

Village of Pocahontas
Regular Board Meeting
Monday May 19, 2025, 7:00 P.M.

Meeting called to order by Mayor Pat Forhan. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, the roll call was taken with the following trustees present: Dave Crawford, Brenda Kleinik, Shannon Links, Allie Hunter and Danny Beard Jr. Trustee Adam Evans was absent.

Also present were Loni Hensler, Diane Griffith, Randi Smith, Mel Griffith, Don Hawley, Terry Huber, Jeff Kleinik, Amanda Bodi, Tracy Robinson, Jennifer Rick, Rob Kenny, Nancy Haberer, Mike Haberer, Matt Hawley, and Attorney – Michael Geaschel.

Approval of Minutes

Pat asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes. Shannon made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Dave Crawford 2nd – roll call on motion, with all yes, motion approved.

May Bills

Pat asked if there were any additions or corrections to the May bills. Shannon made a motion to accept the May bills as presented. Brenda 2nd – roll call on motion, with all yes, motion approved.

Public Comment

Tracy Robinson with Allpoint was here to discuss a quote that we requested. Initial cost for 3 phones, fax line, modern voicemail and stand-alone mailboxes would be \$398.49. After that, the monthly cost would be \$103.29. They could potentially hook to the lift stations apart from the water tower.

Attorney – Ryan Connor/Michael Geaschel

Problematic Property

Michael advised that they are still waiting for the judge to sign the order. After this has been signed, the Village can hire a company to go on property and remove trash and debris. He will have a permanent ban on harboring trash and burning. Money judgement being asked is \$219,000 but unsure if the judge will agree to that amount. We could also put a lien on the property.

Truck Stop Update

Michael advised that Ryan is still looking to get more information. Sunny's engineers did not get or check on the easements like they should have done. This issue needs to be resolved so that we can move forward with the project.

Water/Sewer

An overview of what was worked on was given to each member.

Briar has started early to get quotes for oil and chip.

Derek Breiner will be doing some concrete work for the Village

The 18 Neptune meters and software are here.

There was a discussion about checking on to water from Silver Lake, should it be needed.

Police:

No updates

Old Business

A discussion was held about the adding of electricity to the park. Once the proposal has been received, we will set up a special meeting and invoice members of the fire department.

Update: *Cashing in of CDs and opening the BNB accounts.*

Pat advised that he wants all accounts moved as soon as possible.

Consideration/Action: *Ameren gas lines and the possibility of accepting their proposed contract*

Discussion was held and the trustees decided to try to do some more negotiating before accepting anything.

Consideration/Action: *Moving from Frontier to Allpoint for all phone lines and internet*

Discussion was held in the meeting earlier. It was decided to wait until next month to check on the charges for the 2 lines that we currently need, the water tower and water plant, since the others are not hooked up.

New Business

Consideration/Action: *Hiring of a grass cutter/maintenance position*

Shannon made a motion to post a job opening to hire a grass cutter. Allie 2nd – roll call on motion, with all yes, motion approved. This person will report to the Public Works

Director. Loni will post the job opening on the door and Greenville advocate for 2 weeks.

Consideration/Action: *Assignment of Committees*

Pat presented a list of proposed committee placements. They are as follows: Streets & Parks – Shannon Links, Allie Hunter, Dave Crawford; Utilities – Danny Beard, Shannon Links, Adam Evans; Ordinance/Nuisance – Adam Evans, Dave Crawford, Brenda Kleinik; Police – Allie Hunter, Brenda Kleinik, Danny Beard; Finance – Brenda Kleinik, Adam Evans, Shannon Link; and Building & Maintenance – Dave Crawford, Allie Hunter, Danny Beard. Shannon made a motion to approve the committee assignments. Brenda 2nd – roll call on motion, with all yes, motion approved.

Consideration/Action: *Update regarding Building Inspector responsibilities and guidelines*

Pat advised that he believes the Building Inspector should not write their own responsibilities. This issue will be tabled. All work and documents need to be stored at the Village Hall. Pat would also like to see the body cam usage removed from the guidelines.

Consideration/Action: *Set a dollar limit that checks can be written without the mayor's signature (just the Treasurer & Clerk)*

Shannon made a motion to allow the Treasurer and Clerk to sign checks without the mayor's approval for up to \$500. Allie 2nd – roll call on motion, with all yes, motion approved.

Consideration/Action: *Use of Auto Signatures*

Dave made a motion to approve the use of auto signatures for AP and payroll checks, should Pat not be able to sign for them. Allie 2nd – roll call on motion, with all yes, motion approved.

Consideration/Action: *Building maintenance updates*

Pat would like to see a building maintenance in the budget. The first thing he would like to do is update the electricity. We would start on small projects and work our way up.

Consideration/Action: *The Village to continue to pay for Sam's Club Memberships*

It was decided not to continue to pay for Sam's memberships

Consideration/Action: *Approval of paying bills online vs sending them in the mail*

Loni advised that with the price of stamps going up in July and the inconsistency of mail getting delivered on time if she could start paying bills online. Brenda made a motion to

allow Loni and Diane to pay bills online. Allie 2nd – roll call on motion, with all yes, motion approved.

Discussion: *Advise who is to contact the attorneys*

Pat advised that individual board members should not be contacting the attorney directly without his permission. If they choose to email, they are to copy the clerk and Pat.

Discussion: *Meeting Packet preference*

Loni asked what the board was seeking for the meeting packets. Diane asked about the financials and was advised to keep them as the same date range she has been presenting.

Allie wanted to ask what would need to be done to see about making Bond Street a dead end and Adams Street as a One-Way Street. The Streets & Parks Department will look into this.

Public Comment

John Forhand was present and wanted to ask the board again to consider putting in a culvert at his residence on 208 W National.

Mike Haberer wanted to know who is responsible for the bridge over the railroad tracks on Leverton. The railroad doesn't think they are.

Matt Hawley wanted to bring up that there were some ordinance violations that had been given out and wanted to know if we were going to keep sending out the violations and enforcing them.

Shannon made a motion to go into closed session at 8:39 p.m. for personnel matters. Allie 2nd – roll call on motion, with all yes, motion was approved.

The meeting was called back to order at 9:10 p.m., with no action being taken.

Meeting adjourned at 9:11 p.m.