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, September 10, 2019 at 7:25 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, Wilma Nieveen, Dan Fraley, Spencer Pagel, Roger Moss, Marissa Lempka, Anne Maher, Steve & Edith Myers, Todd Blome, and Eldon Wilken.

Chairman Keizer acknowledged the Open Meetings Act with changes effective September 1st and the location on the north wall of the Village Office. Chairman Keizer led the meeting with the pledge of allegiance.

Lempka made a motion to approve an additional one percent in restricted funds and Thies seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Thies made a motion to pass the budget as presented and Wusk seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Nieveen made a motion to pass resolution 2019-2 setting the tax request for 2019-2020 also considered public comments on property tax request and Wusk seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Todd Blome discussed some concerns the state auditors office has had with other municipalities such as conflict of interest when approving bills, double signatures on checks, description of bills in minutes, and writing checks prior to being approved at meetings.

Wusk made a motion to accept the regular meeting minutes with the addition of the approval of SCA bills to Conn Construction for $23,000 and Sterling Lumber for $20,415.38 and Thies seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Lempka made a motion to approve the bills with deferring the payment of the both First National Bank Omaha credit cards for discussion and Thies seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Nieveen made a motion to transfer $20,000 from general to the street fund and Thies seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

These bills were approved for payment: Black Hills, heating-41.96; BMG CPA’s, accountant-2080.00; Constellation, heating-8.32; Farmers Cooperative, Spray-37.76; Blessing Plumbing, repairs-345.00; First National Bank-Omaha, sup.-286.55; First National Bank-Omaha, sup.-237.77; Gage County Equipment, sup.-884.14; Jet Stop, fuel-366.26; Kerner True Value-park sup.-28.25; League of NE Municipalities, dues-789.00; Lincoln Concrete Specialists, rock-747.50; Midwest Farmers Coop., spray-120.00; Melly’s Housekeeping, cleaning-40.00; Menards, park-364.78; Nebraska Dept. of Revenue, fees-25.00; NR Marketing, 375.00; NPHEL, fees-15.00; NPPD electricity @ Ehmen’s Add.-7283.04; NPPD, electricity-3029.36; Recycling Enterprises of NE, recycle-240.00; Payroll August, payroll-9462.37; August Payroll Taxes, taxes-2240.67; Sterling Lumber, repairs-61.84; S&L Lawn Care, mowing-2700.00; Spencer Pagel, ins.-500.00; Steve Mecure, retainer-100.00; Tecumseh Chieftain, publishing-127.71; USPS, sup-165.00; Utilities Section League of NE Municipalities, dues-608.00; Voice News, publishing-161.59; Waymire Well, sup.-15.67; Windstream, telephone-392.46; Waste Connections, refuse-4586.06; Wusk Repair, parts-98.80. Total: $38,564.86.

Roger Moss brought in a list of signatures as a complaint for speeding on Washington Street and asked for speed bumps to be put in place. Board agreed that we need to call sheriff’s office to let them know and see if we could get a speed sign stating the speed people are traveling and also put up additional speed limit signs.

No amendments to agenda.

Spencer Pagel, utility superintendent, discussed equipment trade ins with zero turn mower and getting a replacement for Case mower that’s getting hard to find parts, get rid of snow blade and get snow plow pusher, purchase dump truck from Sean Moss as either a second one or replacement to current one that comes with blade for $23,000, bid from American Fence for fence between park and Eldon Wilken’s, and lost part of hackberry tree and damaged backstop fence at park. Board addressed getting an additional bid for fence and mower. Lempka suggested fogging town for mosquitos, need to contact DEQ for liability concerns.

Samantha Gordon, village clerk, discussed last yard of the month being this month and that we are at the end of Zito Media Contract for a fifteen-year renewal. Going to check with other local communities and see who they have for cable providers and if customers are satisfied with their service prior to renewing this contract.

John Keizer, chairman of the board, didn’t have anything to discuss besides what’s already listed on agenda.

Property cleanups were discussed with a vehicle being towed at owners’ expense, complaint being filed at 155 Main Street for unlicensed vehicles, and letter being sent to property owner and resident at 235 Washington Street.

Marissa Lempka, zoning administrator, issued a permit to Dennis Heusman for an addition to his house and issued an address for the new community building as 420 Broadway Street.

Comprehensive plan was discussed with the need to have a working meeting to get updated. Community building update was discussed with new letter received from state asking to provide a remediation plan letter and expected completion date that Mecure is going to respond to. Water meters were discussed with possible bonding. Mecure was going to check on needing votes and low interest rates. Dialer unit is tabled until next month when bid is put together. Spencer discussed adding a second one for the well to get notifications. Hydrologist study was discussed at Nebraska Street and Locust Street. Lempka made a motion to cancel hydrologist study and do a temporary fix due to Olsson’s not getting anything done as of yet at intersection of E. Locust Street and Nebraska Street and Thies seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF STERLING, NEBRASKA APPROVING THE AMENDMENT TO RESTRICTIVE COVENANTS FOR EHMEN’S SECOND ADDITION TO STERLING, JOHNSON COUNTY, NEBRASKA was tabled until all signatures are collected. FEMA updates were discussed with upfront costs being set forth for A&E portion. Consent agenda was discussed with having bills, minutes, and agenda changes being listed as a consent agenda for one motion instead of three. Nieveen made a motion to adopt a consent agenda to include bills, minutes, and agenda changes and Wusk seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Additional street bids were discussed from 3D Asphalt for asphalt patching and armour coating. Nieveen made a motion to accept the bid from 3D Asphalt and to issue payment for 50% retainer balance of $11,816.82 and to be completed by the end of October and Thies seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Ehmens addition electrical installation was discussed with needing to get bids for installation of conduit, tabled until special meeting Monday or next months meeting. Vacant property list was discussed with questioning storage commercial buildings as vacant property registration list.

Lempka made a motion to go into executive session at 9:19 for the protection of personnel and Thies seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Lempka made a motion to come out of executive session at 9:29 and Nieveen seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Nieveen made a motion to approve credit card bills as presented and Wusk seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

Lempka made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:32 and Thies seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

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