

**Village of Pawnee
Board of Trustees
Minutes of September 26, 2005**

Call to Order

- President Manning called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

Roll Call

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

Recognition/Comments of Visitors

- No visitors present

Clerk's Comments

- Minutes of September 12, 2005 were presented for review and approval.
Motion made by Trustee Thompson to approve the minutes of September 12, 2005 noting spelling correction.
Second by Trustee Bowen
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 August 2005 Budget Comparison Report and Investment Report were presented for review and approval. Both Treasurer Smith and Trustee Manning commented on rising interest rates as the village has been renewing CD's only every three months due to low interest rates. Smith notes next renewal date is November.
Motion made by Trustee Bowen to approve the August 2005 Budget Comparison and Investment Report 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)

Gas and Water Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Manning

- Seventy-one (71) "red letters" were issued.
- Chairman Manning stated the village would once again offer help to ease the burden of high utility/heating cost by offering utility customers a payment contract over a three-month period, to be available after November of this year.
- LIHEAP (Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program) will be taking applications for assistance at the village office Oct. 17
- Regarding the board approved water tower telemetry project, the village finally received the contract from Petersburg Plumbing and Heating.

Park Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Manning

- The Park Committee sought three (3) bids to seal cracks, clean, and seal the entire walking path at Schultz/North Park. Manning tabled the discussion for further committee review as only one bid was received.
- Regarding block or street parties, Manning noted that residents should notify the village office of date and street to be closed to ensure there is not a conflict and to make arrangements for street employees to provide barricades for the event. Currently there are two block parties scheduled, Oct. 2, closing a portion of Fifth Street and Oct. 8, closing a portion of Michele Drive.

Personnel and Finance Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Bowen

- Bills Payable was presented for approval.
Motion made by Trustee Bowen to accept warrant list of September 26, 2005
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

- Trustee Miller did not have a report. However, Chief Bowsher reported on the result of the annual police car wash stating it was the best ever done, raising \$3100. The sandwiches sold out by 12:30. Katie Parker won the 50/50 drawing, taking home \$450 and Regina Manning won the curio cabinet.

Sewer Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Thompson

- Regarding the 13th Street pumping station, the board and breakers were replaced.
- The Michele Street drainage project is underway.
- We are in the process of looking for an event sign of similar dimensions of the Methodist Church sign on Route 104.

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

- Regarding the Michele/Park Street drainage project, two culverts are completed, some concrete poured for the Park Street area, and we are in process of installing the 10 inch sub drain. Bowen also met with Mr. Skinner. Gary Hill hired to form the berm, but weather has been somewhat of an impediment. Once this work is completed, we will look at some of the drainage problems experienced on the south side of town.

Zoning Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Gudgel

- A variance hearing, requested by Cecil Herpstrieth to rezone property from Business to R1 is scheduled for Oct. 13. Attorney Alex Rabin requested photos of the burned-out Vick property. Chief Bowsher offered to take the photos and Trustee Gudgel will deliver same to attorney Rabin

Unfinished Business/Correspondence

- Trustee Jeff Thomas inquired about his requests for a street light. Trustee Thompson replied the request is on hold, primarily due to a point Thomas made during the request about other dark areas in the village. Thompson stated they are going to try to identify those other areas, and if streetlights are needed, to install all at the same time. Thomas then inquired about the status of the drainage situation on Eighth Street and Assembly of God Church. Trustee Bowen replied that will become part of the drainage project we are now doing, and it is on the

reference to its Kid Connection (day school) would like a warning sign, *Slow, Children at Play*. Thomas stated the church is in process of putting up a fence around the small playground area, but would like motorists to be aware that young children are at play. Trustees were not sure if a resolution was needed, as the sign would be warning, not regulatory. Trustee Bowen said he would check into it. Immediately following the discussion, Trustee Thomas was called away from the meeting.

New Business/Correspondence

- A video copy of Illinois Stories, featuring the newly formed Pawnee Area Chamber of Commerce was donated to the Pawnee Public Library. Trustee Joette Manning made the presentation.

Mayor's Comments

- Due to a recent Freedom of Information Act request, Mayor Manning asked if the need for an ordinance has been addressed. Trustee Bowen stated he would like to work with attorney Myers on the matter as he did have several questions, as he received a copy of Chatham's ordinance from attorney Myers. The village does not have Freedom of Information Act guideline ordinance, we fall under the state's guideline, so we do not have a means of recouping the cost to duplicate documents or cassette tapes. More than anything, an ordinance would give us the means to recoup costs, and possibly limit some of the things we would have to give out. President Manning told Bowen to go ahead and work with attorney Myers. Bowen stated he would have information or an ordinance for the next board meeting. President Manning also asked if the Freedom of Information Act request from Midwest Region Foundation for Fair Contracting regarding the Michele/Park Streets drainage project was taken care of. Trustee Bowen stated yes, as he delivered all items requested.
- Regarding Animal Control, Gary Eby, who stated months ago he would like to resign the position, is still serving as animal control person for the village. The police department handles animal calls during the weekend, while Eby takes care of animal calls through the week, which at times can take him away from other village responsibilities. Mayor Manning stated Eby was not complaining, but sees the position as a means for some one else to earn income. We have discussed issues of animal control previously covering such areas as Sangamon County Animal Control, pick-up schedules, fees, containment, whether the position should be part-time or per-call and it has been difficult to arrive at a solution. Since animal control falls under the police department Manning turned the matter over to the police committee for review and possible solution.
- Mayor Manning read a letter from Tom Skelly in response to a letter recently sent by the Village of Pawnee to the City of Springfield rejecting the Springfield Metro Sanitary District option in regards to Hunter Lake also known as Lake Springfield II (See attached copy). The first half of the letter was a pitch to reconsider the SMSD option while the second half of the letter requested various information regarding current sewage treatment costs including the question of how did the village figure that the SMSD project would cost Pawnee citizens \$20 more per month? Trustees were somewhat baffled by the information request as trustees were in agreement that the City of Springfield already had all of this information. Trustees also noted that the \$20 increase figure was arrived at using information contained in a feasibility study commissioned by the City of Springfield and prepared by the engineering firm of Crawford, Murphy & Tilley for the City of Springfield. After a lengthy discussion, trustees finally agreed a response was warranted and would request Greene and Bradford, Inc. to send the information requested to Mr. Skelly.

- Mayor Manning told trustees the school is close to a decision on where to place the warning siren.
- Mayor asked trustees if they received his email regarding the Egnaw property, located in the lower Washington Street flood plain. There is a possibility the Village could purchase the property and he would like to pursue the matter to see if it is feasible. Trustees gave their approval.

Motion to Adjourn

Motion was made by Trustee Steve Gudgel to adjourn the meeting.
Second by Trustee Phillip Thompson
Voice Vote Taken: five ayes, 0 nays
Motion Carried (5-0)

Meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m. on Monday, September 26, 2005
The next scheduled meeting of the Pawnee Village Board of Trustee is Monday, October 10, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. at the Village Hall.

Respectfully Submitted

Cynthia S. Kramer
Village Clerk