

**VILLAGE OF PAWNEE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Minutes of August 9, 2021**

Call to Order:

- President Clarke called the meeting to order to 7:02pm.

Roll Call:

- Village Clerk, Devona Martin called roll
- Trustees in attendance: Brian Whitlow, Patrick Murphy, David Skinner
- Trustees Absent: Phillip Thompson, Jan Bowsher, Troy Squires
- Also in attendance: Attorney Don Cravens, Treasurer Kelly Thein, Candy Kramer with the Pawnee Post, Chief Barclay Harris, Bob Terry, Jeff Jarrett, Dominic Campo, Nelson Myers and Linda Hardin, Jeff Schober, Nat Seiz

Visitor's Recognition/Comments:

- Nat Seiz appeared before the Board. They are wanting to have the County Fair on September 25. It will run 11am – 4pm or 5pm. He indicated that they will not need streets blocked off at this time. It will take about an hour to tear down. Consensus was to allow the Lions Club to use the square for the County Fair on Sept 25.
- Bob Terry, Nelson Myers and Linda Hardin discussed the drainage issues on Carroll Street that is the result of the new building built by Dewey Stewart and Midwest Garage Doors. Due to the building, their rental home at 1113 Carroll Street is flooding. There is no longer a road behind the house like there used to be. Now it is just a small strip. Dewey sloped his building towards their back yard making their back yard flood when it rains. Bob Terry manages the property and wanted to know why the Village allowed him to build the building when it has not created a drainage problem. He tried to talk to Dewey about it but he told them it was the Village's property. Nelson Myers advised that after Dewey poured the concrete pad, he can't even get out of the garage. He is now out into the alley and it wasn't that way before but now it is. Attorney Cravens advised he has not found anything that says it has been dedicated as an alley; we've just always treated it as an alley. Mr. Terry advised that is says Grooms Rd and that Dewey told him we gave the property back to the Dewey. Attorney Cravens advised that is not true. We did not give anything back. Jeff Schober, Trustee Skinner asked if we can grade the drive and create a berm. Mr. Terry stated you cannot because it is 3' higher and slopes towards them. He stated that there is now no drainage and that drainage should not be his problem. The board agreed it is a village problem. Mr. Terry said a building that size should have a retainer pond. President Clarke asked if Dewey had his downspouts on yet and they do not know. We advised that our village engineer was here at the last meeting. He has made contact with IDOT regarding installation of storm sewers on Rt 104. Mr. Terry wants to know how it was allowed to happen in the first place. The homeowners are currently represented by an attorney. We received the letter today. Attorney Cravens advised that at this time, he will respond to attorney. He is not allowed to respond to another attorney's client. Mr. Terry indicated that he understands but still wants to know how it was allowed to happen. Trustee Murphy advised he went through all the steps of zoning. Mr. Myers said if we have standing water all the time, there will be health problems. President Clarke asked if they were notified through the zoning. Trustee Whitlow advised homeowners are only notified if there is a variance. Trustee Murphy advised it went through the zoning board and it passed. The board advised that this problem is

- President Clarke advised there is piece of property for sale. It has sold a couple times. It is 8' wide and we already mow it. We could buy it for like \$800. We don't have a lien but we already mow it.

Zoning Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Murphy

- Trustee Murphy, needs to get with don about getting letter 700block of carroll on continuing violation. Need letter. Also down to 0 new building construction. Building permit is good for a year. Had complaints about timeliness of completion. We don't have any within 4mos of expiration. Also since Dominic is here, prior to next board meeting to convene a zoning meeting to discuss a hammered out version. He'll get with Dominic and make plans accordingly instead of a self imposed deadline.

Bargaining Committee: Committee Chair, President Clarke

- none

Energy: Committee Chair, President Clarke

- none

Infrastructure: Committee Chair, President Clarke

- none

Exit Regular Session: 7:52pm

- **Motion** made by Trustee Murphy to exit regular session
 Second made b y Trustee Skinner
 Roll Call Vote Taken: Whitlow-yes, Murphy-yes, Skinner-yes, Clarke-yes
 Motion Carried: (4-0)

Enter Executive Session: 7:55pm

Motion made by Trustee Murphy to enter executive session for personnel
 Second made b y Trustee Skinner
 Roll Call Vote Taken: Whitlow-yes, Murphy-yes, Skinner-yes, Clarke-yes
 Motion Carried: (4-0)

Exit Executive Session: 7:59pm

Motion made by Trustee Murphy to exit executive session
 Second made b y Trustee Skinner
 Roll Call Vote Taken: Whitlow-yes, Murphy-yes, Skinner-yes, Clarke-yes
 Motion Carried: (4-0)

Re-Enter Regular Session: 7:59pm

Motion made by Trustee Skinner to enter regular session
 Second made b y Trustee Murphy
 Roll Call Vote Taken: Whitlow-yes, Murphy-yes, Skinner-yes, Clarke-yes
 Motion Carried: (4-0)

Unfinished Business:

Gas and Water Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Squires

- President Clarke advised he spoke with Trustee Squires and everything was running as expected. They are moving gas meters at Higgies.

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

- Trustee Whitlow presented the oil chip bid from Louis Marsh in the amount of \$35,828
Motion made by Trustee Murphy to accept the oil and chip bid from Louis Marsh in the amount of \$35,828
Second made by Trustee Skinner
Roll Call Vote Taken: Whitlow-yes, Murphy-yes, Skinner-yes, Clarke-yes
Motion Carried: (4-0)

Police Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Bowsher

- Chief Barclay Harris presented his monthly police report.
Motion made by Trustee Murphy to approve Chief Barclay Harris's Monthly Police Report
Second made by Trustee Whitlow
Roll Call Vote Taken: Whitlow-yes, Murphy-yes, Skinner-yes, Clarke-yes
Motion Carried: (4-0)
- Trustee Murphy advised he has been talking with Chief Harris the last couple weeks and it is almost impossible to find a fleet vehicle. Chief Harris is open to moving one of the police trucks to become a village utility truck and then the truck would be replaced with a new police car. The truck still has a lot of life in it. We don't need another police vehicle right now but that it would be wise to start the process of ordering a new police car. They currently have 2 trucks, a 2017 and 2019. We could take one of the trucks and strip it down. The older truck has about 43,000 miles on it. We had already approved to order a new utility truck for the guys. Trustee Skinner asked how much the Dodge was and Trustee Murphy advised it was approximately \$36,000. Explorers are currently going for about \$39,000. The police truck was \$45,000. Trustee Murphy advised this is just a thought. It would get us a truck much quicker and it has a lot of life left in it. If we did it, the police department would be able to go without a vehicle for a while. Again, Trustee Murphy advised this is just something to think about it. Jeff Schober's opinion is it would be better than what we have. This is an errand truck. The 2017 Ford F150 with 43,000 would be a huge improvement over what they currently have and it has 16 less years of use. Treasurer Thein suggested talking to Andy before we make a decision. Trustee Murphy will talk to everyone and get it on the agenda in 2 weeks if we can. The last service was a trip to the Pit Stop. It has been fine since.

Sewers and Parks: Committee Chair, Trustee Thompson

- Sewers and Parks are running as expected. The sealing and track extension is completed. Additional swings have been ordered for playground. We are currently waiting on the slides before we mulch. Trustee Skinner advised we have no idea when the slides will come. He also advised the walking track was a couple bad spots and they are supposed to fix it. On the new path, we had asked for a 6' wide path. They normally pour 8' and said they would pour the 8' for an additional \$3,000. He came down to \$2,500 for the 8' wide path and it looks great. They will put signs up that say "no motor vehicles allowed." Candy asked about handicap swing. President Clarke will check into it.

our problem. Discussed the location of the current storm drains. There is one at 12th and 104. Dominic Campo advised the water does run to the south. The best option is for us to put in another storm sewer at 104 but we have to get IDOTs approval. Mr. Terry again wanted to know how we got here. President Clarke advised he built a building on his property. Mr. Myers said he brought fill in and changed it. President Clarke asked Jeff Schober if there is anything we can do to help with drainage. He stated that he will go look at it. Attorney Cravens will respond to his attorney. Mr. Terry says the drainage problem should have been address before he was allowed to build the building. Trustee Whitlow said we follow state building code and we don't have enforcement like the City of Springfield. We have zoning rules, not building inspectors. Zoning pertains to set backs from property lines, etc. It is not inspecting plumbing, setting elevation, etc. Mr. Myers said he doesn't understand. EPA would be all over this if he changed the draining on a field. Trustee Whitlow stated he didn't think he was going to pour it like it did. He also indicated we did have 3" of rain last night which is pretty substantial. Mr. Myers is worried about his tenants. Trustee Whitlow said we are doing everything we can to make it right.

- Dominic Campo addressed the Board and advised if there is a vacancy on the board, he would like to be considered.

Clerk's Report:

- Minutes of July 26, 2021 were presented for review and approval
Motion made by Trustee Murphy to approve the minutes of July 26, 2021 as presented
Second made b y Trustee Skinner
Roll Call Vote Taken: Whitlow-yes, Murphy-yes, Skinner-yes, President Clarke-yes
Motion Carried: (4-0)

Personnel & Finance Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Skinner

- Trustee Skinner advised the bills payable for July 13 – August 5 totaled \$100,622.39.
Motion made by Trustee Skinner to approve bills payable for July 13 – August 5 in the amount of \$100,622.39.
Roll Call Vote Taken: Whitlow-yes, Murphy-yes, Skinner-yes, Clarke-yes
Motion Carried: (4-0)
- **Motion** made by Trustee Skinner to approve Treasurer Their paying the bills to our next meeting and the amount will be read in at the next meeting
Second made b y Trustee Whitlow
Roll Call Vote Taken: Whitlow-yes, Murphy-yes, Skinner-yes, Clarke-yes
Motion Carried: (4-0)
- Treasurer Their presented her Monthly Budget Comparison Report for the Month Ending June 2021
Motion made by Trustee Skinner to approve Treasurer Their Monthly Budget Comparison Report for the month ending June 2021.
Second made b y Trustee Murphy
Roll Call Vote Taken: Whitlow-yes, Murphy-yes, Skinner-yes, Clarke-yes
Motion Carried: (4-0)
- Treasurer Their advised Flowers has sold to Republic. They have already reached out asking if they can be the sole trash provider and be put on the bill. She advised that probably wouldn't happen but she would bring it up to the Board. She is also obtaining estimates for our services. No one on the board was interested in making a motion for an all village trash supplier.

- none

New Business:

- **Motion** made by Trustee Skinner to raise the 7 village guys and Kelly Thein \$2/hr to get them to even par with what we have given to the police back in the spring. This is for all the village employees except Kim Nichols
Second made by Trustee Murphy
Roll Call Vote Taken: Whitlow-yes, Murphy-yes, Skinner-yes, Clarke-yes
Motion Carried: (4-0)

Motion to Adjourn:

- **Motion** made by Trustee Murphy
Second made by Trustee Skinner
Roll Call Vote Taken: Whitlow-yes, Murphy-yes, Skinner-yes, Clarke-yes
Motion Carried: (4-0)

Meeting adjourned at 8:02pm on Monday, August 9, 2021. The next scheduled meeting of the Pawnee Village Board of Trustees is Monday, September 13, 2021 at 7:00pm at the Village Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,


Devona L. Martin

Village Clerk