

**Village of Pawnee  
Board of Trustees Meeting  
March 8, 2021**

**Call to Order**

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

**Roll Call**

- Deputy Clerk Cynthia Kramer called roll
- Trustees in attendance: Todd Richeson, Phillip Thompson, Jan Bowsher, Patrick Murphy, David Skinner and Troy Squires  
Absent: Clerk Devona Martin
- Also, in attendance: Treasurer Kelly Thein, Police Chief Barclay Harris, attorney Don Craven, Dominic Campo, Courtney Campo, Kevin Rollins, Garry White, Pawnee Superintendent of Schools Scott Cameron, Sangamon County Board member Jeff Thomas, Brian Whitlow, Tammy Squires, Locals-Jay Smith and Jarrad Smith, 1854 Pub-Andrea Womack, Copper Heads-Sarah Clipper, Pawnee Prairie Days Association members Marsha Gehrs, Mary Milano, Gail Zini

**Recognition/Comment/s of Visitor/s**

- Pawnee resident Jeff Thomas and Sangamon County Board member. He gives brief update pertaining to County Board; commends Pawnee Street Department crew for clearing snow; and invites residents to use Sangamon Alert Messaging .
- Dominic Campo, local realtor, and Pawnee Board of Trustees Candidate. Voices support to allow bars/owners to return to 3 a.m. license, citing conversations with residents and bar owners, minimum police activity at local bars, the crucial aspect of having that extra hour to serve/profit as people are spending money. Trustee Patrick Murphy addressed the police issue noting cost, while explaining that bar owners and the State of Illinois make money from gaming, however, the village does not receive a significant amount of revenue from that source. Village President Jeff Clarke noted that bars staying open until 3 a.m. results in a safety issue for everyone else. In addition, he added, that nobody has been more supportive of local bars than the village, but this is an issue of public safety. Bar owners were quired, with Local's Jay and Jarred Smith stating they had no problem with a 2 a.m. license. Andrea Womack of the 1854 Pub stated that whatever was decided by the board would be fine with her. However, Sarah Clipper, owner of Copper Heads stated she would like that extra hour to conduct business. Discussion then ended.

**Motion** made by Trustee Murphy to roll back closure time for all local bars to 2 a.m. for the entire 7-day week, with last call at 1:30 a.m. with all patrons leaving the premises no later than the 2 a.m. business closure.

Second by Trustee Thompson

Roll Call Vote Taken: Richeson-yes, Thompson-yes, Bowsher-no, Murphy-yes, Skinner-present, Squires-yes

Motion Carried (5-1)

- Trustees opted to handle Prairie Days closure and licensing for sale of alcohol later.
- Bike Night at Locals: Jay and Jarred Smith announced that Bike Night at Locals is scheduled for Friday, May 14. 3 p.m. until Midnight. Trustees okayed the event and procedures will be the same as previous Bike Night events, with portions of the square blocked off for the event.

**Motion** made by Trustee Bowsher to approve scheduling/procedure for Bike Night, and to waive fee for G License for this year only.

Second by Trustee Murphy

Roll Call Vote Taken: Richeson-yes, Thompson-yes, Bowsher-yes, Murphy-yes, Skinner-yes, Squires-Yes.

Motion Carried (6-0)

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

- Trustee Skinner presented bills payable of \$658,715.04 for weeks ending March 8, 2021. ( The Village received a natural gas bill for the month of February in the amount of \$560,000)  
**Motion** made by Trustee Skinner to approve the bills payable in the amount of \$658,715.04  
Second by Trustee Squires  
Roll Call Vote Taken: Richeson-yes, Thompson-yes, Bowsher-yes, Murphy-yes, Skinner-yes, and Squires-yes  
Motion Carried (6-0)
- Loan Program Resolution 21-02  
**Motion** by Trustee Skinner to approve Resolution 21-02, A Resolution Authorizing the Creation of a Local Government Energy Loan Program  
Second by Trustee Squires  
Roll Call Vote Taken: Richeson-yes, Thompson-yes, Bowsher-yes, Murphy-yes, Skinner-yes, and Squires- yes  
Motion Carried (6-0)
- Ordinance 21-04, An Ordinance Authorizing and Providing for an Installment and Purchase Agreement for the Purpose of Paying the Cost of Purchasing Natural Gas for the Village of Pawnee, Sangamon County, Illinois and for the issue of a not to exceed \$534,477.12 , Debit Certificate, Series 2021.  
**Motion** made by Trustee Skinner to approve Ordinance 21-04  
Second by Trustee Squires  
Roll Call Vote Taken: Richeson-yes, Thompson-yes, Bowsher-yes, Murphy-yes, Skinner-yes, and Squires-yes  
Motion Carried (6-0)  
Note: Trustees had to pass above Resolution and Ordinance to recoup cost from the Federal Government.
- Village Utility Gas Customer Payment Solution: While there is not a perfect solution, the board has decided on one that is most equitable by increasing the meter fee by an additional \$11 for a total of \$21 per month, for 36 months or until loan is paid off.  
**Motion** made by Trustee Bowsher to increase meter fee by an additional \$11 for a total of \$21 per month for 36 months or until the loan is paid off.  
Second by Trustee Thompson  
Roll Call Vote Taken: Richeson-yes, Thompson-yes, Bowsher-yes, Murphy-yes, Skinner-yes, and Squires-yes  
Motion Carried (6-0)
- Treasurer Thein presented the Monthly Budget Comparison Report for the weeks ending January 31, 2021  
**Motion** made by Trustee Skinner to approve Thein's Monthly Budget Comparison Report as presented for the weeks ending January 31, 2021.  
Second by Trustee Squires  
Roll Call Vote Taken: Richeson-yes, Thompson-yes, Bowsher-yes, Murphy-yes, Skinner-yes, and Squires-yes  
Motion Carried (6-0)

**Gas and Water Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Squires**

- There were eight (8) shut-off for the month of February and an additional three on March 5 due to broken payment agreements.
- Water main break in front of the annex building (formerly the Bowsher Building) of the Pawnee Library. The library realized some water ad sewer issues.
- Fire hydrant at school athletic building in need of repair/replacement
- There are some concrete jobs, mostly small, could cost approximately \$500

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

- Nothing major going on, however, have received complaints about cars speeding through the alley behind Madonna's day care facility.  
**Motion** made by Trustee Richeson to approve Ordinance 21-08 to install speed bump in alley.  
Second by Trustee Thompson  
Roll Call Vote Taken: Richeson-yes, Thompson-yes, Bowsher-yes, Murphy-yes, Skinner-yes, and Squires-yes  
Motion Carried (6-0)

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

- The monthly police report submitted by Chief Harris was reviewed and approved.  
**Motion** made by Trustee Murphy to approve the monthly police report as presented.

Second by Trustee Skinner

Roll Call Vote Taken: Richeson-yes, Thompson-yes, Bowsher-yes, Murphy-yes, Skinner-yes, and Squires-yes  
Motion Carried (6-0)

**Sewers and Parks: Committee Chair, Phillip Thompson**

- Looking for pump for lift station located near village shop. Approximate cost is \$18,684
- Regarding parks: When will we be opening parks, ball diamond? State states 20% occupancy, so may not open restrooms

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

- No report

**Unfinished Business**

- None

**New Business**

- None

**President's Comments**

- Because of animal issue, the Village President, Jeff Clarke, requested an amendment to the Village Code of Ordinances as the Village did not have an ordinance to cover the specific issue.  
**Motion** made by Trustee Murphy to approve Ordinance 21-05, Banning Livestock on Public Highways. Permits must be applied for and issued for the following: Pawnee Prairie Days ponies, parade horseback units, Christmas on the Square sleighs, or coaches.  
Second by Trustee Thompson  
Roll Call Vote Taken: Richeson-yes, Thompson-yes, Bowsher-present, Murphy-yes, Skinner-present, Squires-present, and Clarke-yes  
Motion Carried (7-0)
- Pawnee Prairie Days. (Clarke) told Prairie Days Committee members to go ahead and plan for the event. Marsha Gehrs noted that there will be a BBQ contest, live bands only on Friday and Saturday nights, would like to stay open until 12:30. PPD would stop selling drink tickets at 11:30 p.m., with last call at midnight and closing at 12:30 a.m.  
Motion made by Trustee Skinner for PPD to stop selling tickets at 11:30, last call at midnight, and closing at 12:30 a.m.  
Second by Squires  
Roll Call Vote Taken: Richeson-yes, Thompson-yes, Bowsher-yes, Murphy-yes, Skinner-yes, and Squires-yes  
Motion Carried (6-0)

**Motion to Adjourn:**

- Motion to adjourn made by Trustee Murphy  
Second by Trustee Boshier  
Roll Call Vote Taken: Richeson-yes, Thompson-yes, Bowsher-yes, Murphy-yes, Skinner-yes, and Squires-yes  
Motion Carried (6-0)

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m. on Monday, March 8, 2021. The next scheduled meeting of the Pawnee Village Board of Trustee is Monday, March 22, 2021, 7 p.m. at the Pawnee Village Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,  
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Cynthia S. Kramer  
Deputy Clerk