

**Village of Pocahontas  
Board Meeting  
Monday March 27, 2023 6:00 P.M.**

Meeting called to order by Village President Karen Heilig. Following the Pledge of Allegiance roll call was taken with Susie, Joe, Tim, and Jeff present. Board members JR Hentz and Chris Marshall were absent.

**February Minutes:**

Karen asked if there were any additions or corrections to the February minutes. Susie made a motion to accept the February minutes as presented. Jeff 2<sup>nd</sup> – Roll call on motion, with all yes, motion approved.

**Bills:**

March bills were presented to the Board for their approval. Joe made a motion to pay bills as written with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jeff. Roll call on motion, with all yes, motion approved.

**Public Comment**

Jim Hess, Bond County Animal Control Officer, was present and wanted to inform the public a little more about his process. He has a 13-pin cage for dogs. There are several stray and unwanted cats. He usually tries to find shelters for them. The statutes he follows are animal control, welfare, humane care & treatment. He cannot come onto private property and remove an animal without the homeowner's permission. Jim advised that we get the same services as Greenville does except, he will go and pick up retained cats, whereas we would need to trap them and bring them to him. He stated that Karen could appoint an Animal Control Officer for the town if she wanted to. Jim also pointed out that he has not charged the village for any services he has done for the residents here. He can provide live traps for you to catch cats but there are not many if any, places that will accept wild cats. Most friendly cats he tries to find homes for. The Humane Society will take kittens. Jim said if there are any issues, feel free to call his cell phone at 618-410-5567 after 7AM but before 8PM.

**Village Attorney – Ryan Connor/Lou Laugges**

Lou advised that Jay Keeven has currently approved the annexation agreement, but Sunny never received his copy. Next month we should have the signed copies from both parties. Upon receiving these we will need to create an ordinance accepting the annexation. The Zoning Board of Appeals will need to have a meeting for this as well.

There will be a law going into effect for paid leave for all workers.

McGuire Lane Title Change – Shoal Creek Fars owns the property but county shows that the Village owns the property. Mr. McGuire will pay for Ryan to do the paperwork to show that he owns the property. The board would like this to be investigated further before anything has been changed.

Lou advised that the appropriations should be ready to go over in April or May.

Joe made a motion to accept the 3-year contract for the Good Energy Ordinance. Jeff 2<sup>nd</sup> – roll call on motion, with all yes, motion approved.

The handbook is still being worked on.

Karen advised that she thinks that board members should only get paid for the meetings they attend. The board advised Karen that this had already been addressed and voted on.

**Water/Sewer**

We will need to look into hiring 2 public works positions and 1 mower position.

On the job postings it was advised to remove the verbiage about living in Pokey and post that starting pay is \$20 but would be negotiable depending on experience. Applications will be reviewed on the 10<sup>th</sup> of April. The part-time mower does not have a set schedule but the grass needs to be mowed before the weekends.

**Building/Zoning:**

Don will be looking into the pricing of the oil and chip.

Karen would like us to use different rock than what is being used since it stirs up so much dust.

The Williams signed a contract with a real estate agent. They will be putting that on the market once they get some personal items out.

The resident on 210 W National is looking for an electrician and is anticipating moving in in May.

Don is working on information for building permits for new homes.

**Police:**

We are waiting for the state to approve the LPR. Once this is done, it should take approximately 6 weeks to complete.

The Explorer might be back by the end of the week.

**Stipend**

We are holding off on this until a later date, possibly in April.

**Financial Committee**

Karen would like to put together a financial committee to help with the budget and make recommendations on what we can do financially and would ultimately be the planning committee.

**Fall Festival**

Susie brought up the idea of a Fall Festival with the fire department. They were asking what the Village had in mind. Will discuss that more later.

It was brought up about looking into updating the park equipment.

Susie made a motion to go into closed session at 7:38PM. Jeff 2<sup>nd</sup> – roll call on motion, with all yes, motion approved.

Karen called the meeting back to order at 8:14 PM, with no decisions made in the closed session.

Roll call – Jeff, Susie, Tim, and Karen were present. Joe, JR, and Chris were absent.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM

