

**VILLAGE OF PAWNEE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Minutes of March 10, 2014**

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 (arrived at 7:02pm), Steve Condon (arrived at 7:07pm), David Skinner, Mark Gleason, President Clarke
- Trustees absent: Cara Burnley
- Also in attendance: Attorney John Myers, Chief Bowsher, Treasurer Kelly Thein, Jeff Schober, Andy Goleman, Jim Stone

Visitor's Recognition/Comments:

- Andy Goleman with the Sangamon County Board appeared before the Board.
 - He also briefly discussed a new program called the Sangamon Menard Area Regional Transportation Group. This is a grant funded program. If funding is cancelled, the program will be eliminated. The program would provide residents with transportation. You can call number in advance and a vehicle will arrive to take them to where they need to go. He advised that they had a few issues with the government changing some of the rules, so the target date has been moved back. They are hoping the program will start this summer.
 - He also discussed the budget as a whole. Currently, the County has a \$100M budget. He advised that the budget is very tight and that their biggest concern is the federal and state funding. If they don't get the funding, it makes it very difficult. Currently, they are down 100 jobs due to funding. Luckily, it was done mostly through attrition.
 - He discussed the current issue with Sangamon County Animal Control. They had a study completed by an outside group. They knew there would be challenges and knew they would have to compromise. He reviewed the fee schedule. The cost will fluctuate based on the number of calls. He wants us all to work together and provide the service to the Village. The new contract would begin May 2015 going into May 2016 where rates would increase. Chief Bowsher stated that we call to pick up kenneled dogs. She indicated that if a dog is running loose, they can't come down unless it's cornered or trapped. Jim Stone, indicated that is incorrect. Chief Bowsher assured Mr. Stone that this has happened on more than one occasion. Trustee Thompson asked why our nights of boarding are higher. By law, if it has an owner it has to stay at least 7 days. If the animal is claimed, the owner pays the boarding. Trustee Thompson advised that we are 3rd highest on boarding. Mr. Stone advised that after the state required hold times, they are not passing any additional fees onto the Village. Trustee Thompson discussed increasing the cost of our fines in order to cover costs associated with the increased costs from Sangamon County Animal Control. Trustee Gleason agreed with adjusting our fee schedule. Attorney Meyers asked about tagging dogs. Trustee Skinner suggested we board the dogs a day or two prior to calling animal control. Attorney Meyers advised that the Dept of Agriculture regulates the habitats of having our own dog kennel.

- Both Mr. Stone and Andy Goleman exited the meeting. The Board discussed the current fee schedules pertaining to Sangamon County Animal Control. Currently, we have to either accept or decline the current contract which ran from May 2013 – April 2014 in the amount of \$2,225.00. We do not yet have to vote on the new contract.

Motion made by Trustee Thompson to approve the contract with Sangamon County Animal Control for May 2013 – April 2014 in the amount of \$2,225.

Second made by Trustee Condon

Roll Call Vote Taken: Whitson-yes, Thompson-yes, Condon-yes, Skinner-present, Gleason-yes

Motion Carried: (5-0)

Clerk's Report:

- Minutes of February 24, 2014 were presented for review and approval.

Motion made by Trustee Skinner to approve minutes of February 24, 2014 as presented

Second made by Trustee Gleason

Roll Call Vote Taken: Whitson-yes, Thompson-yes, Condon-yes, Skinner-yes, Gleason-yes

Motion Carried: (5-0)

Personnel & Finance Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Skinner

- Trustee Skinner advised the Board that the bills payable for the week ending March 10, 2014 totaled \$210,365.04

Motion made by Trustee Skinner to approve bills payable for the week ending March 10, 2014 in the amount of \$210,365.04

Second made by Trustee Thompson

Roll Call Vote Taken: Whitson-yes, Thompson-yes, Condon-yes, Skinner-yes, Gleason-yes

Motion Carried: (5-0)

Gas and Water Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Whitson

- Trustee Whitson advised the Board that 64 red letters went out in February. Of that, seven were shut off and all are back on except one.
- Trustee Whitson advised the Board that gas rates are going up April 1, 2014 to \$1.207/therm. This is an increase of \$.174/therm.
- Trustee Whitson advised the Board that he had Andy Lee check into some of our problem water mains. He came up with approx 50,000ft of old cast iron piping. The worst areas with the majority of our breaks are in the old part of town. President Clarke checked with Joe Greene with Greene and Bradford and the cost to replace 10 miles of pipes would cost approximately \$20,000-25,000 per foot or \$100,000/mile. Trustee Thompson asked about sleeving. Trustee Condon advised that these pipes are too small to sleeve. President Clarke advised that this is something we do need to start thinking about as prices will not get any cheaper. No action was taken.

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

- Jeff Schober indicated that he is working on hauling gravel into alleys.

Police Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Gleason

- Chief Bowsher presented her monthly police report

Motion made by Trustee Gleason to accept Chief Bowsher's monthly police report

Second made by Trustee Thompson

Roll Call Vote Taken: Whitson-yes, Thompson-yes, Condon-yes, Skinner-yes, Gleason-yes

Motion Carried: (5-0)

Sewer and Parks Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Thompson

- Trustee Thompson advised that he is still awaiting estimates on the awning and new sign at the edge of town. He is working on obtaining a grant through Ameren for the sign.

Zoning Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Burnley

- No report

Unfinished Business:

- President Clarke advised that he received information from Scott Day pertaining to grants for the warning sirens. He found one grant available; unfortunately, we do not qualify for it. Scott Day also advised him that the siren at the school does not have a battery backup. Scott Day is requesting that Buck Picket service the sirens. He will obtain estimates on said work.
- Discussed the Impala that ESDA Scott Day is driving. President Clarke advised that we had the blower motor repaired and now it will not shift out of park.
- President Clarke advised the Village that Scott Day is working on the Emergency Operations Plan for the Village. Due to the fact that our current EOP is 12 yrs old and missing a lot of vital information, he is starting over from the beginning. The plan should be ready for approval by May.
- Discussed the restricted fund and Attorney Meyers advised that we should be able to utilize these funds for new warning sirens.
- Trustee Gleason advised the Board that he was not at the meeting where we discussed overtime and comp time. He would like to add to that discussion. Some of his suggestions were: 1) Limit comp time to 80 or 100 hours. 2) He does not think there should be a timeframe to use comp time. 3) He believes that comp time should only be used if it does not generate overtime. 4) When an employee retires, the Village would not have a buyout of comp time. Comp time would need to be used prior to your last day of service. Trustee Thompson advised that the reason we have a timeframe for using comp time is because of budgeting. This includes factoring in raises. Trustee Gleason will put together a change for Attorney Meyers to review.

New Business:

- We just received notice that the 7th grade girls volleyball won Sectionals and are going to State. Congrats to the girls and good luck at State.

Motion to Adjourn:

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:18pm on Monday, March 10, 2014. The next scheduled meeting of the Pawnee Village Board of Trustees is Monday, March 24, 2014 at 7:00pm at the Village Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,

Devona L. Martin
Village Clerk