

Village of Pocahontas
Regular Board Meeting
Monday April 28, 2025, 7:00 P.M.

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

Also present were Loni Hensler, Diane Griffith, Briar Weiss, Randi Smith, Tina Aper, Don Hawley, Shannon Links, Terry Huber, Brenda Kleinik, Jeff Kleinik, Allie Hunter, Katie McCall, Amanda Bodi, Molly Kious, Jennifer Rick, Rich Accornero, Karen Accornero, Randy Haberer, Becky Haberer, Chris Timmermann, Jaren Gilomen, Dawn Weiss, Joe Heilig, Carol Heilig, Judy Weiss, Dawn Bauer, David Hunter, Donna Hill, and Attorney – Michael Geaschel.

Approval of Minutes

Karen asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes that were read aloud. Adam Evans made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Dave Crawford 2nd – roll call on motion, with all yes, motion approved.

March Bills

Karen asked if there were any additions or corrections to the March bills. Sue Kovach made a motion to accept the April bills as presented. Pat Forhan 2nd – roll call on motion, with all yes, motion approved.

Public Comment:

Dawn Bauer with Ameren was present to discuss easements for one of their projects. She advised that the property they are looking at, has no supporting documentation but believes the Village owns it. Dawn presented to project proposal. This will need to be discussed further.

Attorney – Michael Geaschel

Problematic Property

Michael advised that there was a court date scheduled for April 15th to show cause. Mark did not attend. The judge advised to go ahead with the hearing. Documents and evidence were supplied to the judge as well as hearing testimonies from Officer Rob Kenny and Trustee Matt Hawley. Judge Bauer ruled in favor of the Village. Michael advised that an order has been drawn but has no details on it yet as it is currently just proposed. He will give a full update next month.

Truck Stop Update

No updates with the truck stop currently.

Consideration/Action: *Approval of Preliminary Budget*

Adam Evans made a motion to approve the preliminary budget and post and set up the budget hearing in 30 days. Danny Beard 2nd – roll call on motion, with all yes, motion approved.

Water/Sewer:

Briar and Randi submitted a highlight of things they had been working on since he last meeting.

Consideration/Action: *MFT Fund Approval*

Adam made a motion to approve the MFT budget as presented. Sue Kovach 2nd – roll call on motion, with all yes, motion approved.

Consideration/Action: *Purchase of 18 Neptune meters, hardware, and software package.*

Don advised that he spoke with Schulte Supply about the Neptune meters. He presented a quote for the purchase of 18 Neptune meters, hardware, and software. He advised we could start with the Business District and use the funds out of there. Adam Evans made a motion to purchase 18 Neptune meters, hardware, and software, to be for the businesses in the Downtown Business District, with Business District funds. Matt Hawley 2nd – Roll call on motion, with all yes, motion approved.

Building/Zoning

Don advised that the Tahoe Commons have some units that are occupied.

He had nothing to report on the truck stop.

Don asked if the Village Trustees were interested in applying for another grant for the park. If so, we would need to set up a public meeting for the residents to have their input on what they would like to see. The board is interested in exploring the grant opportunity and will get a meeting set up soon.

Don sent a letter to the head of the Postal Service and copied many governmental officials discussing the frustrating issues with receiving mail lately.

Consideration/Action: *Approval to allow 1 E State St to hire a different building inspector, at their cost.*

Discussion was held and advised that it is noted in our ordinances that they already can do this, but they must meet the qualifications of the Village Codes.

Police:

Nothing to report currently.

Old Business

Consideration/Action: *Appointed Clerk responsibilities, benefits, pay, and the posting of the position.*

Loni was approved to post the job opening for 30 days.

Consideration/Action: Review and approval of collection /disconnection letters

The trustees advised that everything is set up in the ordinance book.

New Business

Consideration/Action: *Swearing in new trustees*

According to our ordinances, newly elected positions get sworn in on the first meeting in May. This will take place next week.

Consideration/Action: *Cost of Living raise for Public Works*

Before this happens, we will need to find out what the governmental COLA rate is.

Discussion: *Adding E Old National Trail and West State St to the Village pick up with Republic Service*

There was not any information to discuss on the topic.

Discussion: *Village to take over hosting the fishing tournament*

Matt thought this would be a good opportunity for the Village to take this event on and be out there to meet and greet the community members. Adam Evans advised that the Masonic Lodge could take this fundraiser on.

Public Comment

Chris Timmerman was here and asked about an update on the truck stop.

Meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.