

**Village of Pocahontas
Board Meeting
Monday October 23, 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, Jeff Weiss, David Crawford, and Tim Palen present. Board member Adam Evans was absent. Matt Hawley was absent during roll call but arrived after the meeting started.

September Minutes:

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

Bills:

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

Public Comment:

Dave Crawford wanted to speak on behalf of the Little League. He advised that he will be giving up his position as the president of the Little League. Travis and Kelli Edwards will be taking over the reins. He also advised that the water will be shut off at the concession stand after Wednesday. The bathroom wall is insulated, fixed, and winterized. Dave asked questions about all the contents and property at the Little League. All contents should be covered.

Diane Griffith spoke about the first Revive and Thrive Tribe event. She advised that there were about one hundred people that attended and thought it turned out great. The money from that night was going to be used to pay back the members for their personal monies used. This event did not cover enough to complete that. They are in the planning stages of more events. They are currently working on their bylaws and in the process of becoming a 501C3 organization. They applied for their tax ID on September 18th and received it on September 25th. At this time, they do not have any Christmas events planned. On November 3rd they will be meeting to start planning 2024 events. Jeff advised he thinks we should donate \$500 to this group to help them get started. This will need to be added to the agenda for next month.

Rachel Wilfong was present and wanted to speak on behalf of the fire department. She advised that the 2024 Firemen's Picnic will be moved to the big park this year. She asked the village to consider putting some extra power out there. She was told that Ameren could install power outlets, just under the lights, for free. They were also looking to put the band closer to the bathrooms. In which, the outlets there will need repaired. Rachel also advised that the fire department is was trying something different this year as. Instead of asking for donations, they will be contacting people for sponsorships. Those that do sponsor will have a sign thanking them for sponsoring.

Attorney – Ryan Connor

The Confirmatory Ordinance will be available for the November meeting.

Update on the McGuire property. There is no documentation that proves that we own the property. Ryan applied for an independent title report.

The Tax Levy will need to be added to the November agenda as it needs to be approved before the last Tuesday in December.

Paid Leave for All Workers Ordinance – Ryan was waiting to see if there were changes to this. Currently, there is not. We will add it to the November meeting agenda, but it really doesn't need to be approved until December.

Dollar General update: The taxing process was never fully completed, which is why we have not received revenue. There was an issue with the 911 address. Ryan is currently working to get this completed and at least the last 6 months of funds.

Water/Sewer:

Paper with items worked on (attached)

The step bars and storage have been installed.

We now own a utility trailer and Andy wanted to confirm where we want this stored. It was advised to store it in the tin shed by the ponds.

Andy wanted the board to entertain the idea of putting rip rap around the railroad bridge on Academy.

Andy reached out to Slattons for a quote on the sidewalks.

Andy, Randi, and Loni attended an informative MFT meeting. It was highly informative, and we learned that we could claim road signs, rental equipment, and bridges on our MFT budget.

Last month the Forhans asked about replacing a culvert on their property. Andy advised that he looked on the property and sidewalk and showed no signs of a culvert. Andy advised he could do this but wanted to know who would be responsible for what. The homeowner should pay for it to be done first then the Village can maintain it.

It was brought up that we cannot park trailers or boats without being attached to a vehicle. We will look at the ordinances to see what exactly is noted about that.

We sold water to the construction site from the hydrant near Powhatan. They were getting 18,000 gallons a day.

We need to talk to an engineer to get a rush on the lift station. The water and sewer committee will need to meet. Ryan advised that writing grants is a full-time job. That we would need to hire an additional person for this. Dawn Weiss advised she would supply a name for someone that writes the grants for Grantfork.

Building/Zoning

Nothing to report at this time.

Police

Angie advised that the Murder Myster fundraiser went well. She made approximately \$1800.00.

Frank is healing well after having surgery.

Angie was advised that Collinsville Animal Hospital will be taking him on as a patient. This will save her approximately \$300 per year.

Rob hit a dog with the Explorer causing approximately \$4900.00 in damages. This has been reported to insurance.

Angie wrote 3 tickets last month but went to several other calls that did not result in tickets.

ISP has Frank on the list to be used when needed.

Angie suggested the board think about taking on another part-time officer for the times that neither her or Rob are available.

Website:

Matt made a motion to hire Moonlight Computing to create a website for the village. Sisie 2nd, roll call on motion, with all yes, motion approved. The board would like for someone to have access to the website to report any emergency information.

New Business

Matt has a list of residences that have trees hanging over the road. He will send the list to Loni. There was talk about renting a lift for a month. Karen advised everyone to call the State Representative and he will contact the State to make sure things are taken care of.

Tim made motion to accept the presented dates for meetings in 2024 but change the start time to 7PM. Dave 2nd, roll call on motion, with all yes, motion approved.

The holiday schedule was presented, and the board would like to keep it the same.

Susie spoke about the Chicken & Beer Dance. Proceeds will go towards Shop with a Cop and to the park fund. This will be on December 2nd from 6PM – midnight at the Copper Dock Winery. Tim Zobrist will be the DJ. Donnewald donated several sodas, Susie is checking on chicken prices. She asked the Revive and Thrive Tribe help take over for her. Tickets are \$30 for singles and \$50 for a couple.

Loni attempted to make contact about a quote on a ne Comprehensive Plan but she has not heard anything back.

Lighting in the Park: There are currently only 2 Ameren poles in the park – the ones closest to the lake. Ameren replaced every single light in town, including the park, with no charge. The steel poles by the bathrooms are the Village's. He will look at changing the bulbs to see if they will work. He will also get a quote to add to more additional poles.

Trunk or Treat – This will be on Halloween from 5PM-8:30PM. We will have a DJ again, hand out hot chocolate and hot dogs. Everyone is encouraged to bring their vehicles out to decorate and hand out candy. Dawn Weiss asked if we would consider changing the date.

Vicky Tift will be helping put together Small Business Saturday. She wanted to know if the park could be used, if needed on November 25th. There were no issues with this.

Sealed Bids:

Matt made a motion to accept the bid of \$501 from Steve Hagler for the John Deere LX 277 mower. Jeff 2nd – roll call on motion, with all yes, motion approved.

Matt made a motion to accept the bid of \$2063 from Jim Holzauer for the Kubota ZD Zero Turn Lawnmower. Jeff 2nd, roll call on motion, with all yes, motion approved.

Matt made a motion to accept the bid of \$1180 from Jon Rinderer for the 1996 Chevy C7500. Jeff 2nd, roll call on motion, with all yes, motion approved.

Matt made a motion to accept the bid of \$1555 from Joel Moske for the 2011 Ford F250. Jeff 2nd, roll call on motion, with all yes, motion approved.

Susie made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dave 2nd, roll call on motion, with all yes, motion approved.