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 14, 2021 at 7:05 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: Tom Nieveen, Danny Fraley, Ralph Wusk and Steve Lempka. Others present: Spencer Pagel.

Chairman John Keizer acknowledged the Open Meetings Act and the location on the North wall and led the meeting with the pledge of allegiance.

Nieveen made a motion to approve the consent agenda and Lempka seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. No public comment.

These bills were approved for payment: A Street Auto North, sup.-75.06; Black Hills, heating-192.84; BMG CPA’s, fees-2250.00; BOK Financial, bond pmt.-30106.25; Buss Pest Control, pest control-120.00; Caspers Tree Service, tree removal-4200.00; Colonial Life, ins.-206.05; Constellation, heat-24.28; Cut & Curl, village bucks-20.00; Eric McDonald Contracting, repairs-295.00; Farmers Cooperative, spray-38.13; First National Bank-Omaha, sup.-554.76; First National Bank-Omaha, sup.-31.77; Hamilton Equipment Company, repairs-1311.50; Hancock Lumber, LLC, sup.-121.21; Jet Stop, fuel-436.05; Kudu Lawn & Landscape, mowing-2100.00; Kuhl Trenching & Excavating, Inc., repairs-2819.58; NPPD, electricity-2563.55; NPHEL, samples-205.00; Olsson, fees for E. Locust St. bridge-234.65; Payroll August, payroll-8775.27; Payroll Taxes August, taxes-2279.64; Samantha Gordon, insurance-500.00; Spencer Pagel, Insurance-500.00; Steve Mecure, retainer-100.00; Scotts Place, village bucks-20.00; Sterling Public Schools, license monies-300.00; Tecumseh Chieftain, pub.-167.10; USPS, stamps-495.00; Voice News, pub.-331.33; Waste Connections, refuse-6499.52; Windstream, telephone-343.34. Total: $68,216.88.

Becky Barney, librarian, is interested in putting a shed behind the library to store a mobile makerspace but board was worried about adverse weather conditions and moisture.

Spencer Pagel, utility superintendent, discussed that the field light down at the park isn’t working but getting repaired, looking at replacing lights with LED’s and replacing ballasts as needed. E. Locust Street bridge is coming along and going to start pouring concrete tomorrow then need to do guardrails and let cure to be able to drive on. Doug is taking old concrete pile on the West side of bridge. SCA lot has been sprayed but will plan to spray again this fall. NPPD has been in town upgrading streetlights to LEDs. Culvert at the coop is done and need to bill coop back for half of work.

Todd Blome, BMG CPA’s, discussed and presented budget as required by the state auditor’s office which was published in the Voice News prior to hearing. Nieveen made a motion to increase the restrictive funds by an additional 1% and Wusk seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Wusk made a motion to approve the budget as presented and Fraley seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Lempka made a motion to approve resolution 2021-4 A RESOLUTION SETTING THE PROPERTY TAX REQUEST FOR 2021-2022 AT $95,809 and Nieveen seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

Samantha Gordon, Village Clerk, discussed that the trash rate will be going up five percent due to inflation in fuel, etc., barking dog complaint letters have been received and was told that we need to have a contract with the sheriffs office to enforce these codes but need to check on this, legislature passed that there will no longer be tax collected from residential water service as of October 1st so working to correct billing to reflect this, concessions went well Friday wasn’t fully prepared for first football game but will restock for next go around, junk vehicle complaints addressed with needing to send letter for removal of one on the street, contacted CBS Signs about replacing sign downtown, approved a special liquor license to Across the Trax for a wedding October 2nd, and gave Mecure sample resolution for payroll approval to be drafted up for next meeting.

Chairman Keizer reported that he may be gone on vacation in October but will let Ralph know.

Samantha Gordon, zoning administrator, brought recommendation from planning and zoning commission to approve conditional use permit for Mark & Stephanie Parde for property at 480 Maple Street for dog/privacy fence. Lempka made a motion to approve the conditional use permit for Mark & Stephanie Parde at 480 Maple Street for dog/privacy fence to be located within line of sight and Fraley seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Discussed fence or shrubbery being required between areas of residential and commercial properties and board agreed that a letter should be sent out letting property owners know. Also, discussed setting a stipend for zoning board members but board agreed that this was a volunteer position. Fees for variances and conditional use permits were discussed and Mecure will draft up a resolution to adopt.

John discussed that Midwest Engineering should be bringing a proposal in around December for the Broadway Street bridge replacement.

Property cleanups were discussed and will continue with removal of a few.

Vacant property registrations were discussed with needing to assess second round of fees on a few.

Wusk made a motion to approve pay app 3 to VanKirk Bros. Contracting in the amount of $141,093.00 and Fraley seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Need to get together with the school to discuss an agreement for use of the football field. Nieveen made a motion to approve master agreement work order No. 3 and 4 with Olsson for professional services for 2022 and Wusk seconded the motion. Vote: yeas. Motion carried. Lempka approved resolution 2021-3 A RESOLUTION SIGNING OF THE MUNICIPAL ANNUAL CERTIFICATION OF PROGRAM COMPLIANCE 2021 and Nieveen seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Nieveen made a motion to approve municipal annual certification of program compliance to Nebraska board of public roads classifications and standards 2021 and Fraley seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Chairman Keizer introduced ORDINANCE 2021-4 AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF STERLING, NEBRASKA, AMENDING THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF STERLING, NEBRASKA TO REZONE THE PREMISES AT 215 EAST BROADWAY STREET IN THE VILLAGE OF STERLING, NEBRASKA FROM COMMERCIAL TO RESIDENTIAL. Lempka waved the three-time reading on Ordinance 2021-4 and Nieveen seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Lempka moved ORDINANCE 2021-4 AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF STERLING, NEBRASKA, AMENDING THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF STERLING, NEBRASKA TO REZONE THE PREMISES AT 215 EAST BROADWAY STREET IN THE VILLAGE OF STERLING, NEBRASKA FROM COMMERCIAL TO RESIDENTIAL for final passage and Fraley seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

Lempka made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 p.m. and Fraley seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

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