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 13, 2022 at 7:15 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 of Sterling Village Office. Chairman John Keizer called the meeting to order. Trustees answering roll call: Danny Fraley, Tom Nieveen, Steve Lempka, and Ralph Wusk. Others present: Spencer Pagel, Todd Blome, Dion Hancock, Kendra McDonald, Todd Blome, Rex Rogman, Mark Helmberger, and Brian Helmberger.

Chairman John Keizer acknowledged the Open Meetings Act and the location on the North wall. Wusk made a motion to approve the consent agenda with the addition of Olsson’s work order contracts and Fraley seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Fraley made a motion to approve Wusk Repair bill for $517.22 and Lempka seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: Lempka, Nieveen, Fraley, and Keizer. Abstained: Wusk. Motion carried. Nieveen made a motion to approve Laffman Hot Rod Garage bill for $41.87 and Wusk seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: Nieveen, Fraley, Wusk, and Lempka. Abstained: Keizer. Motion carried. Fraley made a motion to pay Sterling Public Schools $1374.91 for running concessions in 2021 and Wusk seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Fraley made a motion to approve the August bills with the addition of A-1 Pest Control for $1000 and Lempka seconded the motion. Vote yeas: all. Motion carried.

These bills were approved for payment: A Street Auto North, sup.-95.48; Barco Municipal Products Inc., signs-276.33; Becky Barney, sup.-209.99; Black Hills, heating-221.55; BMG CPA’s, budget & payroll-2400.00; Buss Pest Control, fee-120.00; Colonial Life, ins.-206.05; Concrete Industries, Inc., block-545.70; Constellation, heating-11.43; Edward Jones, simple IRA-394.08; Farmers Cooperative, spray-245.44; First National Bank-Omaha, sup.-389.27; First National Bank-Omaha, sup.-856.51; Hamilton Equipment Company, parts-96.07; Hancock Lumber, LLC, sup.-34.94; Iowa Pump Works, Inc., repairs-4738.43; Jet Stop, fuel-403.91; Jet Stop, village bucks-20.00; Jorgensen Surveying, fee-500.00; Kerner True Value, sup-26.47; Lincoln Concrete Specialists, concrete for generator at well-1323.00; LONM, dues-1040.00; Utilities Section LONM, dues-608.00; Municipal Supply, Inc. of Omaha, sup.-1370.06; Nebraska Municipal Clerks Assoc., dues-50.00; NPPD, electricity-2478.66; NPHEL, samples-273.00; Olsson, prof. fees-306.81; Payroll August, payroll-7930.06; Payroll Taxes August, taxes-2023.30; Samantha Gordon, insurance-500.00; Spencer Pagel, Insurance-500.00; Steve Mecure, retainer-100.00; Tecumseh Chieftain, pub.-11.25; Voice News, pub.-276.46; USPS, sup.-180.00; Waste Connections, refuse-5842.58; Windstream, telephone-335.67; A-1 Pest Control, fee-1000.00; Laffman Hot Rod Garage, sup.-41.87; Wusk Power Equip. and Repair, repairs-517.22. Total: $38,499.59.

Kendra McDonald, with EPP Foundation discussed bid and recommendations for the Village office basement and said it was unnecessary to stabilize the wall in the basement since it’s fourteen inches deep and no signs of deterioration or bowing like Thrasher had recommended. Kendra also discussed recommended waterproofing bids that would come with a twenty-five year warranty. Nieveen made a motion to approve EPP Foundation Repair’s bid for waterproofing recommendations to the Village office basement in the amount of $7856.50 and Fraley seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Wusk made a motion to pay EPP Foundation Repair a down payment of $1571.30 for waterproofing of the Village office basement and Nieveen seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

Nieveen made a motion to recess from the regular board meeting at 7:32 pm to hold the public hearing for the proposed budget with the arrival of Todd Blome and Fraley seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Nieveen made a motion to reopen the regular board meeting at 7:47 pm to continue with agenda and Lempka seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

Nieveen made a motion to increase the total restricted funds authority by an additional 1% and Fraley seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Wusk made a motion to approve the budget as proposed and Lempka seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Lempka made a motion to approve Resolution 2022-05 setting the property tax request and Fraley seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

Mark Helmberger, has a parts business currently so working to see if he can incorporate an auto sale business into it in the old Hunt building and help fill the needs of the community and planning to be open full time. Fraley made a motion to approve Mark Helmberger’s occupancy permit and Lempka seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

Becky Barney, librarian, didn’t have a report.

Spencer Pagel, utility superintendent, has both mowers back up and running, Nielsen got the concrete pad poured for generator at the well, state drinking water field rep looked at well in the old city hall and explained all the needed repairs and inspections, NDEE stopped today to inspect dump burn site with needing to renew our burn permit. Lempka brought up concern about costs of having Iowa Pump Works coming down to do repairs and asked if it was something we could have backup parts on hand to do ourselves. Nieveen mentioned costs of having a confined space permit which would contribute to the higher costs.

Samantha Gordon, village clerk, discussed flood plain map update meeting at the Tecumseh Library and zoning meeting scheduled for the 20th about possible zoning changes.

John Keizer discussed possible locations for a postal location being the community building parking lot, a portion of the dentist office, and vacant lot next to Cut n Curl. Also, old senior center building has been cleaned out upstairs and SCA was wondering if the Village was still interested in purchasing the building for the debt that they owe from the keno funding and board wasn’t against the idea.

Property clean-ups were discussed and going to file four more complaints.

No discussion necessary on vacant property registrations.

Mecure discussed completing sidewalk projects and assessing those against the property owners or by creating a sidewalk district by ordinance and can possibly offer general obligation bonds for such. Bid from Al Rogman for downtown sidewalks came to approximately $34K for one block through downtown. Discussed possibly doing a funding match for downtown business owners for sidewalk repairs and sending out letters to property owners to get input on matching funds or sidewalk district for repairs.

Lempka made a motion to adopt the long-range plan for a one-year and six-year street improvement program and Nieveen seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Nieveen made a motion to adopt Resolution 2022-06 **A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF STERLING, NEBRASKA APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE FEDERAL STANDARD MILEAGE RATE FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF VILLAGE EMPLOYEES AND OFFICIALS ENGAGED IN TRAVEL FOR VILLAGE BUSINESS** and Wusk seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Ordinance 2022-01 **AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF STERLING, NEBRASKA, VACATING A PORTION OF TECUMSEH STREET IN THE VILLAGE OF STERLING, NEBRASKA** was introduced. Wusk made a motion to waive the three-time reading for Ordinance 2022-01 **AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF STERLING, NEBRASKA, VACATING A PORTION OF TECUMSEH STREET IN THE VILLAGE OF STERLING, NEBRASKA** and Fraley seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Wusk made a motion to move Ordinance 2022-01 **AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF STERLING, NEBRASKA, VACATING A PORTION OF TECUMSEH STREET IN THE VILLAGE OF STERLING, NEBRASKA** for final passage and Lempka seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Ordinance 2022-02 **AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF STERLING, NEBRASKA, VACATING THE ALLEY IN BLOCK THIRTY-ONE (31), OF THE ATCHISON & NEBRASKA RAILROAD ADDITION TO STERLING, JOHNSON COUNTY, NEBRASKA** was introduced. Nieveen made a motion to waive the three-time reading for Ordinance 2022-02 **AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF STERLING, NEBRASKA, VACATING THE ALLEY IN BLOCK THIRTY-ONE (31), OF THE ATCHISON & NEBRASKA RAILROAD ADDITION TO STERLING, JOHNSON COUNTY, NEBRASKA** and Lempka seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Wusk made a motion to move Ordinance 2022-02 **AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF STERLING, NEBRASKA, VACATING THE ALLEY IN BLOCK THIRTY-ONE (31), OF THE ATCHISON & NEBRASKA RAILROAD ADDITION TO STERLING, JOHNSON COUNTY, NEBRASKA** for final passage and Fraley seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Three sealed bids were received for surplus privacy fence and posts. Lempka made a motion to accept Doug Schmidt’s bid for $475 for the privacy fence and posts and Nieveen seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Keizer discussed the Village supplying drainage tubes for residential property owner’s driveway access with no such resolution or ordinance found. Nieveen made a motion that the Village will reimburse the homeowner for one eight-inch plastic drainage tube of up to sixteen feet with proof of purchase and any addition to this size is up to the homeowner for access from street right of way and Fraley seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Two bids were received for replacing the well shed at the park from Doug Schmidt and Roof Guard LLC. Dion discussed that his bid included a new steel door instead of reusing existing one but could reuse and bid would be $400-$500 lower than printed. Lempka approved Roof Guard LLC’s bid for replacing the well shed in the amount of $4127.87 with using the existing door and Wusk seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Discussion of replacing the time and temp in front of the Village office was tabled until next month. Nieveen made a motion to upgrade the Bobcat from Hamilton for $6500 and Lempka seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

Spencer discussed getting a smaller trailer for hauling the mower around when need be or to cemetery for spraying with an 6X8 for $1400 and 5.5x10 for $2000 from Orscheln’s. Nieveen made a motion to purchase a 5.5ft. x 10 ft. utility trailer from Orscheln’s and Wusk seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Spencer discussed spray foaming the Village shop to help with heating costs for an estimated cost of $2600 from Midwest Custom Coatings. Board discussed with possibility of building a new shop down the road and other projects going on so decided to hold off for now. Keizer discussed the agreement between the Village and Sterling Public Schools for use of the park and football field. Board advised Mecure to send a letter with changes to term, major projects being split 50/50 on cost, mowing inside fence being clear on whose responsibility it is, and a fee of $100 per year. Keizer discussed projects for use of additional sales tax and drafted letter for residents. Nieveen made a motion to approve Black Hills CIAC authorization for new gas service at the well for the generator and payment of $3495 and Wusk seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Keizer discussed Olsson’s work orders for renewing their contract and board agreed to put it out for bid.

Lempka made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:26 p.m. and Nieveen seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

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