

**Village of Pawnee  
Board of Trustees  
Minutes of August 22, 2005**

**Call to Order**

- President Manning called the meeting to order at 7:20 p.m.

**Roll Call**

- Village Clerk, Cynthia Kramer, called roll
- Trustees in attendance: Steve Gudgel, Tom Bowen, Phillip Thompson, Joette Manning, Jeff Thomas, Bill Miller
- Trustee/s absent: None
- Also in attendance: Pawnee Sports Boosters Dale Walters and Troy Grant, Treasurer Glenn Smith, Police Chief Jan Bowsher

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

- Dale Walters, Troy Grant with Walters serving as spokesperson. Walters asks for financial assistance for the Sports Boosters project of replacing the lights at the high school baseball diamond. Walters gave a brief history of the current lighting system explaining the group has raised about \$35,000 but is approximately \$6000 short of the projected cost. Sports Boosters donated a substantial amount, \$12,000, towards the project while a grant and other donations were received from other community organizations or entities. Trustees explained to Mr. Walters and Mr. Grant that while the village does budget a small amount of money to aid community organizations, half the funds for this fiscal year have been donated and a portion of the remaining fund already allocated. Trustee Tom Bowen suggests the request be discussed during the September 8 committee meeting thus allowing a look at funding possibilities and stating the board would have an answer to the request at the September 12 board meeting. Trustee Joette Manning reminded Mr. Walters, that requests for donations must be submitted to the board in writing.

**Clerk's Comments**

- Minutes of August 8, 2005 were presented for review and approval.  
Motion made by Trustee Gudgel to approve the minutes of August 8, 2005 with correction of typo, page 2.  
Second by Trustee Thompson  
Roll Call Vote Taken: Gudgel-yes, Bowen-yes, Thompson-yes, Manning-yes, Thomas-yes and Miller-yes  
Motion Carried (6-0)

**Budget Comparison & Investment Report: Village Treasurer, Glenn Smith**

- The July 2005 Budget Comparison Report and Investment Report were presented for review and approval.  
Motion made by Trustee Thompson to approve the July 2005 Budget Comparison and Investment Report as presented.  
Second by Trustee Miller  
Roll Call Vote Taken: Gudgel-yes, Bowen-yes, Thompson-yes, Manning-yes, Thomas-yes and Miller-yes  
Motion Carried (6-0)

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

- Chairman Manning received phone call-Illinois Public Energy Agency about forming a different utility alliance. Manning replied that a representative certainly is welcome to come and speak to the board but the Village has been with the Gas Alliance for years and have a very good relationship with Gas Alliance, and that the Alliance has done a very good job for the village. Manning stated to trustees she was leaning to staying with Gas Alliance but thinks trustees should meet with the representative to hear info regarding a new alliance.
- The gas rates for Sept. 1, 2005 will be 106.3 cents per therm; the rate for August was 98.6 cents per therm, 7.7 cents per therm increase.

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

- Nothing to report

**Personnel & Finance Committee Report: Interim Committee Chair, Trustee Manning**

- Bills Payable was presented for review.  
Motion made by Trustee Manning to accept the bills payable as presented.  
Second by Trustee Thompson  
Roll Call Vote Taken: Gudgel-yes, Bowen-yes, Thompson-yes, Manning-yes, Thomas-yes and Miller-yes  
Motion Carried: (6-0)

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

- Nothing to report other than all officers qualified at the range.
- Trustee Miller however, submits requests for annual \$200 donation to the Pawnee Lions Club, September 10 annual Country Fair.  
Motion made by Trustee Thompson to approve \$200 donation to Pawnee Lions Club  
Second by Trustee Manning  
Roll Call Vote Taken: Gudgel-yes, Bowen-yes, Thompson-yes, Manning-yes, Thomas-yes and Miller-yes  
Motion Carried (6-0)

**Streets, Alleys & Sidewalks Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Bowen**

- It is the time of year to do sidewalk replacement and Bowen stated I've had some requests for sidewalk repair/replacement, but if trustees have a request, please get that information to him. Bowen stated he would like to replace the sidewalk in front of the Post Office, if no one had an objection. Trustee Gudgel asked about a section of sidewalk along Fourth Street and Route 104 near the Martin house. He stated the section really looks bad. Maybe it could be replaced during spring break so work won't affect children using the sidewalk when school is in session.
- Bowen received a phone call from Bill Shaw. He farms ground to the west of the new subdivision and he had some concerns about field tiles being cut. Bowen stated he thought he had the situation resolved. He stated he wanted attorney John Myers to review the resolution before action is taken however. Bowen stated there is an Illinois Compiled Statue called the Illinois Drainage Code that addresses this issue of concern. Once John reviews the code, our only responsibility should be only to notify the builder about the Illinois Drainage Code, that it is the builder's or individual homeowner's responsibility if field tiles are cut.
- Regarding the Michele Drive drainage project, Mr. Skinner apparently is going to do something different with the retention pond. I have to get the clarification on it as it may change part of what the village is doing regarding drainage, which may wind up saving us

money. Mr. Skinner is still going to put the retention pond in but it is going to be in the form of what he calls a “dry dam”. He contacted DNR and there are some grants out there to help with construction of this. Trustees ask if this change is going to affect what trustees have approved. Bowen stated he really did not know but he has instructed Gina Fuhmann of Fuhmann Engineering to contact the Christian County Soil and Water Conservation Department which is designing the concept to request a copy of the plans. We have three different contractors bidding on this now. Gina Fuhmann is going to have all paperwork ready for me, in order for the committee to take a look at the bids and other issues during the September 8 committee meeting; we will then make a decision, and present an ordinance for approval at the September 12 board meeting.

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

- Nothing to report

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

- As attorney John Myers is not in attendance this evening and since we did not receive an ordinance amending the Personnel Code, Thompson stated he would table the issue until the next board meeting. He requested the ordinance pertaining to the personnel code be placed on the September 12 meeting agenda.
- Everything else is status quo, and the guys have marked out a location for the event sign.

#### **Mayor’s Comments**

- Newly elected trustee Jeff Thomas asked about the duties of the ESDA Coordinator and use of vehicle. Mayor Manning stated the coordinator has use of the vehicle for ESDA related business which is listed under the police department. He explained Cecil Mathews as the ESDA Coordinator is responsible for developing a disaster/emergency response plan for the village, hazmat duty; he is part of the weather watch team, etc.
- Trustee Gudgel asked if there has been any further thought about getting some nice playground equipment for North Park. Trustee Manning said money is budgeted for it, but the question is as to whom will put the items together as some of the pieces are very large and employees are extremely busy right now.
- Mayor Manning will contact attorney Alex Rabin regarding the burned-out Vick house and the Don Scott house as well.
- Mayor Manning appointed the following committee chairs and members: **Personnel/Finance:** Tom Bowen-Chairman, Jeff Thomas, Joette Manning; **Gas and Water:** Joette Manning-Chairman, Steve Gudgel, Jeff Thomas; **Streets, Alleys and Sidewalks:** Tom Bowen-Chairman, Steve Gudgel, Bill Miller; **Sewer:** Phillip Thompson-Chairman, Joette Manning, Bill Miller; **Police:** Bill Miller-Chairman, Phillip Thompson, Steve Gudgel; **Parks:** Joette Manning-Chairman, Phillip Thompson, Bill Miller; and **Zoning:** Steve Gudgel-Chairman, Jeff Thomas, Tom Bowen.
- Following a brief recess, trustees returned to discuss Hunter Lake (Lake Springfield II) as requested by Mayor Kenton Manning in preparation for an upcoming meeting with the City of Springfield in reference to said lake. To inform newer trustees to the board, Mayor Manning spoke about the sporadic meetings/proposals received from Springfield beginning with the final months of former Springfield City Mayor Karen Hasara’s administration to the two more recently received proposals regarding the feasibility of pumping wastewater to the Springfield Metro Sanitary District. The Mayor and trustees went over the old and new proposals on a point by point basis with the Board of Trustees concluding that at this juncture, the Village of Pawnee is not interested in the SMSD option due to the tremendous financial burden it would place on the Village both for one-time and continuing expenses; the

financial burden it would place on Village water and sewage customers with additional tapping and sewer fees; the burden it would place on the Village's sewer treatment plant and employees due to the pumping of wastewater from Virden and Divernon to be delivered by the Village of Pawnee to the SMSD. Trustees Thompson and Manning also voiced concerns that while some other factors in the area of flooding, drainage, and annexation, proposed land use (homes or businesses) have been discussed, they would like to see those issues addressed more thoroughly. Trustees in a united consensus stated the Village is not interested in this proposal and that if Springfield builds Lake Springfield II it should not cost the Village of Pawnee, its infrastructure, its residents/utility customers one red cent.

**Motion to Adjourn**

Motion was made by Trustee Gudgel to adjourn the meeting.

Second by Trustee Thomas

Voice Vote Taken: 6 ayes, 0 nays

Motion Carried (6-0)

Meeting adjourned at 8:57 p.m. Monday, September 22, 2005.

Respectfully submitted

Cynthia S. Kramer  
Village Clerk