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, July 13th, 2021 at 7:04 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: Ralph Wusk, Tom Nieveen, Danny Fraley, and Steve Lempka. Others present: Spencer Pagel and Becky Barney.

Chairman Keizer acknowledged the Open Meetings Act and the location on the North wall. Chairman Keizer led the meeting with the pledge of allegiance. Mecure administered the oath of office to newly appointed board member Danny Fraley.

Lempka made a motion to approve the consent agenda with the additions of SCA Building Account bills: First Bank of NE for $1904.00, Julie Saathoff for $1518.12, and Hancock Lumber, LLC. for $56.97 and also to include payment of the following SCA Building Account bill: Marlin Ebbers Trucking, LLC for $1342.13 and seconded by Nieveen. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Nieveen made a motion to refund Eric & Donna Johnson 41.73 for a credit on their account and Wusk seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: Nieveen, Lempka, Wusk, and Fraley. Abstained: Keizer. Motion carried. Lempka made a motion to approve Wusk Repair bill for $128.45 and Fraley seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: Lempka, Nieveen, Fraley, & Keizer. Abstained: Wusk. Motion carried.

These bills were approved for payment: A Street Auto North, sup.-53.12; Al Rogman Concrete, repairs-3657.00; Austin Buss, summer rec./snow removal/ball pres.-1483.63; Becky Barney, lib. Sup.-49.02; Black Hills, heating-134.99; BMG CPA’s, fees-50.00; Buss Pest Control, fee-120.00; Constellation, heating-232.93; Eric McDonald Contracting, repairs-285.00; Farmers Cooperative, sup.-128.18; First National Bank-Omaha, sup.-470.54; First National Bank-Omaha, sup.-1643.75; Hancock Lumber, LLC, sup.-70.67; Jet Stop, fuel-795.30; Jet Stop, village bucks-20.00; Kerner True Value, sup.-51.72; Kudu Lawn Care, cem. Fee-6300.00; Laffman Hot Rod Garage, repairs-550.56; Nestor & Mecure, fees-2849.00; NPPD, electricity-2276.32; NPHEL, samples-254.00; One Call, fee-15.37; June Payroll, payroll-8869.85; June Payroll Taxes, taxes-2310.07; Samantha Gordon, ins.-500.00; Spencer Pagel, ins.-500.00; Sargent Drilling, dialer-6422.59; Sterling Ball Association, fee-600.00; Steve Mecure, retainer-100.00; Tecumseh Chieftain, pub.-77.40; Voice News, pub.-266.99; Waste Connections, refuse-5834.06; Windstream, telephone-325.95; Wusk Repair, sup.-128.45; Board Member Fees: John Keizer-819.50, Andy Thies-600.00, Ralph Wusk-750.00, Steve Lempka-675.00, Tom Nieveen-750.00; Denise Horstman, cem. Sec.-250.00; Marissa Lempka, zoning admin.-525.00; Samantha Gordon, zoning admin.-173.23. Total: $51,969.19.

There was no public comment.

Spencer Pagel, utility superintendent, discussed adding a fence along the street at the refuse site for approximately $3,200; single pickets was $2,100; and natural wood $2,700. Spoke to Gary Kuhl and he will be on vacation soon then will be over here to do Lincoln Street and the culvert by the coop. Called about generator and should be brought back on Thursday. Some fire hydrants are needing to be replaced: Chuck Wingert’s corner, and corner by Community Building, guy will be in town next week to get a quote from for new valves and Gary would be able to help dig and hook them up while he is in town. Zero turn mower is getting valves adjusted at Wusk’s but should have back in next couple of days. Caspers are in town doing some tree removal and clean up. Lift station is hooked up down at the E. Locust Street bridge and up and running also it did come with a dialer unit in the case of an emergency.

Samantha Gordon, Village Clerk, discussed Big Red Communications contacting the manufacturers of the cameras to see if they are having any other issues, meet with Heather Holland about benefits and health insurance, and filed NEMA quarterly reimbursement report.

Chairman Keizer meet with SCA about purchasing the office space and senior center for what they owe the Village for Keno reimbursement of $39,500. Lempka was concerned with condition of building and what it was appraised at or what it would need to get up to code. Spencer’s going to get with fire marshal or building inspector to see what condition the buildings in and to see if it would be up to code possibly for a daycare.

Samantha Gordon, zoning administrator, discussed needing to have a public hearing for change of zoning for Seth Clark’s property and McClellan will be turning in a fence permit once lot pins are found.

Lempka talked to Waymire’s about digging a secondary well to see their thoughts but need to get back to them.

Property cleanups were discussed, and letters will be sent out by the Village clerk.

Chairman Keizer discussed community building updates with a new rental agreement and rates, Samantha taking over scheduling of community building, discussed when people should add the Village or SCA as an additional insured for liability-attorney suggested for larger events only otherwise contract would cover, and fall festival is planned for September 11th downtown. Vacant property registrations were discussed and need to check on fees and properties listed for sale.

Bids were reviewed for replacing the Case mower and spoke with representative at Bobcat and they don’t offer the lease program that they do with the skid steer but can have a mower here pretty quick. Wusk made a motion to purchase the Bobcat CT1025 compact tractor for $12,400 and Fraley seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Spencer discussed getting a replacement skid steer with our lease program but have had nothing but problems with current machine, need to discuss this further and see what Hamilton can do about this issue. Samantha discussed closing Broadway Street for a farmers market. Lempka made a motion to close Broadway Street East of Scott’s Place through the Main Street intersection depending on number of vendors through the end of October for a farmer’s market and Nieveen seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

Becky Barney, discussed yearly review of library and rearranging, she’s been moving books as more donations are coming in, received donations for the after school program, chat and chuckle book club had a potluck last night, established a library board to become a legal library, has been featured in a three newspapers and on tv, has started a summer reading program, received two grants and working on a third, working on cataloging books, bringing in different age groups of people, working on certification which requires 45 hours of continued education credit hours, and working on setting up the archive. Keizer made a motion to increase Becky Barney’s pay to $12/hour and Nieveen seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried. Lempka made a motion to increase the librarian hours from 12 to 20 and Fraley seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

Lempka made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:51 p.m. and Fraley seconded the motion. Vote: yeas: all. Motion carried.

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