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, December 12, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. at the Sterling Fire Hall in 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, USPS-Sterling, and Village of Sterling City Offices. Chairman Greg Peterson called the meeting to order. Trustees answering roll call: Steve Lempka, Dennis Heusman, and Andy Thies. Absent: Bill Moss. Others present: Audrey Keebler, Nichole Grasma, Rhonda, Chad Riensche, Roger Huls, Vane Rengstorf, Cindy Nichols, Spencer Pagel, Tony Castillo, and Luke and Ranee Helmick.

Chairman Peterson acknowledged the Open Meetings Act and the location on the north wall of the Sterling Fire Hall. Chairman Peterson led the meeting with the pledge of allegiance.

Lempka made a motion to accept meeting minutes with changes to read Cindy Nichols was here to discuss what all needs to be done to get property cleaned up on Locust Street and also Audrey Keebler brought up concern about bridge on Locust Street separating away from street instead of reading Atchison Street and Thies seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Thies made a motion to allow the bills to include the following and Peterson seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

These bills were approved for payment: American Legal Publishing Company, code books-650.00; Black Hills, heating-511.79; Brinkman Bros., truck cam.-157.02; Brinkman Bros., truck-30670.00; City of Tecumseh, handibus-300.00; Constellation, heating-305.50; Diode Communications, modem-184.95; First National Bank-Omaha, sup.-433.49; First National Bank-Omaha, sup.-343.29; Hamilton, bobcat-2791.80; Jet Stop, fuel-161.50; Johnson County Treasurer, license pu-15.00; Johnson County Treasurer, taxes-9.90; Kerner True Value, sup.-38.28; Lincoln Concrete Specialists, rock-472.50; Loyd Warner, lib. Books-75.00; Meints Drywall, repairs-488.23; Melly’s Housekeeping, cleaning-40.00; Nebraska Dept. of Revenue, taxes-606.46; Nebraska Snow Equip., equip-11021.84; November Payroll, payroll-4510.58; November payroll taxes, taxes-1127.42; NPPD, electricity-2231.59; NPHEL, fee-15.00; Recycling Enterprises, recycle-240.00; Richardson Tree Service, tree removal-350.00; Spencer Pagel, ins.-500.00; Staack Furniture, carpet-2710.00; Steve Mecure, retainer-100.00; Sunrise Publications, publishing-128.37; Trauernicht Brothers Stump Removal, stump removal-75.00; USPS, sup.-147.00; Voice News, publishing-134.24; Voice News, lib. Renewal-30.00; Waste Connections, refuse-4134.48; Windstream, telephone-380.67; Waymire, sup.-217.40; Wusk Power, sup.-17.00. Total: $65,430.22.

Steve Lempka made a motion to appoint Greg Peterson as chairman of the board. Vote: yeas: Heusman, Thies, and Lempka. Obstained: Peterson. Motion carried. Lempka made a motion to accept the following personnel appointments and committee appointments: village utility superintendent-Spencer Pagel/clerk-treasurer-Samantha Gordon/part time clerk-treasurer-Jennifer Vermeer/librarian-Susan Wilken/zoning administrator-Roger Huls/attorney-Steve Mecure/engineer-street superintendent-Olsson Associates. These committee appointments were made: water & waste-Heusman & Moss/streets-Heusman, Lempka, and Moss/parks & rec.-Thies & Lempka/cemetery-Peterson/garbage & brush-Lempka & Moss/insurance-Heusman & Peterson/grants-Thies & Peterson/zoning board members-Joe Pella, Jordan Pavey, Ashley Moss, and new member Ralph Wusk/cemetery board members-Linda Hronek, Jill McAuliffe, Vane Rengstorf, Wilma Nieveen, and new member Denise Horstman seconded by Thies. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

Nicki Grasma with Utility Services spoke about water tower update and presented the board with a tank maintenance program. Board is going to look over both bids and decide at special meeting.

Ranee Helmick was concerned about if board had reviewed conditional use permit.

Andy Thies amended agenda to add Wine and Ale Festival temporary liquor license for February 17th at the Fire Hall.

Spencer Pagel, utility superintendent, spoke about hauling concrete and grass pile off from dump. Need to get concrete separated from asphalt and see if anyone wants it. Denny will talk to Doug about asphalt pile. Al Wusk is going to order battery packs for Exit lights at Fire Hall because batteries are shot. Also, discussed Culvert on College Ave. for utility trucks to get in to do repairs, need a small tube and fill in with dirt. Discussed repairs needed for pickup and who we want to do the work. Have Brinkman’s do repairs and submit bids to insurance company.

Samantha, spoke about upcoming public hearings in January for zoning changes and February for 1&6 Year hearing. Also, moving out of town so wanted to make sure could still be clerk, board was okay with it. And decorating office, try to use some pictures from Bob Brammeier and others of Sterling on canvas or paintings from Oak Valley Paintings, Mom’s boyfriend, of landscapes.

Greg Peterson, spoke about plastic recycle totes cost of $25/tote. Doris Behrens is still wanting to use Village Office space for crafts. Come up with a contract and charge $20/month. Discussed job descriptions for utility superintendent, librarian, and village clerk. Vents at village office might need cleaned out from the looks of air filters being changed, get some bids for next month.

Property Clean-ups were discussed, Peterson called Andrew Ross and gave him until Dec. 21st to get property cleaned up before we clean it up and charge it to him.

Roger Huls, zoning administrator, spoke about change of zoning public hearing Thursday night.

A formal written complaint was filed by Luke and Ranee Helmick pertaining to the conditional use permit issued. Lempka discussed what he found in his walk around of the property. Discussing issues and concerns seems to have helped lately. Lempka wants a list of major complaints from both parties on the issue to try to resolve before it gets any worse.

Peterson tried to contact Emily for water meters but is wondering if we are able to do both meters and tower repairs this year.

Street closing barricade was discussed, need to get a dead-end sign put up and possibly a guardrail up at bottom of hill with reflective tape. Lempka made a motion to close Central Ave. East of Main Street to the dead-end and Thies seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

Peterson called Jorgensen Surveying about surveying Sterling Ave. He’s busy so call him back after first of year. Table survey until January meeting for Sterling Ave. between Maple Street and Atchison Street. East End of Dump has already been done back in 2011.

Peterson discussed generator for Fire Hall. Huls recommended one from Northern Equipment that is natural gas. Discuss at special meeting January 4th.

Thies discussed town sign property off of Hwy. 41. Thies and Peterson is going to purchase for Sterling Community Association.

Lempka made a motion to allow the Sterling Community Association to have a temporary liquor license issued for the Wine and Ale festival February 17, 2018 at the Sterling Fire Hall and Thies seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

Heusman made a motion to approve Julie Unvert as manager of Jet Stop a liquor license and Thies seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

Heusman made a motion to credit Chad & Tollie Riensche’s account $964.06 for over charging on their utility billing and Thies seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

Lempka discussed bid for pad at park for handicap parking from Klay Heusman. Thies made a motion to hire Klay Heusman to pour pad and sidewalk at park for $1402.50 and Lempka seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: Thies, Lempka, and Peterson. Abstained: Heusman. Motion carried.

Delinquent water bills were discussed and shut off notices will be posted.

Lempka made a motion to go into executive session to discuss pending litigation on property clean-ups at 9:12 and Heusman seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

Lempka made a motion to come out of executive session at 9:30 and Heusman seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

Lempka made a motion to adjourn meeting at 9:37 P.M and Thies seconded motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. (Next regular meeting will be held January 9th at 7:00 P.M.)

Greg Peterson, Chairman of the Board Samantha Gordon, Village Clerk