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, April 11, 2023, at 7:30 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 Office. Chairman John Keizer called the meeting to order. Trustees answering roll call: Tom Nieveen, Steve Lempka, Ralph Wusk, and Dan Fraley. Others present: Spencer Pagel and Steve Mercure.

Chairman John Keizer acknowledged the Open Meetings Act and the location on the North wall and lead the meeting with the pledge of allegiance. Fraley made a motion to approve the consent agenda with the addition of approval of Board of Adjustments public hearing and special meeting minutes and Lempka seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Lempka made a motion to approve the March bills and Wusk seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Nieveen made a motion to approve the Wusk Repair invoice for trash pump repairs in the amount of $462.80 and Fraley seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: Fraley, Lempka, Nieveen, and Keizer. Abstained: Wusk. Motion carried. Wusk made a motion to approve Laffman Hot Rod Garage invoice for a jack in the amount of $89.99 and Fraley seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: Wusk, Fraley, Lempka, and Nieveen. Abstained: Keizer. Motion carried. Nieveen made a motion to approve transfer of $13260.00 from Highway Allocation Bonds account to General for VanKirk Bros. Pay App 1 and Lempka seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

These bills were approved for payment: American Legion Post #140, flags-80.00; Becky Barney, sup.-10.55; Black Hills, heating-1126.32; BMG CPA’s, payroll-50.00; Colonial Life, ins.-206.05; Constellation, heating-410.55; Edward Jones, simple IRA-405.90; Ella Wingert, repairs-1300.00; FirstBank of Nebraska, sup.-fee 1390.07; Home and Farm Insurance, insurance-1803.00; Jet Stop, fuel-363.74; Midwest Laboratories Inc., sup-573.71; NPHEL, samples-15.00; NPPD, electricity-2065.73; NERWA, dues/fees-250.00; One Call Concepts, Inc., diggers hotline-48.68; Payroll March, payroll-7755.10; Payroll Taxes March, taxes-2016.54; Samantha Gordon, insurance-500.00; Spencer Pagel, Insurance-500.00; Steve Mercure, retainer-100.00; Samantha Gordon, mileage-48.47; Sterling Rural Fire Department, insurance-1599.00; Tecumseh Chieftain, pub.-88.80; USPS, sup.-189.00; Voice News, pub.- 102.25; Waste Connections, refuse-6506.84; Windstream, telephone-335.86; VanKirk Bros. Contracting, Broadway Street Bridge material-$13,260.00. Total: $43,101.16.

No public comment. No librarian report.

Spencer Pagel, reported on the following: park bathrooms are open-had a busted water line, but Waymire’s repaired; used new Zepp cleaner on bathrooms at the park and worked really well; spoke to Dion about well shed project being within the next three weeks, also going to put in a new breaker panel, outlets, and light after complete with NPPD needing to reconnect service once complete for a fee of fifteen dollars; will be out of town May 10-12, Sargent Well Drilling completed a efficiency test on the well; generator for well should be in towards the middle of May. Nieveen offered to get ahold of someone that does commercial ground spraying for the community building and park parking lot, along with new public parking lot behind Scott’s.

Samantha Gordon discussed trying to get replacement cost insurance coverage on building at 130 Broadway Street, if possible, recreation director being Rick Borrenpohl again this year, and the Johnson County Assessor’s office came out and is assessing all exempt commercial properties.

Chairman Keizer will be at June meeting as vacation is currently on hold due to Judy’s back surgery, economic development for daycare and the possible use Dentist office.

Property clean-ups were discussed with one resident being moved thirty days for compliance and being asked to pay court costs, and another default judgement on another resident with forty-five days to have property cleaned up or Village will hire out at the property owners expense. Mercure also discussed nuisance checklist that Cook had from a conference that would be effective for Sterling as well.

Keizer discussed Moss’s engineer pinpointing a location for a possible well but will send quadrants over to Chuck at NNRD. Also, spoke with Dan Alexander on the Broadway Street bridge replacement and hoping VanKirk Bros. will be back in town by June 1st and advising that the delay was caused by Black Hills two-week delay for relocating the gas main. Samantha advised that SENDD is looking for more applicants for the Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation program so will be running an ad in the paper for more possible applicants. Town wide clean-up is scheduled for April 14th through 24th.

Chairman Keizer reviewed all three applications for the two summer help positions. Nieveen made a motion to hire Tanner McDonald and Noah Williams at a salary of $11/hour starting in mid-May and Fraley seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Lempka advised that we do safety orientation and provide necessary PPE for summer help. The Senior Center rental contract was reviewed, and the board recommended to keep card playing as is with asking for a donation. Wusk made a motion to approve the Senior Center rental contract and Lempka seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Spencer discussed having the Johnson County Sheriff’s Office dispatch our tornado siren and necessary steps to do so, will have a quote for the next meeting. Lempka made a motion to release the vacant notice of existence of vacant commercial real property in Village of Sterling, Nebraska located at Lot 12, Block 11, Original Town of Sterling, Nebraska, Johnson County, NE and Fraley seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Samantha discussed request from Jet Stop to modify hours of alcoholic liquor sales on Sundays per Ordinance 2010-4 and the board unanimously decided to leave the hours as is. Samantha received a request from Dean Young to block off Broadway Street between Main Street and Lincoln Street on June 10th for a public auction. Wusk made a motion to approve blocking off Broadway Street from Main Street to Lincoln Street on June 10, 2023, for a public auction and Nieveen seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

Lempka made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:46 p.m. and Nieveen seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

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