REGULAR MEETING OF THE VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

STERLING, NEBRASKA

The Vice Chairman and Board of Trustees of the Village of Sterling, Nebraska, met in regular session on Tuesday, April 9, 2019 at 7:30 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. Vice Chairman Andy Thies called the meeting to order. Trustees answering roll call: Ralph Wusk, Tom Nieveen, and Steve Lempka. Absent: Chairman Keizer. Others present: Tim Norris, Justin Stark, Spencer Pagel, Roger Huls, Dion Hancock, John Moss, Roger Moss, Vane Rengstorf, Joe Pella, and Audrey Keebler.

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

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

These bills were approved for payment: Amazon.com, library sup.-26.13; Arbor Day Foundation, donation-15.00; Black Hills Energy, heating-609.06; Constellation, heating-800.72; First National Bank-Omaha, sup.-662.65; First National Bank-Omaha, sup.-346.77; Gage County Equipment, sup.-120.52; Hamilton Equipment, sup.-532.74; Home and Farm Insurance, ins.-1716.00; Jet Stop, fuel-494.36; Kerner True Value, sup.-251.82; Lincoln Concrete Specialists, rock-945.00; Melly’s Housekeeping Services, cleaning-40.00; Nebraska Rural Water Association, dues-125.00; Nebraska Cemetery Association, dues-20.00; NR Marketing, website-375.00; NPHEL, fees-15.00; NPPD electricity-2436.60; Olsson, fee-526.34; One Call Concepts, diggers-10.77; Payroll March, payroll-6266.14; March Payroll Taxes, taxes-1475.72; Recycling Enterprises of NE, recycle-240.00; Sid’s Auto Parts, sup.-15.42; Spencer Pagel, ins.-500.00; Sterling Legion, sup.-50.00; Sterling Rural Fire Dept. #5, ins.-1789.00; Steve Mecure, retainer-100.00; Tecumseh Chieftain, publishing-74.82; Voice News, publishing-104.35; Windstream, telephone-382.87; Waste Connections, refuse-4576.06; Waymire, sup.-69.19; Wusk Repair, repairs-90.35. Total: $25,803.40.

Justin Stark, Olsson’s, discussed bridge reviews: Iowa Street is considered fair condition, with a hole that continuously develops, utility is exposed and wing is starting to separate; Broadway Street is also in fair condition, with south pile split and losing structural integrity on that corner; Locust St. East footing is separated and erosion along with utilities being exposed. Thies made a motion to complete an investigation of Locust Street bridge and assist in FEMA application and Lempka seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Thies made a motion to approve a special meeting for April 16th at 7:30 to adopt a resolution for bridge repairs and FEMA funding and Nieveen seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Justin also discussed drainage by new lumber yard on E. Locust Street. Discussed that there are no culverts under railroad and roadway needs raised along with putting a pipe under roadway for drainage, investigation and topo graph survey of this area as discussed is an estimated $8500. Lempka made a motion to approve Olsson’s estimate of $8500 to do a topo graph survey of the drainage on E. Locust Street and Thies seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

Tim Norris, Home & Farm Insurance, discussed valuation increase in Fire Hall buildings. Thies made a motion to accept the increase in replacement values on the Fire Hall buildings to $289,000 and $569,500 and Lempka seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

Vane Rengstorf, discussed post that’s been hit about two years back by Ben Walters that’s needing repaired. Jack Baehr can repair with bricks that came off it for $75. Nieveen made a motion to accept Jack Baehr’s bid for $75 to repair post in Northwest corner of cemetery and Wusk seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Also, asking for a sign that says cemetery with a directional sign, not responsible for theft or injury sign which attorney advised wasn’t necessary and would like to see black top done a section at a time at the cemetery and needs someone to fill in some graves by Memorial Day if possible.

Amend the agenda to include flushing of fire hydrants, and St. Johns Lutheran Church asking for alley to be closed.

Lempka discussed the fire hydrants needing flushed especially after how they looked after the fire department training. Nieveen discussed closing the alley by the St. Johns Lutheran Church and allowing it for a permanent easement for utilities. Alley will need to be discussed at next meeting.

Spencer Pagel, utility superintendent, started mowing today, rocked under water tower, Austin has been out on ball field and has it looking pretty good. Richardson asked for permission from the board to store track equipment in wooden shed, board was okay with this.

Samantha Gordon, village clerk, discussed advertising for summer help, checking out zoning books, and newsletter events coming in the next month. Arbor Day event is planned with Luke Boldt at the school after John gets back.

Property clean-ups were discussed.

Roger Huls, zoning administrator, discussed new demo permit with a completion due date which old one didn’t have. Lempka made a motion to approve new building permit as presented from the Zoning Board and Thies seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Also, discussed demo permit and building permit that are past date due and received a letter from NRD about walking Pratts Branch Creek to see how many trees are there and where for flood prevention.

Comprehensive plan has been passed out with new zoning books so needs to be reviewed by board members.

Streets were discussed and need to get bids out asap. Will discuss further at special board meeting next week.

Camera at dump site was discussed and Andy was still working on finishing up site survey to get estimates to us.

Community Center project was discussed with new state letter update. Attorney advised to hold off on continuation of construction and he’s going to contact engineers and talk to state for approval.

NPPD Pro-agreement was discussed but wanted to know what was in for the town in resigning an agreement, so tabled until next month.

Water meters were discussed and Justin mentioned getting with Emily on prices of just the meters for now then installing a section of town at a time to split up the cost. Samantha discussed getting a more accurate number of meters for this estimate.

Thies discussed moving the May meeting to 7:30 as well. Thies made the motion to move the May regular meeting to 7:30 and Nieveen seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

Lempka introduced Ordinance 2019-1, **AN ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF STERLING, NEBRASKA DESIGNATING THE NAME OF STREET FROM EAST LOCUST STREET TO STATE HIGHWAY 41 AS NEBRASKA STREET IN THE VILLAGE OF STERLING, COUNTY OF JOHNSON, AND STATE OF NEBRASKA, AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**  Lempka made a motion to waive the three-time reading for Ordinance 2019-1, **AN ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF STERLING, NEBRASKA DESIGNATING THE NAME OF STREET FROM EAST LOCUST STREET TO STATE HIGHWAY 41 AS NEBRASKA STREET IN THE VILLAGE OF STERLING, COUNTY OF JOHNSON, AND STATE OF NEBRASKA, AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE** and Nieveen seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Nieveen made a motion to move Ordinance 2019-1, **AN ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF STERLING, NEBRASKA DESIGNATING THE NAME OF STREET FROM EAST LOCUST STREET TO STATE HIGHWAY 41 AS NEBRASKA STREET IN THE VILLAGE OF STERLING, COUNTY OF JOHNSON, AND STATE OF NEBRASKA, AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE** for final passage and Wusk seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

Delinquent water bills were discussed and action will be taken.

Lempka made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:49 and Wusk seconded the motion.

Andy Thies, Vice Chairman of the Board Samantha Gordon, Village Clerk