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 9, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at the Village Office 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 John Keizer called the meeting to order. Trustees answering roll call: Ralph Wusk, Tom Nieveen, Andy Thies, and Steve Lempka. Others present: Audrey Keebler, Ryan Lempka, Spencer Pagel, Eldon Wilken, Steven & Edith Myers, Ryan Gilland, Dan Fraley, and Vane Rengstorf.

Chairman Keizer acknowledged the Open Meetings Act and the location on the north wall of the Village Office. Chairman Keizer led the meeting with the pledge of allegiance.

Nieveen made a motion to accept the regular meeting minutes and Thies seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Thies made a motion to allow the bills to include the following and Lempka seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

These bills were approved for payment: Barco, sup-131.86; Big Red Communications, cameras-3510.00; BMG CPA’s, accountant-40.00; Buss Pest Control, heating-120.00; Constellation, heating-55.96; First National Bank-Omaha, sup.-217.42; First National Bank-Omaha, sup.-528.83; Farmers Cooperative, sup.-36.25; Jet Stop, fuel-473.78; Kerner True Value, sup.-16.48; Lincoln Concrete Specialists, rock-496.13; Midwest Labs, sup.-151.00; Nestor & Mecure, attorney-3995.50; NR Marketing, 375.00; NPHEL, fees-31.00; NPPD electricity-2364.38; Olsson, fee-2653.27; One Call Concepts, diggers-22.64; Payroll June, payroll-22.64; June Payroll Taxes, taxes-7198.26; Recycling Enterprises of NE, recycle-600.00; Sid’s Auto Parts, sup.-60.11; Sterling Rural Fire Dept., ins.-172.00; Sterling Ball Association, fee-600.00; Sean Moss, rock-235.70; Spencer Pagel, ins.-500.00; Steve Mecure, retainer-100.00; Tecumseh Chieftain, publishing-240.66; Trauernicht Brothers, stump removal-45.00; Vane Rengstorf, mowing-150.00; Voice News, publishing-298.78; Windstream, telephone-387.91; Waste Connections, refuse-4576.06; Wusk Repair, repairs-752.40; Board Member Fees: John Keizer-1125.00, Ralph Wusk-825.00, Tom Nieveen-825.00, Andy Thies-225.00, Steve Lempka-275.00; Roger Huls, zoning admin.-875.00; Jordan Pavey, interim zoning admin.-175.00; Wilma Nieveen, cem. Sec.-250.00. Total: $39507.99.

Ryan Lempka came asking for an exemption on the covenants set up on the Ehmens addition to the 75% brick or stone requirement, there is already currently one metal building in the covenant that is going against the current covenants. Lempka brought up possibly having a requirement to have a new sidewalk put in as well. Need to get with Mecure on setting up a special hearing to discuss these changes.

Amend the agenda to include accept/reject electrical bid for the concession stand. Ralph brought up using up white fence that’s being stored at the cemetery for around dump site. Nieveen also discussed possibly using elsewhere such as park entrance or at community building lot, need to add to agenda for next month to discuss.

Spencer Pagel, utility superintendent, installed a sign down at community association lot, skid steer petal feed got broke in the process, also a new machine is coming next month for an early upgrade, sprayed weeds at community association lot, under the water tower, and also at the dump. Crab Orchard lost pump system in flooding so getting ahold of them to see if they were interested in purchasing our old ones. Hydrants will be flushed next week with notice on Facebook and around locally. Also, dialer unit will be discussed next month as another company is coming to do a site visit next week. Also, plan to burn log pile soon because everyone’s been cutting down trees lately. Air conditioner at well was fried in power surge a couple weeks back so purchased a replacement and going to look up warranty on this to try to get returned.

Samantha Gordon, village clerk, discussed getting budget items in mind for next year, newsletter items, Sterling St. vs. Sterling Ave., and also meeting packets prior to meetings.

John Keizer, chairman of the board, brought up flag pole at cemetery. Whole flag moves in the hole due to all the moisture. Will have to wait and see if it gets any better as it dries out otherwise, we will have to replace the base.

Property clean-ups were discussed and letters will be sent out.

Zoning public hearing back to back with covenant public hearing.

John brought up employee performance appraisal form that was emailed out. Andy suggested simplifying it to be just for us. Marissa Lempka was our only applicant for the vacant zoning administrator position. Lempka discussed possibly sitting down with her to discuss job description prior to just throwing her into the new position. Nieveen made a motion to accept Marissa Lempka as the new zoning administrator and Wusk seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: Thies, Nieveen, Wusk, and Keizer. Abstained: Lempka. Motion carried. Also, discussed the resignation of the existing Assistant Village Clerk and the hiring of a new an assistant village clerk. Advertise locally and in the newsletter to be hired at our next regular board meeting.

Keizer brought up comprehensive plan updating, need to sit down and look at what all needs updated. Receiving an additional $10K in funding from the state with an amendment. Water meters were discussed with including them into the next budget. Othmer discussion was tabled until next month as he’s currently in Colorado for wheat harvest. Dialer unit was also tabled until next after other company came out to do a site inspection. Resolution for damage occurred during water service connection was discussed and board decided to go with a form that both parties to sign prior to water being turned back on.

Bids were discussed from Gilland Electric for $720 and also Al Wusk Electric for $450 for electrical repairs and updates at concession stand. Thies made a motion to approve Al Wusk Electric bid for $450 for electrical at concession stand and Wusk seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Future agenda items form was discussed and approved by the board to include a deadline of the Thursday prior to board meeting. Also, village bucks form was discussed and approved by the board. FEMA updates were discussed with site inspection reports and issuing an RFQ to contractors. Keizer discussed park concerns: fence is illegal with barbs on the top side for safety-look into black chain link fencing or other options, base material under slide and playground equipment-look into pea gravel possibly, painting playground equipment and replacing chains on swing sets-summer project and replace swings and get new swings, football field mowing was discussed-summer recreation director being done for the year, and also a park usage fee schedule-reserved for an event in the park as morning/afternoon/evening time frames and also for camping fees. Lempka discussed electrical installation costs for Ehmen addition asking Ryan Lempka to pay for electrical to all of the lots at Ehmen Addition. Lempka made a motion to pay for the electrical installation costs for Ehmen addition for roughly $8400.00 between four lots and to recoup through the property owners and Thies seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Keizer had discussed with Justin Stark at Olsson about the hydrologist study at Nebraska Street and Locust Street Intersection and they are needing to get to work on it. Zito media services were discussed with working on getting franchise agreement and to help with services.

Lempka made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:04 and Nieveen seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

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