

**Village of Pawnee  
Board of Trustees Special Meeting  
Minutes of September 8, 2005**

**Call to Order**

- President Manning called the meeting to order at 8:02 p.m.

**Roll Call**

- Village Clerk, Cynthia Kramer, called roll
- Trustees in attendance: Steven Gudel, Tom Bowen, Phillip Thompson, Joette Manning, Jeff Thomas and Bill Miller
- Also in attendance: Village attorney John Myers, Village Engineer Joe Greene, Greene and Bradford, Inc.; Mike Williamsen, Greene and Bradford, Inc.; Village employees Nick Howard, Gary Eby; Village Treasurer Glenn Smith, Village residents John Thoele, Lewis Thomas, Emerson and Sheila Roderick.

**Mayor's Comments/Board Discussion**

Following the Pledge to Allegiance, Mayor Kenton Manning began the discussion regarding Lake Springfield II sharing information received during the September 1, 2005 meeting with the City of Springfield regarding said lake. Among those attending the meeting were Mayor Manning, Trustee Manning, Village attorney John Myers, and Village engineer Joe Greene of Greene and Bradford, Inc. Also present at the meeting were Springfield City Water Light & Power, Springfield Metro Sanitary District, Virden Sanitary District, Village of Divernon, and Illinois EPA. Manning explained the latest proposal of several received from the City of Springfield involves the option to send wastewater from Pawnee (along with wastewater from Virden and Divernon) to the Springfield Metro Sanitary District. The proposal would require Pawnee to continue operation of its sewage treatment plant as it appears that pre-treatment of wastewater is preferred by the SMSD; pre-treatment would also be required from Virden and Divernon to Pawnee. Pawnee would share the capital cost of all of the force main to be constructed from Virden to Springfield; the village would have to construct a pump station at its own cost and be responsible for operation and maintenance of the new pump station and force main from Pawnee to Springfield.; the village would have to share the cost of construction of the gravity sewer on East Lake Shore Drive in Springfield and there would be a \$400 tap fee for each customer in Pawnee payable to the SMSD plus a rate based on water consumption. Mayor Manning did state apparently there was some misunderstanding about the tap fee as the group was informed at the September 1 meeting that Springfield stated at one time the fee could be waived for existing customers but new customers coming on line would have to pay the tap fee to the SMSD. Both Trustees Manning and Thompson said they could not recollect any discussion regarding waiver of the tap fee.

Village engineer Joe Greene commented the Village really needed to take a good look at two issues, the first being the construction and eventual ownership of the force main and pump station with associated costs, current and future; and the surcharge rate to SMSD for excessive flows as excessive flows can be 3 to 4 times higher than average flows, thus price will add up in a hurry. At this time attorney John Myers commented, the evening the village

met with former Springfield Mayor Karen Hasara, “Our position then as it is now, is the village is not going to do anything that will cost the village or utility customer one red cent. The village has always said no to ownership of the force main....the village does not want to own, operate or maintain a force main.” A discussion he noted fell on deaf ears. Also Pawnee’s Water and Sewer Department Supervisor and staff stated from the beginning and do so today, they did not want to the plant to neither be responsible for nor suffer any potential repercussions for accepting and discharging sewer effluent from other communities.

While the focus of the meeting was to discuss the SMSD proposal, trustees and audience members did touch on several other factors regarding Lake Springfield II, which did include the issues of flooding, receding time, drainage, infrastructure and utility portal protection, annexation, land use, etc. As the meeting neared conclusion, trustees noted they were not opposed to the lake per say, but were totally 100 per-cent opposed to the Springfield Metro Sanitary District Proposal due to the cost to the Village of Pawnee and its utility customers. Mayor Manning requested attorney John Myers to work with Joe Greene and Mike Williamsen of Greene and Bradford, Inc. to draft a letter to the City of Springfield stating the Village’s position. Myers will present the letter for trustee review and approval at the regular meeting of the Pawnee Village Board of Trustees, Monday, September 12, 7:00 p.m. at the Village Hall.

### **Motion to Adjourn**

Motion was made by Trustee Steve Gudgel to adjourn the meeting.

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)

Meeting adjourned 8:52 p.m. on Thursday, September 8, 2005.

Respectfully submitted

Cynthia S. Kramer  
Village Clerk



