

VILLAGE OF PAWNEE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Minutes of April 8, 2024

Call to Order:

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

Roll Call:

- Village Clerk, Devona Martin called roll
- Trustees in attendance: Dale Walters, Phillip Thompson, Troy Grant, Patrick Murphy, David Skinner, Brian Whitlow
- Trustees Absent: none
- Also in attendance: Attorney Don Cravens, Treasurer Brent Wise, Chief Barclay Harris, Jeff Schober, Tory Wilson and Bart Wilson

Visitor's Recognition/Comments:

- Tory Wilson and Bart Wilson appeared before the Board. Attorney Cravens advised there are problems with the Village paying half. The Village is required to obtain 3 bids and pay prevailing wage if the Village is going to participate. Attorney Cravens advised prevailing wage is considered to be union wages. President Clarke advised there is no way around this and they should have brought it to the Board before they just had it completed. Bart Wilson advised he mentioned the issue multiple times to President Clarke and nothing was done. President Clarke again stated he needed to come to a board meeting. Bart Wilson does not believe it's fair we dump water and waste onto their property but we are not doing anything. Tory Wilson advised the Board that he believes their field takes all the run off from the Village streets north of town and that we should assume some of the cost of replacing the tile and that it is a Village tile. It was solid tile and not a perforated tile. They had to reshape the waterway and added 4 tiles. It is thought that 20+ years ago, Nick Howard brought a backhoe and had several tile holes. Tory Wilson stated that if we are in agreement that the tile is not ours, they want to have it disconnected. Again, what they did will benefit us and benefit them. We can pay prevailing wage to the workers who did the work. The work was completed by Seven Sons Excavating out of Taylorville. Trustee Thompson asked if there was a way to make it legal and that if it is ours, we need to help facilitate repairing it. He suggested paying part of the materials. Material included to reshape the waterway or a hard rain would have washed it out. Their deed shows no easements. \$5670 labor and materials are \$22K. Attorney Cravens will call contractor to see about getting material breakdown. Trustee Thompson also advised we need an easement if there is not already an easement so we can fix it next time. And that next time, we need to have this on the front end. They'll come back in 2 weeks.

Clerk's Report:

- Minutes of March 25, 2024 were presented for review and approval
Motion made by Trustee Murphy to approve the minutes of March 25, 2024 as presented
Second made by Trustee Skinner
Roll Call Vote Taken: Walters-yes, Thompson-present, Grant-present, Murphy-yes, Skinner-yes, Whitlow-yes
Motion Carried: (6-0)

Personnel & Finance Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Skinner

- Trustee Skinner presented the bills payable in the amount of \$91,558.90 for the week ending April 8, 2024
Motion made by Trustee Skinner to approve the bills payable in the amount of \$91,558.90 for the week ending April 8, 2024
Second made by Trustee Murphy
Roll Call Vote Taken: Walters-yes, Thompson-yes, Grant-yes, Murphy-yes, Skinner-yes, Whitlow-yes
Motion Carried: (6-0)

Gas and Water Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Whitlow

- Trustee Whitlow advised there were 5 shut offs. He advised the guys all got their gas certifications completed.
- Trustee Whitlow advised Petersburg Plumbing should be completed in the next 2 days. They do have to do some grading on Franklin St.
- Trustee Whitlow advised they will be flushing fire hydrants next week. They will start April 15 and should take 3 weeks. Brent Wise will put it on the sign and Facebook.
- Brent Wise advised we are in the process working on the \$500,000 grant. They are working on the application process through USDA.
- Discussed the Wilson project. Treasurer Wise advised we have enough funds in our infrastructure to cover it.

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

- Jeff Schober advised they fixed a hole by the bank. They also started patching in front of the school. They'll continue to work Tuesday and Wednesday.
- Jeff Schober asked about putting up barricades and if we would be liable. Attorney Cravens believes we would not be liable.
- Jeff Schober also asked about the township. They don't buy rock salt and we advise them to just get what they need. Discussed liability and Attorney Cravens stated we likely need to draw up an Intergovernmental Agreement.
- Jeff Schober advised that the pond behind Michelle Drive and the Church drains into the Wilson's field tiles. Also, behind Shelly Craigmiles and cuts across the road and goes into that same ditch. He stated that pretty much all of University Heights excluding the south end of K. Layne drains into Wilson's field tiles.

Police Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Skinner

- Chief Barclay Harris presented the monthly police report
Motion made by Trustee Murphy to approve Chief Barclay Harris's Monthly Police Report
Second made by Trustee Skinner
Roll Call Vote Taken: Walters-yes, Thompson-yes, Grant-yes, Murphy-yes, Skinner-yes, Whitlow-yes
Motion Carried: (6-0)

Sewers and Parks Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Thompson

- Trustee Thompson advised the Board it is time to renew our on maintenance contracts on the 9 pumps and lift stations. They do an 11pt check.
- Trustee Thompson advised the bathrooms have not been opened yet because of freezing. They will likely open them this week and will also be working on the fields.
- Discussed the cleaning of the bathrooms at North Park. The person that normally cleans them can no longer do it. Travis and Steve will be cleaning them.

Zoning Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Murphy

- Trustee Murphy advised he and Attorney Cravens will strategize on how to proceed with the problem properties since the county won't assist.
- Trustee Murphy advised they did receive a pool permit
- Trustee Murphy advised that after last board meeting, he and Brian Whitlow met with Jay and Jarrad Smith with Locals to discuss the old KC Hall. They have not heard back.

Bargaining Committee Report: Committee Chair, President Clarke

- No report

Energy Committee Report: Committee Chair, President Clarke

- No report

Infrastructure Committee Report: Committee Chair, President Clarke

- No report

Unfinished Business:

- none

New Business:

- President Clarke discussed 3 properties on 4th Street, south of Rt. 104. These are the properties behind Krekels. We have realized they are still in the County and have not been annexed into the Pawnee. They are completely surrounded by the Village. Consensus was we would look into annexing them into the village.
- Discussed the tornado sirens. We have 4 in town. The siren at the Methodist Church has been worked on multiple times and last week, it did not go off. The siren at the sewer plant only blows east and doesn't spin. Discussed adding a new one at the sewer plant and at DNR and eliminate the one at the church. The cost is approximately \$32,000 per siren and then the pole for DNR. Trustee Murphy asked if we could take parts from the siren at the sewer plant and one repair the one at the Methodist Church. This is no an option as we believe the siren at the Methodist Church as wiring issues also as it has a burn smell to it.

Motion made by Trustee Murphy to approve purchasing 2 new tornado sirens and a pole in an amount not to exceed \$80,000.00.

Second made by Trustee Thompson

Roll Call Vote Taken: Walters-yes, Thompson-yes, Grant-yes, Murphy-yes, Skinner-yes, Whitlow-yes

Motion Carried: (6-0)

- President Clarke advised the bargaining committee reached an agreement with the police union. The agreement was a \$1.50/hr raise beginning May 1, 2024 – April 30, 2025 and then a 3.5%

increase May 1, 2025 – April 30, 2026. President Clarke advised that in 2 years, he would like to see us start yearly and have a 5-7 year contract instead of a 2 or 3 year contract.

Motion made by Trustee Skinner to approve the collective bargaining agreement with the Pawnee Police Dept and Police Benevolent and Protection Association

Second made by Trustee Murphy

Roll Call Vote Taken: Walters-yes, Thompson-yes, Grant-yes, Murphy-yes, Skinner-yes, Whitlow-yes

Motion Carried: (6-0)

- **Motion** made by Trustee Skinner to extend the same pay raise to the rest of the Village of Pawnee employees.

Second made by Trustee Murphy

Roll Call Vote Taken: Walters-yes, Thompson-yes, Grant-yes, Murphy-yes, Skinner-yes, Whitlow-yes

Motion Carried: (6-0)

Motion to Adjourn:

- **Motion** made by Trustee Murphy to adjourn

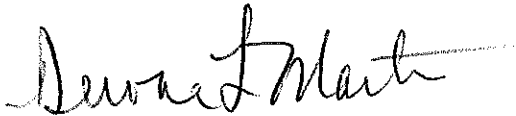
Second made by Trustee Walters

Roll Call Vote Taken: Walters-yes, Thompson-yes, Grant-yes, Murphy-yes, Skinner-yes, Whitlow-yes

Motion Carried: (6-0)

Meeting adjourned at 7:47 pm on Monday, April 8, 2024. The next scheduled meeting of the Pawnee Village Board of Trustees is Monday, April 22, 2024 at the Village Hall.

Respectfully submitted,



Devona L Martin
Village Clerk