REGULAR MEETING OF THE VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

STERLING, NEBRASKA

The Chairman and Board of Trustees of the Village of Sterling, Nebraska, met in regular session on Tuesday, January 11, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at the Village Office being a publicly convened meeting the same being open to the public and having been preceded by advanced publicized notice at the following locations: First Bank of Nebraska-Sterling, Sterling Public Library, and Village of Sterling Village Office. Chairman John Keizer called the meeting to order. Trustees answering roll call: Ralph Wusk, Danny Fraley, Tom Nieveen, and Steve Lempka. Others present: Josh Keithley, Dan Alexander, Spencer Pagel, VanKirk representative, and M.E. Colllins representative.

Chairman John Keizer acknowledged the Open Meetings Act and the location on the North wall then lead the meeting with the pledge of allegiance.

Wusk made a motion to approve the consent agenda and Fraley seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Fraley made a motion to approve the Wusk Power Equipment and Repair for $207.76 and Nieveen seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: Fraley, Lempka, Nieveen, and Keizer. Abstained: Wusk. Motion carried. Nieveen made a motion to approve the NR Marketing, LLC bill for $161.00 and Wusk seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: Nieveen, Wusk, Fraley, and Lempka. Abstained: Keizer. Motion carried. Lempka would like to see the list of bills prior to the meeting if possible and would like to approve them separately from the consent agenda. Keizer agreed that we could remove approval of bills from the consent agenda and do a separate motion for such and that we would do what we could to get a list of bills out prior to meeting but wouldn’t be a complete and final list.

These bills were approved for payment: Aqua-Chem, Inc., sup.-199.55; A Street Auto Parts-Tecumseh, shop sup.-141.56; Black Hills, heating-1510.73; BMG CPA’s, fees-6600.00; Colonial Life, ins.-206.05; City of Tecumseh, handibus-300.00; Eric McDonald, repairs-185.00; FirstBank of Nebraska, fee-20.00; First National Bank-Omaha, sup.-219.29; First National Bank-Omaha, sup.-97.88; Hamilton Equipment Company, sup.-258.99; Hancock Lumber, LLC, sup.-112.07; IRS, taxes-2315.42; Jet Stop, fuel-495.62; Kerner True Value Homecenter, sup.-7.47; Kuhl Trenching & Excavating, Inc., repairs-640.00; LONM, fee-55.00; Maquire Iron Inc., maint.-46535.00; NASASP, NPPD, electricity-2061.75; NPHEL, samples-15.00; NR Marketing, maint.-161.00; One Call Concepts, fee-20.72; Payroll December, payroll-7375.27; Payroll Taxes December, taxes-1943.42; Scotts Place, meals-120.00; Samantha Gordon, insurance-500.00; Samantha Gordon, emp. Reimb.-425.36; Spencer Pagel, Insurance-500.00; Sterling Public School, license monies-30.00; Steve Mecure, retainer-100.00; Tecumseh Chieftain, pub.-199.26; USPS, sup.-174.00; Voice News, pub.-297.14; Waste Connections, refuse-6344.46; Waymire Well Drilling, Inc., sup.-10.20; Windstream, telephone-339.48; Wusk Power Equip. and Repair, sup.-207.76; Board Member Fees: John Keizer-875.00, Dan Fraley-825.00; Ralph Wusk-825.00, Steve Lempka-825.00, Tom Nieveen-600.00; Denise Horstman, cem. Secretary-250.00 Total: $87,757.45.

Dan Alexander presented the board with the three sealed bids for replacement of Broadway Street bridge. Bids were received from Vogtscapes, VanKirk Brothers, and M.E. Collins. VanKirk was the lowest bid at $246,689 but start date was out to February of 2023, Vogtscapes bid was for $279,852 with a start date of July of 2022, and M.E. Collins for $320,254.52 with no start date but end date of fall 2022. Lempka made a motion to accept VanKirk Brothers bid for $246,689 and Fraley seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

Spencer discussed water main break, cleared snow at cemetery and parking lot at new community building for funeral, planning to burn tree pile this week, gas company will be abandoning a couple lines but will fix cut outs in the street. Talked to Andy at Big Red about grant for putting fiber in town so will let us know if they get grant.

Samantha Gordon, village clerk, discussed what to do with the ARPA funding that we’ve already received from the state. Discussed using the funds for water meters, need to see what houses need pits and the sizes of service lines. Also, talking to League of Municipalities about grants available for possible downtown improvements including sidewalks. Cemetery and zoning vacancies have not been filled so need to find interested candidates.

John Keizer, didn’t have anything to report on besides waiting on quote from Gary Kuhl for project on Greenwood Ave. for ARPA funding.

Samantha Gordon, zoning administration, discussed a couple demolition permits that will be coming in.

Recreation director position has been advertised and summer ball president will be advertised later this week.

Vacant property registrations were discussed and will assess fees. Working on quarterly reports for FEMA’s East Locust Street bridge project. No new information on contract with the school. Downtown sidewalk bids were received for Nichols and Post Office and will get to property owners.

Discussed locations for new cameras and where to move current ones to cover more areas. Lempka made a motion to appoint Justin R. Stark, Class A license number S-1534, and professional engineering license number E-13167, as Village Street superintendent for calendar year 2022, January 1 through December 31, 2022, for the purpose of the 2022 highway incentive payment, to be issued to the Village, by the Nebraska Department of Transportation and Fraley seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Spencer discussed leaving the fence at the park up so that it doesn’t lay on the ground and rot. Also, discussed having fire trucks fill at well at the park so water won’t get stirred up throughout town. Lempka made a motion to approve NPPD’s new pro-agreement leaving the lease payment at 12% and keeping the exclusion of tax-supported agencies not having to pay the lease payment and Nieveen seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. The insurance claim has been processed for the damage to the roof on the lean-to at the Village shop and need to get bids repair the damage.

Lempka made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m. and Fraley seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

John Keizer, Chairman of the Board Samantha Gordon, Village Clerk