to personnel/military. As such, Myers states the village needs a policy that applies to all employees.

Roll Call Vote Taken: Gudgel-yes, Thompson-yes, Bowen-yes, Woodcock-yes, Young-yes and Miller-yes
Motion Carried (6-0)

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

- Pawnee Garage Door Company is joining two buildings using a concrete pad. The village will reroute traffic off Grooms and Grooms will be re-established as an easement. Grooms will deadhead at Twelfth Street. All parties concerned agree. The area will be closed off and construction should be completed within sixty (60) days.

Police Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Miller

- Police reported submitted for review and approval
Motion made by Trustee Miller to approve the police report as presented.
Second by Trustee Woodcock
Roll Call Vote Taken: Gudgel-yes, Thompson-yes, Bowen-yes, Woodcock-yes, Young-yes and Miller-y
Motion Carried (6-0)
- Trustee Miller noted the police did a good job on traffic control for the Fourth of July fireworks event.
- The issue of “dog catcher” briefly came up with Chief Bowsher noting that Sangamon County Animal Control will not come out for simply a “loose” dog. She added that Divernon is again willing to consolidate/share the cost of employing a dogcatcher. She would like to free her officers and vehicles from the duty of picking up loose animals. Trustee Bowen stated he would put some figures together regarding the sharing of costs.

Sewer Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Thompson

- While Chairman Phillip Thompson did not have a report, he however voiced severe dissatisfaction with the village’s ISP, Comcast and its level of service.

Zoning Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Gudgel

- There is Zoning Board Hearing scheduled for July 24, 2008. It is a variance request, as property owner at 1111 Ruth Place would like to reduce side yard for fence installation.
- Currently there are still three vacancies to fill on the Zoning Board and four (4) interested parties.

Unfinished Business

- None

New Business/Correspondence

- None

Mayor’s Comments

- Mayor Manning announces that Daniel Schuering is the new partner, Rabin, Myers & Hanken, P.C. Attorney John Myers added that Schuering is very knowledgeable regarding municipal law and village finance.
- The Village of Pawnee is compliant, and one of the first to do so, with the Safe Haven Law, Infant Abandonment.
- Mayor Manning briefly mentions the subject of the burn pile, that he has an idea and will discuss idea with employees at site. Will discuss at next board meeting.

Motion to Adjourn

Motion made by Trustee Miller to adjourn the meeting.
Second by Trustee Woodcock
Voice Vote Taken: Ayes-6 Nays-0
Motion Carried (6-0)

Meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m. on Monday, July 14, 2008. The next scheduled meeting of the Pawnee Village Board of Trustees is Monday, July 28, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. at the Village Hall.

Respectfully Submitted

Cynthia S. Kramer
Village Clerk