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, July 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. Chairman Greg Peterson called the meeting to order. Trustees answering roll call: Steve Lempka, Dennis Heusman, and Bill Moss. Absent: Andy Thies. Others present: Audrey Keebler, Spencer Pagel, Roger Huls, Lois Agena, Leroy Riensche, Mike Champion, Brent Heusman, Steve Graves, Roger Moss, Joe Pella, Jackie & Jazzy Eickhoff, Dion Hancock, Eldon Wilken, and Vane Rengstorf. 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 approve the minutes to change wording from obnoxious weeds to noxious weeds and Buss Pest Control bid from $800 to $1500 Heusman seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: Lempka, Heusman, and Peterson. Motion carried. Lempka made a motion to allow the bills to include the following: Sterling Public Schools for $99.52, Heusman seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: Lempka, Heusman, and Peterson. Motion carried.

These bills were approved for payment: Amazon.com, lib. Sup.-281.31; Black Hills Energy, heating fuel-123.93; Susan Wilken, lib. Sup.-39.34; Farmers Coop., sup.-64.48; Constellation, heating fuel-24.62; First National Bank-Omaha, shop sup.-324.71; First National Bank-Omaha, sup.-2279.92; Jet Stop Inc., fuel-374.05; June Payroll, payroll-7850.58; June payroll taxes, taxes-1788.14; Melly’s Housekeeping Services, cleaning-40.00; Menninga Electronics, maint.-118.41; NPPD, electricity-2534.23; NPHEL, water tests-31.00; Nestor & Mecure, fees-6309.96; One Call Concepts, diggers-6.06; Recycling Enterprises of NE, recycling-480.00; Sargent Drilling, well & pump tests-225.00; Spencer Pagel, insurance-500.00; Stan Borcher Mowing, mowing-1938.00; Sterling Lumber, lib. Repairs-1757.81; Steve Mecure, retainer-100.00; Sunrise Publications, publishing-91.31; Sterling Public Schools, spraying/fertilizing fb field-99.52; Voice News, publishing-111.09; Waste Connections of NE, refuse-4204.48; Waymire, sup. & Conradi well-378.27; Wilma Nieveen, cemetery sup.-45.05; Windstream, telephone-375.31; Wusk Repair, repairs-195.00; Brent Heusman, summer director-1500.00; Brent Heusman, cert. umpire-640.00; USPS, stamps-147.00; Unico, bond-100.00; Board Member Fees-Peterson-500.00; Heusman-200.00; Moss-200.00; Thies-200.00; Lempka-250.00; Roger Huls, Zoning Admin. Fee-750.00.

Mike Champion, SENDD, spoke on nuisance abatement and steps to follow.

Evan Wilkerson, JEO Consulting Group, spoke on services he offered. Billing would be based off of incentive payment for street superintendent services.

Lois Agena wanted to thank board, showed pictures of 14 and under team raking field, also spoke about compliments, and gaining more tournaments compared to years past for the ball program.

Joe Pella brought in water filter and was concerned about brown water and no water pressure. Possibly due to training from Fire Department filling trucks or from low spot building up. Spencer can maybe flush out weekly to help.

Brent Heusman spoke about drilling holes for cage at practice field. Heusman made a motion for permission to drill five holes for temporary discus netting, school will pay for netting, Lempka seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: Lempka, Heusman, and Peterson. Brought up concern about bent gate and possibly making gate for ambulance entrance wider, 12 feet wide. Teachers parking lot is in the process of getting fixed with guardrails.

Peterson read letter from resident about barking dog of Eickhoff’s. Jazzy said neighbors have never confronted them and the dog now has a bark collar. Never barks through the night to keep neighbors up.

Leroy Riensche spoke about golf cars being motorized and prohibited by state law but would have to be authorized, thinking it’s a safety hazard. ATV’s are also not authorized and are recommended not to allow them due to liability. Suggested to repost laws and start to enforce ATV’s. Let sheriff know that we are having a problem with ATV’s in town.

Todd Blome, BMG CPA’s, discussed upcoming budget and discussed total valuation change and general tax rate changes within last ten years. Add additional budget authority for larger improvements so that we don’t have to amend budget. Need to have a special meeting to discuss tax rate and budget projects.

Roger Huls, 3 demo permits and 5 building permits issued. One building was built illegally, wondering about fining, board was fine with it since he got a permit. Barney line of site still hasn’t been taken care of, need to talk to personally about the issue. New house construction on Broadway St. still isn’t complete. Board members want recommendations from Zoning Commission brought to Village Board before anything is done. Pictures were taken of Meyer property. Temporary injunction, everything within 90 feet needs to be moved another court date after 30 days. Peterson questioned charging for demo permits or if we should issue no fee permits.

Tim Norris, sewer problem at Sugden’s, jet and camera are maintenance so insurance doesn’t cover. Village shouldn’t be responsible for installing backflow preventer and camera to house. Fire Hall insurance was discussed but need further explanation.

Add dangerous dog under amend the agenda. Vaudrin’s dog bit two people and chasing kids walking by. Heusman made a motion to declare Zachary Vaudrin’s dog a dangerous dog and Lempka seconded. Vote: yeas: Heusman, Lempka, and Peterson. Motion carried.

Spencer Pagel, utility superintendent, discussed installing a directional light at dump board okayed. Future parking lot at park is done just need rock and need to make a handicapped accessible spot. Heusman made a motion to have Moss Construction bring some rock and gravel for new parking lot and Peterson seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: Lempka, Heusman, and Peterson. Motion carried. Remove tall fence and replace along with a new gate. Concession stand bid from Sterling Lumber for tinning instead of painting. Heusman made a motion to accept Sterling Lumber’s bid for tinning concession stand at park and Lempka seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: Heusman, Lempka, and Peterson. Motion carried. Heusman made a motion to accept bid for toilet paper dispensers, paper towel dispensers, soap dispensers, and also paper products and soap for park restrooms for $258.60 and Lempka seconded motion. Vote: yeas: Peterson, Lempka, Heusman, and Moss. Motion carried. Also, brought up concern about leaking seal on tractor.

Samantha Gordon, Village Clerk, discussed zoning book being submitted to court, park shelter reservations, and hours being paid at Conference in Kearney. Board agreed to pay $16 per hour while in class and during drive time.

Peterson, discussed pipes out at cemetery, already done.

Buss Pest Control bid wasn’t specific as to any other pests other than termites so need to find out details.

Rosie Sugden’s sewer back up was discussed; cleaning part is turned into insurance and rest of bill is at their expense.

Denny is still waiting to hear back from Constructors on street repair bids.

Property clean-ups were discussed and letters were sent out. Waiting until next regular meeting to declare a nuisance.

Going to talk to Fire Department about cleaning out culverts around town.

Employee handbook was tabled until August meeting. But need to add $16/hour, gas, and drive time to handbook for employees traveling for work.

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-1, “A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF STERLING, NEBRASKA, DIRECTING AND AUTHORIZING OFFERING REAL PROPERTY FOR SALE BY MEANS OF PUBLIC AUCTION AND TERMS OF ANY SALE” was approved in a motion by Moss, seconded by Lempka. Vote: yeas: Peterson, Heusman, Moss, and Lempka. Motion carried.

Village bridges were discussed, Olsson’s Associates can come down and inspect three bridges and check out wash outs.

Depot lot was discussed and can fill in hole with dirt pile when building is moved.

Delinquent water bills were discussed, notices will be posted and water will be shut off if not paid.

Meeting adjourned at 10:17 P.M. (Next regular meeting will be held August 8 at 7:00 P.M.)

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