

Village of Pocahontas
Regular Board Meeting
Monday July 22, 2024, 7:00 P.M.

Meeting called to order by Village President, Karen Heilig. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, roll call was taken with the following trustees present: Matt Hawley, Sue Kovach, Dave Crawford, Danny Beard Jr, and Adam Evans. Trustee Tim Palen was absent.

Approval of June 24, 2024 minutes

Karen asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes from the June 24, 2024 meeting. Sue Kovach made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Danny Beard 2nd the motion, roll call on motion, with all yes, motion approved.

July Bills:

Sue Kovach made a motion to accept the July bills as presented. Danny Beard 2nd the motion, roll call on motion, with all yes, motion approved.

Attorney – Ryan Connor

Tax Levy

Ryan advised that there is no statutory authority to add the referendum of adding \$1 to the monthly water bills to replace the vehicle sticker program. This would be best to add to the Tax Levy. The Village can raise the Levy up to 1.5% without having to have a hearing.

There will need to be a grocery tax ordinance presented in the coming months.

Update on Problematic Property

Ryan advised that documents have been filed with the court and are currently waiting on court dates.

Truck Stop Update:

The temporary road is open. Ryan also clarified that the hold up on this issue was not due to the Village.

Jaren Gilomen was present and he wanted to ask a question about when the shoring will be done and equipment can be removed from his property. Ryan advised that due to the threat of litigation he can make no public comment.

Water/Sewer:

Briar and Randi worked on a water leak today as well as working on the ditch on 9E Kavanaugh St.

They will be spraying weeds around the lake next.

Building/Zoning:

Tahoe Commons will not be able to make their target date of August 1st. Ameren still needs to inspect as well as getting the final building inspection.

Korte still needs his final inspection and will need to have 2-meters instead of 1.

The truck stop has their trusses up.

Curry will need to get an easement to update the sewer lines to the park.

The website is complete. Currently individual emails were set up and Don has the log in information.

Consideration/Action: Passage of: RESOLUTION PLACING ONE REFERENDUM QUESTION ON THE BALLOT FOR THE NOVEMBER 5, 2024, ELECTION SPECIFICALLY: SHOULD THE VILLAGE OF POCAHONTAS CHANGE THE NAME OF THE PARK FROM THE GRETCHEN WILSON PARK TO THE AMERICAN LEGION PARK.

Matt Hawley made a motion to accept the RESOLUTION PLACING ONE REFERENDUM QUESTION ON THE BALLOT FOR THE NOVEMBER 5, 2024, ELECTION SPECIFICALLY: SHOULD THE VILLAGE OF POCAHONTAS CHANGE THE NAME OF THE PARK FROM THE GRETCHEN WILSON PARK TO THE AMERICAN LEGION PARK. Danny Beard 2nd - roll call on motion, with all yes, motion approved to adopt Resolution 72224R.

OLD BUSINESS**Consideration/Action: Possible Water Rate Increase**

Adam Evans made a motion to raise the water rates \$.55 per 1000-gallons, effective on the next billing cycle, to match what Bond Madison raised. Matt Hawley 2nd, roll call on motion, with all yes, motion approved.

Update: Ordinance Codification:

Frank has advised that the Ordinances will be completed and delivered before the August 12th meeting.

New Business:

Sue Kovach made a motion to give Briar a \$1 per hour pay raise due to his 90-days probation being up. Adam Evans 2nd, roll call on motion, with all yes, motion approved.

Consideration/Action: Acknowledgement of Vacant Trustee Position

President Heilig made an announcement that due to Trustee Tim Palen moving out of town, his position on the Board has become vacant. Matt Hawley motioned to approve this vacancy. Danny Beard 2nd, roll call on motion, with all yes, motion approved.

Consideration/Action: Hiring of a part-time Treasurer.

Matt Hawley made a motion to approve the posting for a part-time treasurer. Dave Crawford 2nd, roll call on motion, with all yes, motion approved.

Public Comment

Molly Kious – thanked the board for the new ordinances. She was seeking medical exemption on the animal portion. She advised that Illinois has a Right to Farm law and that since they have been doing this for over a year, then they should not have to stop. Adam Evans advised that after the ordinances have been completely adopted, we can take this into consideration.

Dawn Weiss – wanted to advise that there is someone living in an RV in the back of the park. Police will check it out. Dawn also mentioned about the LPR cameras and her concern for the Village not keeping them.

Sue Kovach made a motion to go into closed session at 7: 54pm for property and personnel.

The meeting was called back to order at 8:25 pm.

Police:

Ro advised that the Firemen's picnic went well with no incidents.

There has been no news from the gentleman that inquired about a position with the Pocahontas Police.

The ordinance committee will meet to discuss the Ordinances, should they need any modifications, after they are officially adopted. Frank advised the ordinances need to be re-evaluated every 2 years.

Jared Gilomen asked about the proposed easements and was advised that it will be changed to the other side.

Adam Evans made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion unanimously approved.

