

**Village of Pocahontas
Board Meeting
Monday April 8, 2024, 7:00 P.M.**

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

March 25th Minutes:

Loni read the minutes from the previous meeting. Karen asked if there were any additions or corrections to the April 8, 2024, minutes. Susie made a motion to accept the minutes with the update noting that Tim Palen was present at the meeting. Tim 2nd, roll call on motion, with all yes, motion approved.

Bills:

Bills for March 26th, 2024, through April 8th, were presented to the Board for their approval. Susie made a motion to accept bills as written with a 2nd by Dave. Roll call on motion, with all yes, motion approved.

Public Comment

Emily Calderon, with Moran & Associates, was present and was discussing a new Comprehensive Plan. The Comprehensive plan is a tool and not a law. By having one of these set in place, it can help the board be able to set goals and budget plan. The whole process could take 9-12 months. Costs could range from \$25,000 to \$30,000 but they could conform payments to fit into the budget. There is the potential to use some of the funds from the TIF and Business Districts. We can spread the payments out over time and work on the best options. The next step of the process is scope of work for actual needs.

Jennifer Rick wanted to discuss the Business District. She advised that they were never been sent a letter advising of the sales tax change, never told how the Business District works, and never knew about any public meetings for the plans. As a business owner, it is very frustrating. Adam explained what the Business District was and what the funds raised are to be used for. We will double check as to why they did not receive any letter.

Jared Gilomen was looking for an update on the construction on his property. Sandberg Phoenix had some paperwork drafted for the easement, but it was never signed. This needs some heavy discussion, and all attorneys need to get together to start the negotiating.

Attorney:

The ordinance changing 213 W State St from R1 to R2 is tabled until the next meeting due to not being sent for them to review.

Some members have more on the Rental Occupancy Permit Guidelines, Occupancy Checklist, and Building Inspector ordinances. The ordinance committee will meet to discuss the updates.

Committee Reports:

Streets Committee – Matt and Danny were able to meet and come up with some ideas. For MFT, they need only to oil and chip what was missed last year. We need to focus on the culverts and look into a street sweeper.

Water/Sewer:

The board decided to not change the \$7500 allotment, just enforce it differently. If an item is over \$1000 Karen needs to be contacted.

We will need to budget for a new boat.

Randi advised that she would like some guidance on the MFT tools. Someone will get with her so she can present it at the next meeting.

Randi received a quote from Luby's for backhoe repairs. Adam advised that he thinks it would be best to just hold off on that for the moment.

She presented the list of items that have been completed.

The system is still set up to call former employees in emergencies. These needs updated as well as changing the camera access.

Building/Zoning:

The website is up and running. More information will be added as we get it.

The ordinances should be completed by the end of the end of the month. The board will need to meet with Frank and go through each one before they can officially be approved.

Police:

Angie advised that since the last meeting she had 3 service requests, 1 warrant, 2 lock outs, and 8 citations.

We have the solicitation signs in but need to know where to post these.

Old Business

We are still waiting on some more numbers for the lift station funding from the Bank of Hillsboro. Bradford advised that for the lift station, they could do a 4.5% loan for 60 months and for the water grant they could do a 12-month loan at 5.2%.

The Side-by-Side update will be tabled until the ordinance can be reviewed.

New Business

Discussion was held regarding the Code Red System. This system could allow the Village to send out any important messages (i.e. road closure, burn ban, etc.) to anyone that signs up for this service. The cost of this is \$1500. Don advised he was going to approach the Fire District and see if they wanted to pay half and we work it together. The board liked the idea and will wait for more information at the next meeting.

Adam made a motion to donate \$200 to the school for the Color Run. Matt 2nd – roll call on motion, with all yes, motion approved.

The pay raise for Public Works and bonus for the mower has been tabled until a later date.

Adam made the motion to go into closed session at 8:44 p.m. Matt 2nd – roll call on motion, with all yes, motion approved.

The meeting was reopened at 8:59 p.m., with no action being taken.

Tim made a motion to close the meeting at 9:00 p.m. Adam 2nd – motion approved.