

**Village of Pocahontas
Board Meeting
Monday December 18, 2023, 6:00 P.M.**

Meeting called to order by Village President, Karen Heilig. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, roll call was taken with Sue Kovach, David Crawford, and Tim Palen present. Board member Jeff Weiss was absent.

November Minutes:

Karen asked if there were any additions or corrections to the November minutes. Adam made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Susie 2nd, roll call on motion, with all yes, motion approved.

Bills:

December bills were presented to the Board for their approval. Susie made a motion to accept bills as written with a 2nd by Matt. Roll call on motion, with all yes, motion approved.

Public Comment:

Chief Deputy Josh Hill was present. He oversees the Side-by-Side licenses for the County. Josh was wanting to gauge interest on possibly merging with the County on the Side-by-Sides licensing. He still needs to check legality on certain things and would get back to un on the actual proposal. The Village would still be taking care of the golf cart permits.

Michael Romshek was present advising that he had purchased the old Tahi Motel property. What he would like to do is turn them into studio apartments and add in a laundromat. He will still need to get the proper zoning but wanted to present it to the Village to think about beforehand.

Chad Korte was wanting to approach the Board about considering a zoning variance to change 213 W State St from a single residential dwelling into 2 - 2-bedroom duplex. He will also need to submit the correct paperwork and present it to the ZBA for their recommendations.

Amanda Bodi wished to address the Board. She asked what can be done about the speeders on State Street. Due to that being a State Road, we would need to get in contact with the State to make any changes. The Board members would like to see more tickets being issued. Rob advised that he will look into getting an additional part-time officer.

Kris Parent was also present and wanted to put his name in for the vacant trustee position.

Attorney – Mike Eberle:

Mike spoke about the Tax Levy and asked if there were any questions. Matt made a motion to accept Tax Levy Ordinance # 121823-2 as written. Susie 2nd the motion – roll call on motion, with all yes, motion approved. Loni will take this to the County Clerk this week so that it can be filed before the due date.

There was discussion about some residents that have been using water that they have not paid for. Ryan and the police have been advised of the issues. They are waiting for some more information so that action can be taken.

Mike also spoke briefly about the Paid Leave for All Workers Ordinance that was presented. Tim made a motion to accept the Paid Leave for All Workers Ordinance # 121823-1. Adam 2nd – roll call on motion, with all yes, motion approved.

Public Works:

They provided a list of some of the items they completed this month: Did 20Julie locates, worked sand filters and switched them over, installed Christmas lights on the square, installed a quarter in water meter at 312 W Kavanaugh, replaced 1 water meter, checked salt spreader, cleaned lift stations and put in bio packs, installed new signs and a post on Academy Street, fixed collapsed water meter pit at 301 E Kavanaugh, and replaced backup battery at water plant.

Building/Zoning:

Don advised that the Zoning Board will need to come up with an R4 Zoning for the Tahoe Motel Apartments. The zoning we have only goes up to 6 units. They will also need to plan for duplex size.

The truck stop is moving along by setting the bases for the fuel pumps.

Police

Flock Safety (who we purchased LPR Cameras from) will have a price increase January 1st. They wanted to see about locking in the current pricing with a 5-year contract. Because most of the board members were not in their positions when these were purchased, they are unable to make a decision. They would like to see the original contract and see if they might give a bit of extra time to make the decision.

Angie advised that the LPR helped solve 2 robberies within the past 2 weeks.

OLD BUSINESS

Donation to Revive and Thrive: Diana Griffith advised that they have been approved for their 501C3. The board advised them that when they do have an event, they can come to us to request a donation, but they cannot just give a donation as a group start up. Currently, they are trying to organize a community cookbook. They have lots of other things on the horizon. They are also anticipating the creation of their own website.

Ordinance Codification: Loni advised that Frank would like to have any updates submitted by February.

2024 Meeting Schedule: Adam made motion to accept the presented meeting schedule for 2024. Matt 2nd – roll call on motion, with all yeas, motion approved.

Chicken & Beer Dance: Susie advised that the event was not successful in raising a lot of funds. There is possibility that next year the Shop with a Cop committee and the Village might join for a fundraiser. She would still like the board to donate to Shop with a Cop. This will not need to be done right away as they have already raised the funds for this year's program.

Loni has contacted Bradford National Bank, Busey Bank, and FNB about the lift station loan. Karen and she will be meeting with some of them in January.

Declaration of Vacancy: Karen declared that the trustee position, previously held by Jeff Weiss, is now vacant.

Appointment of Vacant Trustee Position: The board agreed to discuss and decide on the appointment at the January 8th meeting. Currently, Brenda Kleinik and Kris Parent are interested in the position. Loni will make a post on the door advising of the available position.

Tim made a motion to go into a closed session to discuss personnel issues at 7:20 PM Susie 2nd – roll call on motion, with all yes, motion approved.

Meeting was then called back to order and closed at 7:57PM