

**VILLAGE OF PAWNEE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Minutes of July 26, 2021**

Call to Order:

- President Clarke called the meeting to order to 7:00pm.

Roll Call:

- Village Clerk, Devona Martin called roll
- Trustees in attendance: Brian Whitlow, Jan Bowsher, Patrick Murphy, David Skinner, Troy Squires
- Trustees Absent: Phillip Thompson
- Also in attendance: Attorney Don Cravens, Candy Kramer with the Pawnee Post, Chief Barclay Harris, Steve Haney, Kevin Kuhn, Mark, Dominic Campo, Dewey Stewart, Jonathan Stewart, Ed Cleaton with Cleaton Sanitation, Eric Murray, Jeff Schober

Visitor's Recognition/Comments:

- Ed Cleaton appeared before the Board. He is local trash hauler from Tovey. He does a lot of Christian County. Roger Flowers retired and sold out to a corporate company and he does not believe the corporate company is going to be good to the village. He is here to introduce himself. They do recycle, roll off, dumpsters. Pawnee pickup will be on Thursdays. He's gotten several businesses already. He stated he spends a lot of money in Pawnee as he lives just down the road in Tovey. Roger Flower has been his friend and since he retired, he is now expanding into Pawnee. They do provide a senior rate of \$22 for 65 and older. The regular rate is \$25/mo trash pickup and \$15/mo recycle. Their recycle pickup is every other week. He left flyers and business cards. Flower was bought by Allied Republic.
- Eric Murray appeared before the Board. He advised they do a 500 mile bicycle ride for Gold Star Mission. This is to honor fallen Illinois soldiers. This will be the 5th year and the first year coming through Pawnee. They plan to arrive on Saturday, September 25th at approximately 3pm. Pawnee will be the last stop before they finish at Scheels. The 21st – 25th its Gold Star Family week. The last Sunday of every September is Gold Star Mothers Day. This is a great cause and they have awarded over \$156,000 in scholarships.
- Engineer Kevin Kuhn and Dewey Stewart discussed the Groom Street project. Kevin had a meeting with IDOT about running a drain to 104. They wanted more information and didn't initially kick it back. They are only working only 1 or 2 days a week. They did reach out to the field engineer. Other than the ditch that needs cleaned, they've never had any problems. Dewey had a few questions about a couple of easements. He stated that looking at his deed, he doesn't think an alley easement exists. He thinks it was just a utility easement. He believes an alley easement is needed. Attorney Cravens stated there is an 8' strip that is owned by the Village to make the 15' alley easement wider. Dewey doesn't believe there has ever been an alley easement there. If we have the alley easement great. If we don't, he thinks we need it. There are 2 garages that were building opening to the north. Without the alley easement, they are coming onto his property. President Clarke asked if we want to approach the 2 property owners and ask for an easement. If we are going to make storm sewer improvements, we need to own it. Agreed, the first step is we probably need to legally own it. Jeff in the meantime will patch some ca7. Dewey has already fixed it and it has settled a little. He needs some more. Dewey would like to make one more comment. He stated that he's had a chance to work with a lot of

the guys that work for the village and they have done a great job. He further advised we have a good group of guys and are lucky to have them on staff.

- Dominic Campo discussed the commercial building zoning ordinance. He has been researching ordinances for area municipalities. He believes less rules are better. He also thinks a big area of concern will be the setbacks and that those are issues that will really come up. He states there are no ordinances that say how deep it has to be or how shallow. He thinks we should consider size and how it's laid out on the lot. He also indicated that current commercial construction is \$300/sq. Engineer Kevin Kuhn discussed the City of Springfield's historic preservation. They tell you what you can and can't put up. Sometimes it's tough to find something similar.

Clerk's Report:

- Minutes of July 12, 2021 were presented for review and approval
Motion made by Trustee Murphy to approve the minutes of July 12, 2021 as presented
Second made by Trustee Skinner
Roll Call Vote Taken: Whitlow-yes, Bowsher-yes, Murphy-yes, Skinner-yes, Squires-yes
Motion Carried: (5-0)

Personnel & Finance Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Skinner

- Treasurer Thein is currently out sick.
- Trustee Skinner advised that at the last meeting, we approved Treasurer Thein to pay the bills. Those bills totaled \$92,147.20.
- **Motion** made by Trustee Skinner to approve Treasurer Thein to pay the bills and we will read in the amount at the next meeting.
Second made by Trustee Squires
Roll Call Vote Taken: Whitlow-yes, Bowsher-yes, Murphy-yes, Skinner-yes, Squires-yes
Motion Carried: (5-0)
- Treasurer Thein's Monthly Budget Comparison Report - tabled

Gas and Water Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Squires

- President Clarke advised we received an email that for communities smaller than 50,000, there is grant money out there. We have until September 30. It is a grant for loss revenues due to COVID. Our allotment was \$358,892.71. It can be used for different things and it's based on population. When Treasurer Thein gets back, she will start the process. This is through Illinois NEU Allocations from ARPA. It's through the Department of Commerce and Economic ARPA (American Rescue Plan Allotment). There are interim rules on what you can spend it on but we are still waiting for the list. The school system is not included but we could give money to the school if we wanted. When Andy Goleman was here, he talked about \$38M for the county which ends up being around \$190/person. We are going to contact townships other than Capital Township and see if we can get all the township supervisors to request it be divided by populations. Engineer Kevin Kuhn gave Treasurer Thein a letter to have put on letter head and sent to the County Engineer because they have COVID monies.
- Trustee Squires advised that on July 20th, 61 red letters were sent out.
- Trustee Squires advised that Andy is getting ready to work on a small gas leak on Franklin. He is also going to be doing some work on Higgies. They purchased Style Connection and he will be combining the meters into one.

- Trustee Squires advised they checked with a dealership up north and there are no available trucks. They stated if they do get a truck in, it's already spoken for. They will just continue to do maintenance on the current truck at this time.

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

- Trustee Whitlow advised that they are just working on regular maintenance and preparing for the overlay.
- Discussed Groom Street. We'll have to figure out the rest of the street in order to design the road.

Police Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Bowsher

- Trustee Bowsher advised that Officer Ross may be going back to the doctor in 2 weeks. Once he gets back, they'll be able to go back to 24/7.
- Discussed the grass at Dollar General. Trustee Bowsher advised it was finally mowed. They have one person that does all the corporations. They have to put a work order in each time the grass needs mowed.

Sewers and Parks: Committee Chair, Trustee Thompson

- Trustee Murphy discussed the 2" overlay on the walk path and path extension. The walking path has cracks. They've been patched and sealed but the path is 13yrs old. If we did a 2" overlay, it would last longer. Steve Haney is working on getting prices on turf for under the playground equipment at North Park. This would be a project for next year. He has received an estimate from Illinois Paving and another from Ron Furman Commercial Sweeping and Paving at a cost of \$75,700 and \$ 76,640 respectively. The patch/seal alone would be approximately \$10,000 and the extension would be approximately \$20,000 or maybe a little more if we're not doing the other work. For about \$30,000, we could have the walk path patched and sealed and do the extension to Neala Dr. Once we get Margaret and Brenda done, Clareshire will be done. Agreed that we would just patch/seal the walk path this year and do the 2" overlay next year when we finish Clareshire. Steve will check prices with both companies to determine the exact cost of the patch/seal of the walk path and adding the extension to Neala Dr.

Motion made by Trustee Murphy to give Trustee Skinner authority not to exceed \$35,000 on the seal/patch of the walk path and extension of the walk path from North Park to Neala Drive Second made by Trustee Squires

Call Vote Taken: Whitlow-yes, Bowsher-yes, Murphy-yes, Skinner-present, Squires-yes

Motion Carried: (5-0)

- Trustee Haney advised the pump that was down at Santara is getting replaced. There is also a pump down at the State Police but they are just getting it repaired. It is will be the next pump to get replaced. It's been in since 1988. The cost to replace it will be roughly \$80,000. This will be a project for next year.

Zoning Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Murphy

- Trustee Murphy advised he is still working with the zoning board and Dominic Campo on the zoning ordinance
- Trustee Murphy advised there have been a few more permits issued. He also signed a demolition permit for Dewey Stewart for the house on 104.

Bargaining Committee: Committee Chair, President Clarke

- None

Energy: Committee Chair, President Clarke

- None

Infrastructure: Committee Chair, President Clarke

- None

Unfinished Business:

- None

New Business:

- None

Motion to Adjourn:

- **Motion** made by Trustee Skinner to adjourn
Second made by Trustee Murphy
Roll Call Vote Taken: Whitlow-yes, Bowsher-yes, Murphy-yes, Skinner-yes, Squires-yes
Motion Carried: (5-0)

Meeting adjourned at 7:57pm on Monday, July 26, 2021. The next scheduled meeting of the Pawnee Village Board of Trustees is Monday, August 9, 2021 at 7:00pm at the Village Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,


Devona L. Martin

Village Clerk