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, May 9, 2017 at 7:02 p.m. at the Sterling Fire Hall in a publicly convened meeting the same being open to the public and having been preceded by advanced publicized notice. Chairman Greg Peterson called the meeting to order. Trustees answering roll call: Steve Lempka, Dennis Heusman, Andy Thies, and Bill Moss. Others present: Audrey Keebler, Spencer Pagel, Brett and Becky Barney, Roger Huls, Jennifer Vermeer, Sean and Ashley Moss, John Moss, Jeff Ray, and Lonnie Dickson. Chairman Peterson acknowledged the Open Meetings Act and the location on the north wall of the Sterling Fire Hall. Chairman Peterson led the meeting with the pledge of allegiance.

April meeting minutes were amended to say, “Thies made a motion to hire Austin Buss for summer help at $10/hour, Heusman seconded the motion. Votes: yeas: all. Motion carried. Thies made a motion to also hire Zach Lempka for summer help at $10/hour, Heusman seconded the motion. Votes: yeas: Heusman, Peterson, and Thies. Abstained: Steve Lempka. Motion carried.” Lempka made a motion to accept the minutes wth the amended change, and Thies seconded the motion. Votes: yeas: Peterson, Lempka, Thies and Heusman. Abstained: Bill Moss. Motion carried. Lempka made a motion to allow the bills, Thies seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. The board will consider a motion to transfer Keno money to pay for ballfield repairs.

These bills were approved for payment: Amazon.com, library books-78.27; Black Hills Energy, heating fuel-347.94; BMG CPAs, accountant-179.50; BSN Sports, ballfield supplies-44.44; Constellation Energy, heating fuel-266.59; Filley Custom Powder Coating, bench seats-600.00; First National Bank of Omaha, supplies-503.63; First National Bank of Omaha, supplies-129.64; Jet Stop Inc., fuel-335.39; Midwest Labs, discharge samples-453.00; Moran Bros Excavating, fill dirt-1050.00; Moss Trucking and Excavating, dirt work/concrete removal/ballfield-6950.00; Nebraska Department of Roads, cabinet and timer-921.20; NPHEL, water tests-15.00; NPPD, electricity-2296.54; Olsson Associates, one and six year plans-660.29; Recycling Enterprises of Nebraska, recycling-240.00; Renegade Trucking Inc., rock-745.00; Rivers Metal Products, bleachers-2050.00; Sid’s Auto Parts, parts for ’91 Chevy-93.85; Spencer Pagel, mileage-71.28; Spencer Pagel, credit from Kerner True Value-7.49; Stan Borcher Mowing, mowing-2907.00; Sunrise Publications, publishing-174.41; USPS, stamps-147.00; Voice News, publishing-173.36; Windstream, telephone-280.25; Wusk Repair, repairs-484.91; Waste Connections, trash-4559.73; Spencer Pagel, insurance-500.00; Steve Mecure, retainer-100.00; April payroll taxes-1325.27, May payroll, 4748.08. Total: $33,349.06.

Vane Rengstorf discussed cemetery business. John Harms wants posts for boundary line. Spencer would have to put in two inch pipe to mark line. Bill Moss will donate the pipe if Spencer can put them in. Roads need to be sprayed and rock added so we don’t lose the roads. Holes need filled where stumps were pulled out, possibly before Memorial Day. Get dirt from Marlin Ebbers. Grave digger doesn’t fill holes unless he’s out there digging a grave. Holes might need some dirt added to them. Possibly put a fence on southwest corner due to people pulling out onto neighboring property. The cemetery board made no rule or regulation changes.

Lonnie Dickson from Hanna: Keelan Association presented n new zoning books. Ours are out of date, and we have a lot of zoning districts for a town our size. Rough estimate for housing study along with comprehensive plan is $20,000. Jeff Ray of JEO Consulting in Wahoo also presented on zoning books. Full comprehensive plan, zoning, housing study update, and grant writing would cost $30,000. To update zoning ordinance with new map, 2 meetings, public hearing and 20 copies would cost $4500.

Roger Huls, Zoning Administrator, discussed a laptop for the board. He also asked about getting money out of account. Ashley Moss, Jordan Pavey, and Samantha Gordon will be in charge of purchasing the laptop. Samantha will also purchase an external hard drive. Roger set line of sight poles on three properties. He discussed putting a stop sign from west by Keim’s. The board is on the agenda on May 16 to discuss with county a survey for the stop sign. Board decided to wait on putting up the sign until it has been discussed with county. He also discussed implementing a program for purchasing property this year where the zoning board will forgive demo permits and charge a flat rate of $75 for building permits. Roger requested a five minute executive session at the end of the meeting to discuss personnel.

The agenda was amended to add discussion of village properties. Spencer Pagel, utility superintendent, discussed being out of town for a water class as well as low water pressure at some properties. Renae Kinney came in with some of the Sterling baseball players to thank the board for fixing the ball field.

Samantha discussed carpet bids for the village office. Mold problem needs to be fixed before dealing with carpet and paint. Board tabled the discussion for now. Lempka made a motion to send Samantha to the 2017 Municipal Accounting Conference June 14-16 and to pay $325 and hotel for attendance. Moss seconded the motion. Votes: yeas: all. Motion carried.

Peterson discussed Brent Heusman dragging and watering the ballfield. Two more rakes will be ordered. Cabinet timer is in. Al Wusk will install. Peterson also discussed the dog complaint from Cherie Walters. Street repair bids were discussed. A bid from Doug at Pavers was received--$30,000—and they could get to it in the next 6-8 weeks. Still waiting on bid from Constructors. Property clean ups were discussed. If the board hasn’t heard from Eugene Meyer by May 9, they will proceed with Steve Mecure’s advice of pursuing a zone violation. Board will proceed with a quiet title on Conradi property. Belding would come and remove junk vehicles. There were no concrete/asphalt removal bids. Pest control contracts were discussed. Have Scott Buss add termites to bid as well as doing the SCA and library building. Will also get a bid from Orkin. Steve Lempka discussed cleaning up village properties. The SCA property needs to be sprayed. Need to take care of weeds and keep trimmed and in good condition.

Heusman made a motion to accept the zoning change to Lots 4, 5, 6, Block 10, Original town of Sterling, Nebraska 68443 from low density housing to downtown commercial. Lempka seconded the motion. Votes: yeas: all. Motion carried.

Delinquent water bills were discussed and letters and notices will be posted.

Lempka made a motion to go into executive session at 9:25pm, and Moss seconded the motion. Votes: yeas: all. Motion passed. Personnel was discussed.

Meeting adjourned at 9:37 P.M. (Next regular meeting will be held June 13 at 7:00 P.M.)

Greg Peterson, Chairman of the Board Samantha Gordon, Village Clerk