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, June 12, 2018 at 7:00 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 at the following locations: First Bank of Nebraska-Sterling, Sterling Public Library, USPS-Sterling, and Village of Sterling City Offices. Chairman Greg Peterson called the meeting to order. Trustees answering roll call: Steve Lempka, Dennis Heusman, Bill Moss, and Andy Thies. Others present: Roger Moss, Barb Heusman, Audrey Keebler, Holt Wiebe, Eldon Wilken, Chuck Wingert, Vane Rengstorf, Steve Eickhoff, Spencer Pagel, Gary Miller, Cindy Nichols, and Roger Huls.

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.

Chuck Wingert, wanted to bring up concern with drainage on East side of his rental property. Steve Eickhoff, asked for a street closure on June 24th a block on Broadway St. for a driver safety course from noon to six. Lempka made a motion to close Broadway Street from Main St. to Washington St. for the Sterling Fire Department on June 24th from noon to six for a driver safety course and Heusman seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Cindy Nichols brought up concern with broken windows due to the porta potties being too close to windows. Thies is going to talk to SCA and see what we need to do.

Lempka made a motion to accept the meeting minutes and Peterson seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: Heusman, Thies, Lempka, and Peterson. Obstained: Moss. Motion carried. Lempka made a motion to allow the bills to include the following and Thies seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: Thies, Lempka, Heusman, and Peterson. Obstained: Moss. Motion carried.

These bills were approved for payment: Amazon.com, lib. Sup-23.83; April Payroll Taxes, taxes-1263.38; Black Hills, heating-171.93; BMG CPA’s, accountant-47.40; Constellation, heating-50.82; Farmers Cooperative, sup.-59.67; First National Bank-Omaha, sup.-309.40; First National Bank-Omaha, sup.-919.13; Jet Stop, fuel-621.51; Kerner True Value, sup-185.44; Kuhl Trenching, repairs-200.00; Lincoln Concrete Specialists, rock-472.50; May Payroll, payroll-5414.33; Melly’s Housekeeping Services, cleaning-100.00; Moss Trucking & Excavating, concrete/asphalt removal-12000.00; NPHEL, fees-15.00; NPPD, electricity-2385.10; NR Marketing LLC, website-345.00; Olsson Associates, reports-415.52; Recycling Enterprises, recycle-240.00; Sargent Drilling, repairs-1351.10; Spencer Pagel, ins.-500.00; Stan Borcher Mowing, mowing-2907.00; Steve Mecure, retainer-100.00; Tecumseh Chieftain, publishing-136.74; USPS, stamps-150.00; Voice News, publishing-138.44; Waste Connections, refuse-7537.35; Waymire, park sup.-82.17; Windstream, telephone-383.27. Total: $38,526.03.

Heusman brought up the concern with pools in town and not charging any extra for water since we don’t have meters. Should possibly think about having a flat rate for pools. Going to do a little research on pools and water rate charges by next meeting.

Spencer Pagel, utility superintendent, discussed air conditioner being installed at well house just had to make hole bigger. Forgot to call on caps at the park, tree pile got burnt up today, and picnic went smooth. Had an incident at the park with an individual driving through the goal fence so board needs to decide on an amount for restitution. Lempka made a motion to charge $100 restitution for the incident at the park and Peterson seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

Lempka discussed having the Sterling Fire Department be in charge of the metal dumpster. Lempka made a motion to change the metal dumpster proceeds to go to the Sterling Fire Department and Thies seconded the motion. Vote: Yeas: all. Motion carried.

Samantha Gordon, village clerk, discussed choosing water tower color. Lempka made a motion to choose Monterrey Tile as the color for the water tower and Heusman seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Also, got internet to zoning computer from Big Red.

Lempka received two conference tables from work for the Village Office.

Peterson discussed Dirks building in the alley having asbestos tile still in sacks with weeds growing up around it. Need to get ahold of property owner to get disposed of.

Thies discussed park committee reports, field needs crab grass sprayed. No other committee reports were discussed.

Property clean-ups were discussed. Going to get more specific pictures on properties that need cleaned up including vehicles and send out a letter from the Village Board.

Roger Huls, zoning administrator, discussed new building permit fees to get up to date with other surrounding communities. Lempka made a motion to accept the new building permit fee increase effective July 1st, 2018 and Peterson seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Also, they won’t be having another meeting until October due to summer activities. Gary Miller brought up concern about dirt pile by new basement being a safety concern. Basement will be poured tomorrow most likely then will be filled back in after that and is property owners responsibility.

Peterson discussed street repair bids. Lempka made a motion to reject all street repair bids and Peterson seconded the motion. Vote: Nay: Moss, Thies, and Peterson. Yay: Lempka. Obstained: Heusman. Thies made a motion to reject Paver’s bid and Moss seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: Lempka, Thies, Moss, and Peterson. Obstained: Heusman. Thies made a motion to also reject Cather and Son’s bid and Moss seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: Thies, Lempka, Moss, and Peterson. Obstained: Heusman. Lempka made a motion to reopen street repair bids to be in by 5 p.m. on June 29th and Moss seconded motion. Vote: yeas: Thies, Moss, Lempka, and Peterson. Obstained: Heusman. Special meeting scheduled for July 3rd at 6 p.m. to approve sealed street repair bids. Junk vehicle ordinance we are going to pass on for now. Fire hall was repaired more to keep birds from coming in again. Park committee needs to get together to decide what to do for rubber at park and edging. Sam’s going to talk to school about who they got to do theirs and try to get a bid together with Thies and Lempka.

Peterson read the updated zoning ordinance for the first time reading. Moss discussed race cars being loud and driving on streets. Mufflers are available to put on headers when out working on them. Moss is going to discuss using mufflers with residents to quiet race cars down. Moss brought up putting up a privacy fence in between commercial and residential properties on Washington Street. Wingert didn’t see a problem because he was the neighboring property to his commercial property. Parking on yards was discussed and being tabled until next month. Holt discussed having a privacy fence installed along park bordering residential properties and possibly having local businesses advertise on fence. Park committee will look at getting some bids by special meeting. Peterson discussed water tower logo, board agreed to leave them as it is.

Delinquent water bills were discussed and shut off notices will be posted and shut off if not paid. And Mecure will send discontinue of services letter and possibly theft of services if not paid for trash bills being overdue.

Board member fees were discussed with looking over comparison chart. Lempka made a motion to increase the board member fees to $75 per meeting and special meeting and chairman fees to $125 per meeting and special meeting effective after next election Thies seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

Moss made a motion to go into executive session to discuss job performance and possible pending litigation at 9:56 pm and seconded by Peterson. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

Lempka made a motion to come out of executive session at 10:34 and Moss seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

Thies made a motion to pay the zoning administrator $175/month, village clerk $1,200/month, and utility superintendent a 3% raise and $500 for insurance per month and all other salaries stay the same valid through June 2019 and Lempka seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

Vane asked for something to compensate the cemetery secretary for all of her work she does. Board needs to look into it more and discuss at next month’s meeting.

Peterson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:45 and Lempka seconded the motion.

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