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, February 13, 2018 at 7:28 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, Andy Thies, and Bill Moss. Others present: Audrey Keebler, John Keizer, Mary Lafferty, Pat Hatfield, Craig Vincent, Vane Rengstorf, Jennifer Vermeer, Roger Moss, Laurie Saathoff, Julie Saathoff, Spencer Pagel, and Roger Huls.

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.

Heusman made a motion to accept the meeting minutes and Thies seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Lempka made a motion to allow the bills to include: Melly’s Housekeeping for $40.00 for cleaning, SKILLS $300 for mowing, Chris Salberg $75 for maintenance and fuel along with the following and Heusman seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

These bills were approved for payment: Aqua Chem, sup.-170.10; Barco, signs-812.67; Black Hills, heating-1120.52; BMG CPA’s, accounting-9389.40; Blue Tarp Financials LLC, generator-5146.98; Buss Pest Control, pest control-75.00; Chris Salberg, fuel & maint.-75.00; Constellation, heating-1171.05; Diode Communications, repairs-85.00; Farmers Cooperative, sup-16.00; First National Bank-Omaha, sup.-310.92; First National Bank-Omaha, sup.-168.26; Gage County Equip., sup.-98.47; Hamilton, bobcat sup-207.88; Home and Farm Insurance, ins.-2399.00; Jet Stop, fuel-572.34; Independent Salt Company, salt-912.00; January Payroll, payroll-4523.08; January Payroll Taxes, taxes-1114.04; Jorgensen Surveying, surveying-525.00; Kerner True Value, sup.-14.37; Kuhl Trenching, repairs-1720.00; Lincoln Concrete Specialists, rock-472.50; Melly’s Housekeeping, cleaning-40.00; Moss Trucking, trucking salt-912.50; Municipal Supply Inc. of Omaha, sup.-1114.88; NPHEL, fees-163.00; NPPD, electricity-2668.44; Southeast Area Clerks Assoc., dues-10.00; Recycling Enterprises, recycle-360.00; Scott’s Place, appr. Event-200.00; Sid’s Auto Parts, sup.-69.54; SKILLS, mowing-300.00; Sterling Public Schools, license monies-20.00; Spencer Pagel, ins.-500.00; Steve Mecure, retainer-100.00; Tecumseh Chieftain, publishing-121.95; USA Bluebook, signs-92.54; USPS, sup.-147.00; Wusk Repairs, sup.-10.00; Voice News, publishing-133.39; Waste Connections, refuse-4134.48; Windstream, telephone-380.92. Total: $43,699.34.

Pat Hatfield and Craig Vincent discussed wanting to extend our pro-agreement contract. Wanting to extend contract with Amendment No. 1 for 25 years.

John Keizer discussed Community Building and the funding needed to get to the $250K match. Heusman made a motion to donate $40K to the Community Building for community betterment out of the Keno account for the Village owned building and Lempka seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. No tax payer dollars are being spent on Community Building.

Moss discussed rock in alley West of Church. Moss made a motion to rock the alley West of the Church and Thies seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Peterson amended the agenda to include the approval of new building permit.

Spencer Pagel, utility superintendent, reported on water main repair on Depot Street and then jetted sewer main on Main Street. Mentioned that Roger has been helping out with places to park vehicles to thaw out when clearing snow so he’s been paying more in electricity to warm up wash bays. Discussed bid from Roof Guard for repairing gutter on Fire Hall, may be more depending on how much repairs are needed.

Samantha Gordon, village clerk, spoke about Big Red donating three computers for library and office and also switching Shop and Fire Hall over along with cameras. Diode Communications is pulling out of town as of April 30th so recommended that customers get ahold of Big Red to get switched over.

Peterson discussed complaints about Zito Media. Need to call as a village and see if we can get anywhere. Talk to some residents and see what all problems they are having with their service.

Peterson discussed property clean ups. Andrew Ross authorized the village to clean up his property. Mecure suggested to request for an advance of funds to clean up property. Peterson is going to ask Andrew Ross for an advancement of funds of $1,200 for cleaning up his property and will bill later for the remaining portion of the cleanup. Heusman brought up concern about Holt Wiebe’s property needing cleaned up.

Roger Huls, zoning administrator, discussed new map and zoning changes along with one permit being issued. Need to approve new zoning ordinance at new month’s meeting along with new building permit. Approval of new building permit was tabled until next month so it can be approved along with new zoning ordinance.

Jorgenson’s Surveying was in town to survey Sterling Ave. between Maple Street and Atchison Street, need to let neighboring property owners know that they can’t park on street and Church parking lot.

Lempka made a motion to adopt RESOLUTION APPROVING AGREEMENT TO EXTEND THE TERM OF THE PROFESSIONAL RETAIL OPERATIONS AGREEMENT ON FILE WITH THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES HAS BEEN PROPOSED BY NEBRASKA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT (NPPD) AND FULLY DISCUSSED AND EXPLAINED and Thies seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

Keno compliance procedures report was discussed. Heusman made a motion to accept the Keno Compliance Procedure Report and Moss seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Heusman made a motion to transfer $83,275.88 of community betterment funds from General back to Keno account and Peterson seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

Peterson discussed the request from estate of Nellie Behrens, Deceased, for waiver of any portion of grant made to Nellie Behrens for $14,798.00 on March 8, 2012 remaining owing at her date of death. Lempka made a motion to approve the waiver of the remaining portion of the grant with good faith of having building gone by September 1st, 2018 and Thies seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

Lempka made a motion to hire Brent Heusman as the summer recreations director with salary discussed later and Thies seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: Thies, Lempka, Moss, Peterson. Obstained: Heusman. Motion carried.

Heusman made a motion to accept the 1 & 6-year plan as amended to Lincoln Street and Main Street and Peterson seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

Peterson discussed the bid from Moss Trucking and Excavating LLC for $12,000 for concrete and asphalt removal. Thies made a motion to accept Moss Trucking and Excavating LLC’s bid for $12,000 for removal of concrete and asphalt from the dump and Lempka seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: Lempka, Thies, Heusman, and Peterson. Obstained: Moss. Motion carried.

Lempka brought up concern about nuisance abatement portion of the clerk job descriptions. Thies approved the job descriptions with the Nuisance Abatement portion being removed from the Clerk/Treasurer portion and Moss seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

Adopt Nebraska Code of Ordinances Book was dismissed because we only adopt about once every five years with changes according to Mecure.

Delinquent water bills were discussed and letters will be sent out then shut off if not paid.

NNRD grant was discussed, need to come up with a plan on what all we need to have done for planting native plants and get turned in.

Lempka made a motion to go into executive session to discuss pending litigation at 9:45 and Moss seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

Lempka made a motion to come out of executive session at 9:57 and Thies seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

Discussed removing junk vehicles off of properties in town. Get ahold of Darrin Belding to see if he wants to come remove vehicles.

Peterson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:05 and Heusman seconded the motion.

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