

VILLAGE OF PALMYRA BOARD OF TRUSTEES

REGULAR MEETING

November 3, 2008

7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL: Present: Mayor Daly, Trustees Nolan, Husk, Palmer and Piccola and Attorney Williams.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Daly called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion by Trustee Nolan second by Trustee Piccola, to approve the minutes from October 20, 2008 as submitted. Vote, 4 ayes. CARRIED.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE: The following correspondence has been received and is on file in the office of the Clerk Treasurer:

- 2007 CDC Flouridation Quality Award
- Article on David Beaucage's retirement
- Report on tax exempt property in Town

TRUSTEE REPORTS:

Trustee Husk no report.

Trustee Nolan shared information from a written report from the Code Enforcement Officer. There has been 225 permits issued so far this year. A copy of the report will be on file in the Village Hall office.

Trustee Piccola reviewed Supt. Boesel's written report:

1. The last scheduled brush pickup was completed the end of September, however they completed three additional rounds of the Village after that. The second round of leaf pickup was started today. Brush can still be dropped off on Kent Street on the Highway grounds.
2. Crosswalks are being re-stripped.
3. Update on the new loader – The new loader that was delivered is considered a 2008 model year, our specifications called for a 2009; a new 2009 930H has been ordered for us and should be delivered by mid December at which time it will be swapped out with the 2008 at no extra charge.
4. Mike Woodard started back with the department for his winter seasonal duties.
5. Supt. Boesel submitted a traffic count report which will remain on file in Village Hall.

Trustee Palmer – no report.

Attorney Williams – no report.

Mayor Daly provided her usual written report. She pointed out the posters on display in the room which were provided by the third and fourth grade classes for Red Ribbon Week.

Mayor Daly appointed resident Terry Leone who has volunteered to join Ron Oates and Dick Kirchoff as an additional economic advisor, helping to administer the Micro-Enterprise loan program. Terry is a specialist in radiology and interventional coding and serves as a consultant in these fields.

The Village will be the recipient of another grant through GFLRPC for \$54,500 in non-matching funds to be used for technical support to prepare a guidebook to explore issues, obstacles, and revitalization opportunities and to present design strategies for renovation and filling vacant upper floors in commercial and mixed-use areas.

Trustee Husk asked for some clarification on the mayoral appointment and just wanted to go on record as being against the appointment of Terry Leone.

NEW/OLD BUSINESS

AMBULANCE SERVICE: Tabled due to cancellation of guest.

HYDE PARKWAY: Bob Raeman, Clark Patterson Lee, was in attendance to discuss the specifications for the bids for the sewer work on Hyde Parkway and to address Richard Clayton's concerns. He outlined the changes that will be incorporated into the specifications if the Board desires. STES is in the process of videotaping the sewer laterals but not all the laterals have clean outs that make them accessible to the camera. Some of the cleanouts have a leaded plug. The leaded plugs are old and STES is afraid that once they break the seal they may have to get someone else in to re-seal them. Only the laterals on the east side of the street are of concern. The contract specs will include unit pricing for outside cleanouts for the homes where the lateral can not be accessed from inside. The estimate for the cleanouts are approximately \$1000 each. Mr. Raeman believes that the laterals are probably all right. Motion was made by Trustee Piccola, second by Trustee Nolan to incorporate the changes as discussed and to advertise for bids as soon as possible. Vote, 4 ayes. CARRIED.

ENGINEERING STUDY/WATER PLANT: The Board also discussed the engineering study for the water treatment plant with Bob Raeman and Richard Clayton. Trustee Piccola questioned why the Village was expending money for an engineering study instead of just updating Sniedze's 1999 study. Richard Clayton reported that he was not aware of the 1999 study but if we are going to do that he feels that Stearns and Wheler should be given an opportunity to re-bid the study using the earlier report as a guideline. Trustee Piccola thought that that wouldn't be proper but Mr. Raeman did not have a problem sharing Sniedze's 1999 study. The Board agreed that an update would be sufficient as long as a cost-analysis is included to ascertain whether or not the Village should stay in the water business. Mr. Raeman requested that the cost estimates from Stearns and Wheler and Clark Patterson Lee be presented to the Board at the same time. Mayor Daly assured him that would be the case.

PETITION REQUEST SIGNS: Petitions have been submitted from the Towpath residents to erect "Slow - Pedestrian Crossing" signs on both ends of Canal Street. The Board briefly discussed where they should be placed and asked Trustee Piccola to call Towpath Manager Karen Clair to get the residents' input as to exactly where they would like to see them located.

NEW BOARD LIAISON POSITION: A representative from one of the veterans' organization has suggested that a liaison or a point of contact be created that will deal with the Veterans. After a brief discussion, motion was made by Trustee Husk, second by Trustee Palmer to create a Veteran's liaison assignment to the Organizational meeting. Vote, 4 ayes. CARRIED.

221 PARK DRIVE: Tabled until Supt. Hopkins can review the asbestos information.

SHARED SERVICES GRANT: The contracts are written for the shared pieces of highway equipment. The rubber-tired excavator will be purchased by the Town and Village of Palmyra and the catch basin cleaner will be purchased by all four municipalities, the Town of Macedon, Walworth, Palmyra and the Village. Atty. Williams has reviewed the contracts and approved them as to form. Motion was made by Trustee Palmer, second by Trustee Piccola, to authorize the Mayor and Supt. Boesel to sign the SMSI contracts. Vote, 4 ayes. CARRIED.

PRESERVATION COMMITTEE ALTERNATE: Mayor Daly shared a letter from Maria Krogemann expressing her interest to serve as an alternate on the Preservation Committee. Motion was made by Trustee Palmer, second by Trustee Nolan to appoint Maria Krogemann as an alternate on the Preservation Committee. Vote, 4 ayes. CARRIED.

SEXTON BUILDING APARTMENT: The Board discussed details about the future renting of the apartment at 149 East Main Street, especially if it would be a straight rental or rented to someone with similar terms as former resident EthelMae Johnson; lower rent in exchange for cleaning and overseeing duties. Trustee Piccola expressed that he just assumed that was what the Village was interested in. Although the Village would get less rental fees, it would be offset by what the Village would save for cleaning services.

Trustee Palmer would like to review expenditures on the apartment before a monthly rate is set.

WATER METER DISCREPANCIES: The Board discussed some of the problems associated with some of the recent water meter replacements. The problem arises when meters get old, they are less accurate and don't always send the signal to the outside remote meter. The Village, through STES, tries to replace several meters every quarter and has been very aggressive over the last year in doing so. When the meter is swapped out sometimes the "inside" reading is much higher than what has been billed through the outside remote readings, and because it is water that has been used by the household at some point, users are expected to make up the shortfall. The shortfall is billed manually and depending on the size of the discrepancy can be broken out over several quarters. The shortfall is also billed at the old rate such as was the case with Mr. Herbst's meter. The problem is further exacerbated when the current homeowner is probably not the only one that should be paying for that shortfall. Another words, it's apparent the meter has not been working properly for several years and the property has changed ownership. There are some meters out there that may be close to 20-25 years old. It is for this reason that about two years ago, it became policy to get any inside reading for any final that is ordered. The Clerk feels the procedure in the code book needs to be better defined and Attorney Williams offered to share what has been done in other Villages. The Clerk Treasurer offered several suggestions:

- a. For the present, homeowners should be given as lenient terms as possible to make up the shortfall and at the "old" rate.
- b. In situations where large discrepancies exist, the homeowner should be notified in writing and given a time frame in which to challenge the reading and to have the meter tested by an independent company. If the meter tests out faulty, the Village would pay for the testing but if the meter is found to be correct or even on the slow side, the homeowner should pay for the testing. Only after the deadline is lapsed will STES be able to recycle the meter and its parts.
- c. Each quarter, the office will target a different section of the Village and request that the homeowner phone in their inside reading. This would help identify problem meters before the situation gets out of hand.
- d. Meter rent has not been increased as long as the Clerk can remember and is \$1.50 per quarter. Meters generally run about \$85.00 each. The life expectancy of a meter is about 10 years, which would mean the Village loses about \$25.00 on each meter if left in the field for the full 10 years.

The Board decided to hold off on any requests for waiver of any shortfalls till further review.

Property owner Dennis Horton has also requested reimbursement for their damaged sewer lateral that he believes occurred when the sidewalks were installed in 2005. However, the Canal Street reconstruction project was started in 1999 and completed in 2001 well outside the statute of limitations. They're request was denied, the clerk will notify them.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion was made by Trustee Nolan, second by Trustee Piccola to enter executive session at 8:46 p.m. for discussion of personnel. Vote, 4 ayes. CARRIED.

PUBLIC SESSION: Motion was made by Trustee Palmer, second by Trustee Husk to re-enter public session with no action having taken place in executive session at 8:50 p.m. Vote, 4 ayes. CARRIED.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Trustee Husk, second by Trustee Palmer to adjourn at 8:50 p.m. Vote, 4 ayes. CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Alicia M. Lynch
Clerk Treasurer