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 13, 2023 at 7:42 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, Steve Lempka, Ralph Wusk, and Dan Fraley. Others present: Spencer Pagel, Derek Olson, Todd Speth, and Steve Mercure.

Chairman John Keizer acknowledged the Open Meetings Act and the location on the North wall. Lempka made a motion to approve the consent agenda and Fraley seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Wusk made a motion to approve the May bills and Nieveen seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Nieveen made a motion to approve payment to Wusk Power Equip. & Repair for mower blades in the amount of $54 and Lemkpa seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: Nieveen, Keizer, Fraley, and Lempka. Abstained: Wusk. Motion carried.

These bills were approved for payment: Becky Barney, lib. Expenses-136.29; Black Hills, heating-281.63; BMG CPA’s, payroll-350.00; City of Tecumseh, jet truck-500.00; Colonial Life, ins.-206.05; Constellation, heating-89.87; Edward Jones, simple IRA-405.90; First National Bank-Omaha, sup.-225.65; First National Bank-Omaha, sup.-547.97; Iowa Pump Works, fees-901.60; Jet Stop, fuel-403.31; Kudu Lawn & Landscape, mowing-2700.00; Kerner Ace Hardware, sup.-10.58; Lincoln Concrete Specialists, rock-1763.55; NPHEL, samples-49.25; NPPD, electricity-2056.84; Pave, LLC, streets-30,000.00; Payroll May, payroll-7773.10; Payroll Taxes May, taxes-2019.28; Roof Guard, LLC, well shed-5972.09; Samantha Gordon, insurance-500.00; Samantha Gordon, mileage-165.06; Spencer Pagel, Insurance-500.00; Steve Mercure, retainer-100.00; Tecumseh Chieftain, pub.-267.12; The Grinder Pump Man, repairs-5825.55; Voice News, pub.-95.52; Waste Connections, refuse-6135.84; Windstream, telephone-326.68; Wusk Power Equip. & Repair, sup.-326.68. Total: $70,362.73.

Derek Olson, Lincoln Winwater Company, discussed meter quotes and recommendations of a handheld device for reading instead of the drive by system which requires a yearly fee and isn’t necessary for our number of connections. Meters have a twenty-year warranty that’s prorated after ten years. Discussed liability of meters with freezing lines, etc. customers would pay a monthly minimum for meters to help defer the cost and the Village would not be liable for breaks or other damage. Todd Speth, Municipal Supply, Inc., discussed meter quotes with an all-in-one meter, drive by system, cloud software, and yearly maintenance fee. Fraley made a motion to approve Municipal Supply, Inc.’s bid for T-10 water meters, drive-by system, mobile hardware extended warranty and Wusk seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

Becky Barney, discussed summer reading program being overseen by the Teen Advisory Board, offering a get to know your community class to get to know other cultures within our community, plans to host an art day, has volunteers lined up for astrology night, and working on a service project that is still undecided at this time.

Spencer Pagel received and placed generator for well with hopes to have it all up and running by Friday, Noah’s been mowing and painting. Concrete and asphalt from the dump are gone.

Samantha Gordon, no report.

John Keizer will be gone to Texas for two weeks after tomorrow.

Property clean-ups were discussed with the board approving the hiring of Doug Schmidt to cleanup a property that was filed for default judgement and wasn’t abated or removed in the allotted time frame.

The new burn site was discussed with having lot mostly shredded, needs measured and graded more for drainage, then will get with Lincoln Concrete to haul in 2” crushed concrete as a base.

Dan Alexander talked to Keizer about Broadway Street bridge update with planning to be back in town within the next couple of weeks due to a delay on their current project. Bev Harms made a complaint to Chairman Keizer about drainage from neighboring properties from the last major rainstorm flooding her basement. The board has dug out the drainage ditch at neighboring properties in the past but could be due to property owners’ gutters and personal property drainage. The board recommended she have her son dig out her ditch to help with the drainage issue. Samantha attended the school board meeting about drainage from the school with Adrian planning to talk to Wusk. They’re still needing to get together for this discussion.

Lempka made a motion to table the approval of conditional use permit for Jay Vanis until he could be in attendance to answer questions and Nieveen seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Keizer discussed redoing current wells instead of adding an additional well with needing to do a well scan test on wells. Approval of Olsson’s master agreement work order for water distribution and a well study was tabled. Nieveen reviewed quotes for commercial spraying on Village properties. Spencer just sprayed the community building and spraying of the sand volleyball pit wasn’t necessary so decided to hold off on commercial spraying until next Spring. Wusk made a motion to close Broadway Street from Lincoln Street to Main Street on June 24th for an additional auction date of Dean Young’s and Fraley seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. A scheduled pump maintenance agreement was discussed through Iowa Pump Works. Nieveen made a motion to approve Iowa Pump Works scheduled pump maintenance agreement for a term of three years in the amount of $2,124 per inspection and Lempka seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Samantha discussed an agreement with Nemaha NRD for interlocal cooperative agreement for the landscaping project at the community building. Wusk made a motion to approve the Interlocal Cooperative Agreement between the Village and Nemaha Natural Resources District for Urban Special Project for landscaping at the community building and a 50% match of funds and Fraley seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Chairman Keizer reviewed the change of terms agreement from FirstBank of Nebraska on the community building loan. Nieveen made a motion to approve the change in terms agreement with FirstBank of Nebraska to 5.75% through June 15, 2024, and Wusk seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. The subdivision agreement with RJM Enterprises, LLC was tabled until the draft was completed. Lempka made a motion to close Iowa Street from Division Street to Maple Street on June 29th for Wilma Nieveen’s auction and Wusk seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: Lempka, Fraley, Wusk, Keizer. Abstained: Nieveen. Motion carried.

Nieveen also brought up the concern about poor cellular reception from both Verizon and US Cellular to see if we as the board could do anything about it. Mercure recommended people file a complaint with the Public Service Division to see if something could be done about it.

Lempka made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:12 p.m. and Fraley seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

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