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, March 9th, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at the new community building 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: Ralph Wusk, Tom Nieveen, Steve Lempka, and Andy Thies. Others present: Andy Powell, Dan Alexander, Spencer Pagel, Scott & Melissa Walton, Ryan Hoffman, and Audrey Keebler.

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

Thies made a motion to approve the consent agenda which included amending the agenda to include discussion of dialer unit for well and the payment of the following SCA Building Account bills: Fricke Construction for $2847.31, Hancock Lumber LLC for $1553.35, and Roof Guard LLC for $320.00 and Wusk seconded the motion and addition of discussion of dialer unit. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Nieveen made a motion to approve Wusk Repair bill for $7.50 and Thies seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: Lempka, Nieveen, Thies & Keizer. Abstained: Wusk. Motion carried. Wusk made a motion to approve NR Marketing bill for $375.00 and Lempka seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: Wusk, Nieveen, Thies, and Lempka. Abstained: Keizer. Motion carried.

These bills were approved for payment: Becky Barney, lib. Sup.-14.97; Black Hills, heating-1273.45; BMG CPA’s, fees-100.00; Constellation, heating-586.67; First National Bank-Omaha, sup.-697.68; First National Bank-Omaha, sup.-98.03; Hamilton’s Equipment Company, sup.-257.29; Hancock Lumber, LLC, sup.-28.27; Home and Farm Insurance, ins.-2365.00; Jet Stop, fuel-317.76; Lincoln Concrete, sup.-562.71; Moss Trucking & Excavating, labor-640.00; NPPD, electricity-2283.25; NPHEL, samples-15.00; NR Marketing, website-375.00; Payroll February, payroll-5724.60; Payroll Taxes February, taxes-1535.90; Olsson, labor-560.14; Sargent Drilling, well-22852.73; Spencer Pagel, Insurance-500.00; Steve Mecure, retainer-100.00; Tecumseh Chieftain, pub.-136.80; Voice News, pub.-73.22; Waste Connections, refuse-5451.32; Windstream, telephone-404.93; Wusk Repair, sup.-7.50. Total: $46,962.22.

Andy from Big Red Communications showed board and sheriff’s office how to login to cameras remotely. Dan Alexander discussed Broadway Street bridge replacement engineering quote. Discussed wetland delineation being done during growing seasons so would need to know ASAP if wanting to get bidding done this year. Sonja Wenzl from Community Insurance Group discussed insurance coverage on community building and limits.

Becky Barney, librarian, wasn’t available but gave report to Samantha: book club is going good, will start a youth book group on Tuesdays, after school program going well, homework help is going well and going to be expanding, and working on certification. Discussed hiring a backup librarian in case of emergency but board decided to just close in those instances or use part time help.

Spencer Pagel, utility superintendent, cleaned up and put away snow equipment, commercial applicators test is next week in Omaha, installed new heater in old part of fire hall, VFD installed at well and up and running, and discussed dialer unit for well versus a generator for well-board decided to table until next month to be on the agenda. Summer help was discussed with advertising for two helpers.

Samantha Gordon, Village Clerk, discussed hours of continuous education and watching hours of assistant clerk by not attending meetings-board agreed to just give an update for newsletter to save on hours and to keep it to twenty hours or under a month.

Chairman Keizer will be on vacation after the March meeting.

Marissa Lempka, zoning administrator, was not in attendance but had two building permits turned in one was interior work which did not require a fee and other needed some variances issued for side wall height and potentially setbacks so will need to have a public hearing. John discussed updating of flood plain from zoom meeting he attended and if we had any suggestions on things that should be removed to let them know. Joe Pella inquired about installing a 40 foot non-operational windmill on property that’s outside Village limits and John and Marissa agreed that it was fine.

Community Center updates were discussed needing small items completed, wine & ale event was a success with a lot of compliments on the building, school enjoys using for basketball practice, had a meeting rental this morning, Marissa and Julie oversee renting, and need to get meeting room cleaned out. Will be adding more rock and adding a few more entrances to building and grass is starting to pop through.

Vacant properties were discussed with two going to trial on March 25th and one has been registered and will be listed for sale. Had a meeting with Victor over FEMA update and sent in H & H study and still reviewing project. Gary Kuhl could get a pipe for extending coop intersection for $3200 but Village may be able to get a better deal but need to have East ditch cleaned out so it would flow straight and rip rap with concrete from dump-county normally cleaned this out in the past so would need to get with them on this. Discussed adding rock along driveways on Lincoln Street due to street repairs-board agreed that residents could purchase rock for $25/bucket.

VanKirk change order was discussed per Brian Schuele’s recommendation. Nieveen made a motion to approve VanKirk Bros. Contracting request for a time extension for the Locust Street bridge replacement project until July 30, 2021 for substantial completion and August 30, 2021 for final completion and Wusk seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. No report from Rob Tichy so tabled until next meeting. Lempka made a motion to approve of street closure on March 28th from 1:00-5:00 P.M. for Sterling Volunteer Fire Department training on Broadway Street from Washington Street intersection to Main Street intersection with April 25th as a backup date and Thies seconded this motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Thies made a motion to approve amendment of the interlocal cooperation agreement between the city of Omaha and the Village of Sterling, relating to the operation of lottery and Wusk seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

Lempka made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:43 p.m. and Nieveen seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

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