

**VILLAGE OF PAWNEE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Minutes of November 23, 2009**

Call to Order:

- President Clarke called the meeting to order at 7:04pm.

Roll Call:

- Village Clerk, Devona Martin, called roll
- Trustees in attendance: Steven Gudgel, Phillip Thompson, Tom Bowen, Terry Woodcock, David Skinner, Mark Gleason
- Trustees absent: none
- Also in attendance: Chief Jan Bowsher, Treasurer Glen Smith, Kelly Thein, Candy Kramer with the Pawnee Post, Mitchell Jackson, Jami Knox and Libbie Stehn with Comcast.

Visitor's Recognition/Comments:

- Libbie Stehn with Comcast met with the Board. Recently Attorney Meyers made some suggestions to Comcast and they have accepted them. Trustee Thompson discussed directly with Ms. Stehn issues involving communication. He stated that Comcast is difficult to communicate with and there are problems with their call centers (never get to talk to the same person twice and you don't get call backs). There also seems to be huge service lines and few employees. Trustee Thompson advised Ms. Stehn that all of the above are huge problems and he gets tired of residents asking why we don't look for another service provider. Ms. Stein stated that they have a call center located in Springfield. It is a 24/7 call center. There are 6 in Illinois. One in Springfield, one in Rockford and 4 in Chicago. They are interlinking so that if one call center is busy it jumps to the next available. Springfield's call center has 90 people so that is why you probably won't get the same person. She agreed that not following through is unacceptable and that if you need repairs, they should be out that day. Trustee Thompson also asked about special rates for the Library and Boy Scout Hall. Ms. Stehn will look into that. Trustee Thompson asked if they do any specific community involvement. Ms. Stehn stated that not that she is aware of but they would be willing to be involved in the community to just let her know. She stated that she would provide her direct line and if things are not getting resolved to contact her directly. Attorney Meyers is out of town today, so we will wait until he returns prior to passing any ordinance. She suggested that if you don't feel you are getting satisfactory service, to ask to speak with a supervisor.

Clerk's Report:

- Minutes of November 9, 2009 were presented for review and approval.
Motion made by Trustee Gleason to approve minutes of November 9, 2009 as presented.
Second made by Trustee Skinner
Roll Call Vote Taken: Gudgel-present, Thompson-present, Bowen-yes, Woodcock-yes, Skinner-yes, Gleason-yes
Motion Carried: (6-0)

Personnel & Finance Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Skinner

- Bills payable were presented for the week ending November 20, 2009 in the amount of \$38,049.14

Motion made by Trustee Skinner to accept bills payable for week ending November 20, 2009 in the amount of \$38,049.14.

Second made by Trustee Gleason

Roll Call Vote Taken: Gudgel-yes, Thompson-yes, Bowen-yes, Woodcock-yes, Skinner-yes, Gleason-yes

Motion Carried: (6-0)

- Treasurer Glenn Smith presented the Treasurer's Budget Comparison Report. The report is for October 31, 2009, 6 months into the fiscal year.

Motion made by Trustee Skinner to accept Treasurer Glenn Smith comparison report through October 30, 2009

Second made by Trustee Woodcock

Roll Call Vote Taken: Gudgel-yes, Thompson-yes, Bowen-yes, Woodcock-yes, Skinner-yes, Gleason-yes

Motion Carried: (6-0)

- Treasurer Glenn Smith advised the board that he has completed the tax levy ordinance for the next scheduled board meeting. It must be filed with the Sangamon County Clerk's Office by the last Monday in December.
- We have a new employee, Kelly Thein, Office Manager. She starts tomorrow. She is in a training status until Glenn's retirement.

Gas and Water Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Woodcock

- Trustee Woodcock advised the board that they had a shut off meeting tonight prior to the board meeting. There were 28 red letters sent out on November 20th and tonight there were only 10 possible shut offs.
- Chad Brenden is getting ready for ICC and EPA reviews and tests. Trustee Woodcock will have a report/update on results at the next meeting.

Streets, Alley and Sidewalk Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Skinner

- Trustee Skinner advised that the Village has received 2 truckloads of salt at a cost of \$60/ton.

Police Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Gleason

- Chief Bowsher advised the board that the police department has received their new bullet proof vests. The Village covered the cost however they will get reimbursed. The vests are good for 5 years.
- Trustee Woodcock questioned who enforces the smoking ban. Chief Bowsher stated that the Health Department is the enforcer of the Smoking Ban. She stated that until the Village passes an ordinance or the Health Department enforces it, their hands are tied.

Sewer and Parks Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Thompson

- Trustee Thompson advised the board that the new lift station is up and operational. There were some major problems and they held Greene and Bradford's final check until it was fixed. As part of the work package, Greene and Bradford are responsible for up to a year.
- Trustee Thompson has been looking at trash cans for the area parks. He will be getting numbers together on the cost.
- The Angel Tree is well underway. The Village has always offered their support for any left behind angels. They have over 60 names on the tree.
- Trustee Woodcock asked about the lights on the Pawnee sign as they are still out. Trustee Thompson will have Gary follow up with Paul Motar to repair to sign. There are some

wiring issues that will also need to be repaired. Trustee Thompson will discuss with Gary and have the wiring/sign repaired. The cost will be under \$2,500.00.

Zoning Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Gudgel

- Ordinance 09-20 **An Ordinance Granting a Zoning Variance as to Certain Property**. Trustee Gudgel stated that the Zoning board met on the November 12th. Josh McElroy and Jami Knox requested to have a little bigger garage built at the property located at 910 Carroll Street. It was voted on and was a unanimous yes.
Motion made by Trustee Gudgel to accept Ordinance 09-20 An Ordinance Granting a Zoning Variance as to Certain Property.
Second made by Trustee Thompson
Roll Call Vote Taken: Gudgel-yes, Thompson-yes, Bowen-yes, Woodcock-yes, Skinner-yes, Gleason-yes
Motion Carried: (6-0)

Unfinished Business:

- Trustee Gudgel advised the board that he talked with US Cellular about changing their cell tower site location. US Cellular has opted not to pursue a new site in Pawnee.
- Trustee Thompson advised the board that the EPA permit has not yet been received.
- Trustee Gleason discussed the abandoned vehicles ordinance. The board gave an extension to Jan 1, 2010. Those in violation of the abandoned vehicles ordinance come January 1, 2010 will be fined.
- 2009 Health Insurance increase will be applied on an actual basis.
Motion made by Trustee Skinner to continue 70/30 for retirees and 80/20 for current employees effective November 1, 2009 for employees and January 1, 2010 for retirees.
Second made by Trustee Woodcock
Roll Call Vote Taken: Gudgel-yes, Thompson-yes, Bowen-yes, Woodcock-yes, Skinner-yes, Gleason-yes
Motion Carried: (6-0)

Mayor's Comments:

- President Clarke advised the board that we requested that the Library begin their annual installments on May 1, 2010. However, their taxes don't come in until the middle of July. He suggested changing the payment date to August 1, 2010. Make the first \$5000 payment due August 1, 2010.
Motion made by Trustee Thompson to change the Library's first annual installment due date from May 1, 2010 to August 1, 2010.
Second Gleason
Roll Call Vote Taken: Gudgel-yes, Thompson-yes, Bowen-yes, Woodcock-yes, Skinner-yes, Gleason-yes
Motion Carried: 6-0
- The Chamber of Commerce wants to hang holiday lights on the square. Trustee Thompson suggested that they talk with the Methodist Church as well as Gary to prevent overloading the circuits.
- The Santa House is coming to the square. Originally they thought it could be transported using forklifts to a trailer. They've since decided that that will damage the house. They called Herman today and they will charge \$75 to deliver the house to the square and then pick it up and take it back to the Village plant. Herman will probably bill the Village and we'll forward that bill to the Chamber. They are going to bring it up here on Tuesday.

- President Clarke thinks that the residents were very appreciative of the burn pile being open the extra Saturday in November. He agrees with Trustee Gleason that next year the burn pile should be open the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Saturday's in November. The board also discussed giving citations for burning in the road or in gutters. The city workers will make sure gutter drains are open.
- Trustee Thompson stated that he was at the library today and the carpet is horrific. They clean but don't deep clean. Trustee Bowen and Trustee Woodcock advised that it is their responsibility and that we should send a letter advising them to maintain their building. Trustee Gleason asked if Trustee Thompson could discuss with Bart Fontana. Trustee Thompson will discuss with Bart Fontana.

Enter into Executive Session to Discuss Personnel Issues:

- **Motion** made by Trustee Thompson to enter into executive session to discuss personnel issues.
Second made by Trustee Gleason
Roll Call Vote Taken: Gudgel-yes, Thompson-yes, Bowen-yes, Woodcock-yes, Skinner-yes, Gleason-yes
Motion Carried: (6-0)

Enter Regular Session:

- **Motion** made by Trustee Skinner at 9:07pm to enter into regular session
Second made by Trustee Gleason
Roll Call Vote Taken: Gudgel-yes, Thompson-yes, Bowen-yes, Woodcock-yes, Skinner-yes, Gleason-yes
Motion Carried: (6-0)

Motion to Adjourn:

- **Motion** made by Trustee Gleason to adjourn meeting.
Second made by Trustee Thompson
Roll Call Vote Taken: Gudgel-yes, Thompson-yes, Bowen-yes, Woodcock-yes, Skinner-yes, Gleason-yes
Motion Carried: (6-0)

Meeting adjourned at 9:13pm on Monday, November 23, 2009. The next scheduled meeting of the Pawnee Village Board of Trustees is Monday, December 14, 2009 at 7:00pm at the Village Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,

Devona L. Martin
Village Clerk