

**VILLAGE OF PAWNEE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
Minutes of May 23, 2016**

**Call to Order:**

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

**Roll Call:**

- Village Clerk, Devona Martin, called roll
- Trustees in attendance: Garry Whitson, Phillip Thompson, Patrick Murphy, David Skinner, Troy Squires
- Trustees absent: Cara Burnley
- Also in attendance: Attorney John Myers, Treasurer Kelly Thein, Candy Kramer with the Pawnee Post, Dennis Ross General Manager with Otter Lake Water Commission, Freddie Whitson with Otter Lake, Dan and Kim Cobb with Pawnee Prairie Days and Lions Club members John Jockisch and Nat Seiz

**Visitor's Recognition/Comments:**

- Dennis Ross, General Manager of Otter Lake appeared before the Board. He advised that the water commission passed a rate increase which we see on our bill on or around December 5. It takes effect on December 1, 2016. It is a 3 step process over the next 3 years starting on Dec 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 with a \$.25 increase per step. He encouraged the Village to always pass on the increase to the residents. He further indicated that the increases are for inflationary expenses. After all 3 steps, a customer will pay an additional \$5.25/mo based on a 7000/mo gallon average. Wholesale is currently \$5.88/thousand. After the 3<sup>rd</sup> year, we will be \$5.09/thousand. He further encouraged everyone to visit the water plant. Treasurer Thein requested that Mr. Ross email her the rate increases and timeline.
- Freddie Whitson provided a copy of Otter Lake's financial statement to President Clarke.
- Kim and Dan Cobb appeared before the Board. They noticed the soccer goals were gone from North Park. As Pawnee's liaisons for the Auburn Soccer Association, they were asking if the goals would be going back up. President Clarke advised that Gary Eby was supposed to be checking into sizes and prices. Kim Cobb indicated that she could get the sizes. Trustee Thompson asked if they need 2 sets or if 1 set would do. They advised that they really need 2 sets. President Clarke asked about getting a smaller set and a larger set. President Clarke also asked if they have considered asking the Assembly of God to use their field. They will talk to AB Bennett. The soccer season runs August - October. She has a meeting on Wednesday and she will find out goal sizes and provide them to the Village. Trustee Thompson advised that since they are going to PVC they will be mobile and higher chance of vandalism.
- Dan Cobb talked about brainstorming for the fireworks. John Jockisch and Nate Seiz with the Lions Club also appeared before the Board. He would like to get the Village, the Lions Club and Prairie Days to form a separate committee and do a fall festival to bring back the Lions Club Country Fair. It would be in the fall. They would have a band and sell beer. Trustee Thompson advised that the only negative would be staffing. Dan advised that they are thinking this would just be a one day event. They would like to keep it an Octoberfest theme and just sell hamburgers, brats, etc. He advised that Jay with Locals would also like to be involved. Trustee Thompson advised that he attended the Auburn Carnival. He noticed that bottled alcohol was sold by the Homecoming committee and the bar only sold hard liquor and no bottled beer. Trustee Squires and Trustee Thompson will both sit on the

committee. They were thinking the last weekend in September or the 1<sup>st</sup> weekend in October. Homecoming is October 1 so maybe October 8. They will get a committee together and discuss. They were thinking about having a bags tournament, washer tournament, tracker pull, washer toss, sack races, egg toss, etc. We briefly discussed the fireworks. Trustee Thompson advised that we had always had \$10,000 in fireworks and as long as we sustain that, they would add an additional 10% each for free. Then the bottom fell out and we get less fireworks. This year we lost our date. Consensus was that we should proceed with forming the committee to discuss the Country Fair.

#### **Clerk's Report:**

- Minutes of May 9, 2016 were presented for review and approval.  
**Motion** made by Trustee Thompson to approve minutes of May 9, 2016 as presented  
Second made by Trustee Murphy  
Roll Call Vote Taken: Whitson-yes, Thompson-yes, Murphy-yes, Skinner-yes, Squires-yes  
Motion Carried: (5-0)

#### **Personnel & Finance Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Skinner**

- **Motion** made by Trustee Skinner to approve Treasurer Thein to pay the bills for the previous 2 weeks. The amount will be read at the next Board meeting.  
Second made by Trustee Squires  
Roll Call Vote Taken: Whitson-yes, Thompson-yes, Murphy-yes, Skinner-yes, Squires-yes  
Motion Carried: (5-0)
- Treasurer Thein presented her Monthly Budget Comparison Report for the end of the fiscal year. She advised that she found that the wages for the Street Dept was over budget for the end of the year. She tracked it back to an adjustment made during the audit. She will talk to our auditor regarding this. Discussed the new police building. We will owe the property taxes for 2015. For 2016, it will be tax exempt. We are currently waiting on our property taxes from the State. We've received a small amount but we should be receiving around \$300,000. The first installment is usually around \$100,000.  
**Motion** made by Trustee Skinner accept Treasurer Thein's Monthly Budget Comparison Report for the month ending April 30, 2106  
Second made by Trustee Whitson  
Roll Call Vote Taken: Whitson-yes, Thompson-yes, Murphy-yes, Skinner-yes, Squires-yes  
Motion Carried: (5-0)
- Treasurer Thein has her first draft of the budget. She is requesting each committee head to review, meet with the supervisors and advise if changes are needed.

#### **Gas and Water Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Whitson**

- Trustee Whitson advised that there were no changes in is gas rates.
- Trustee Whitson advised that 78 red letters were sent out today.
- Trustee Whitson advised that Andy is almost done with getting all the meters out of the basements.
- Trustee Whitson advised that in talking with Andy over the winter, all the pipe breaks were over by Jefferson and Washington. Andy would like to proceed with tapping into the line. There are 33 homes and about 2200 feet to tap into new line. That would be about 1/3 done. The cost will be about \$45,000. This will be a project for the end of the summer.

**Streets, Alley and Sidewalk Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Squires**

- Trustee Squires advised maintaining and picking up branches. There were several areas that needed new sidewalks. The lowest bid was Reese Langheim.

**Police Committee Report: Committee Chair, President Clarke**

- No report

**Sewer and Parks Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Thompson**

- Trustee Thompson advised that Fireworks coming up and all the paperwork done. Gary Eby is still working on sign quotes

**Zoning Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Burnley**

- No report

**Unfinished Business:**

- President Clarke advised collective bargaining will be tabled.
- Discussed new awnings. Gary Eby will get prices on the awnings.
- Treasurer Thein advised a guy came in and heard we were looking for replacement awnings. He stated that he could do either cloth or aluminum. The cost for aluminum would be more but they would last longer. She took his card and gave it to Gary. President Clarke asked about the door. Trustee Thein advised that they will be required to be closed ½ day during the repairs. President Clarke advised to get a date and make sure it runs in the post for a week. Treasurer Thein advised it would be better to be closed in the morning and then business could run as normal in the afternoon.
- Treasurer Thein advised that regarding Otter Lake increases, we have only done rate increases 1 time since she has been here in 2009 other than passing on otter lake increases. She thinks we need to raise our rates also. Treasurer Skinner suggested \$.35 which is \$.10 over the water increase. Trustee Thompson advised that we don't have a way to track how much sewer goes up with water usage. He thinks sewer should be looked at also. She advised that at some point years ago, we put in lines and sewer plant and charged the customers, but the Village told people we would eventually lower the sewer rates once that was paid for. That increase was never removed. Should the flat fee be increased as well as the usage rate? We have only raised rates enough to match our cost to Otter Lake. Trustee Whitson advised their auditor told them that they'll have at least a 25% increase on insurance next year.

**New Business:**

- President Clarke advised Dollar General is supposed to have a soft opening on Thursday and grand opening in June.

**Motion to Adjourn:**

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:07pm on Monday, May 23, 2016. The next scheduled meeting of the Pawnee Village Board of Trustees is Monday, June 13, 2016 at 7:00pm at the Village Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,

Devona L. Martin  
Village Clerk