

# REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

VILLAGE OF HEMINGFORD BOARD OF TRUSTEES

August 20, 2024-6:00pm

700 Box Butte Ave. Hemingford, NE. 69348

**Zoom Virtual Meeting information**

**Meeting ID 849 3117 1490 Passcode 970501**

Pledge of Allegiance

Opening prayer by – Jake Frost

Public Open Meeting Act poster location was pointed out on the north wall of Council Chambers located at the Village office.

Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Present: Novotny, Frost, Hunter, Mahony, and Wacker

**Consent Calendar** items included the Minutes of the July 16, 2024 Regular meeting, minutes of the July 23, 2024 Special meeting. Claims against the Village of \$72,024.73, Claims against the Utilities of \$128,559.10. July 2024 Village Financial Statements and Bank Reconciliations reports. July 2024 Library Report.

**Motion** by Hunter, second by Mahony to approve the consent calendar as read.

**Voting Aye:** Novotny, Frost, Hunter, Mahony, and Wacker

**Discussion and possible action:** Approval of payroll for the Hemingford Pool Manager A. Frost in the amount of \$1762.50

**Motion** by Mahony, Second by Novotny to approve payroll for A. Frost in the amount of \$1762.50

**Voting Aye:** Novotny, Hunter, Mahony, and Wacker

**Abstaining:** Frost

**Discussion and possible action:** Approval of payroll for the Hemingford Pool Lifeguard B. Hunter in the amount of \$1497.31

**Motion** by Novotny, Second by Frost to approve payroll for B. Hunter in the amount of \$1,436.53

**Voting Aye:** Novotny, Frost, Mahony, and Wacker.

**Abstaining:** Hunter

**Discussion and possible action:** Panhandle Area Development District (PADD), explanation of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) opportunities available to the Village. As a PADD member community, PADD will help Hemingford write CDBG grants. Grant writing services by PADD includes 8 hours of free grant writing time, which is not typically enough time to complete the grant, however is a great start. CDBG grants require 25% matching funds and or “in-kind” commitments, also required is the ability of Hemingford to meet the low to moderate income (LMI) standards. At this point in time Hemingford does meet the LMI standard of 51%. CDBG opportunities available include Downtown Revitalization, Public works infrastructure, Community Center facilities, Housing grants, (currently Housing grants are more suited to larger communities) Planning grants and wastewater grants. Planning grants only require a 10% match. In the event of a successful grant application PADD would administer the grant for the Village. If Hemingford

has an interest in applying for any of the CDBG grants there are a few updates to the Comprehensive Plan that would need to be done as well as a current Community Needs Survey. Grant cycles typically open in the spring and summer so the Village has time to consider a CDBG grant and the benefits to the community.

**Discussion and Possible action:** Barb Keegan of the Hemingford Volunteer Fire Department started her report saying the roster is full with not changes, C. Kaman has earned her EMT certification, and C. Buchheit is doing ride a-longs with the department. The new ALS agreement is final. Call and training statistics 271 fire calls, 78 EMS calls, 13 trainings. At this point her report was interrupted by a rescue call and Keegan left the meeting., she will complete her report at the next regular meeting.

**Discussion and possible action:** Jake Frost reminded the Board that community mini survey taken prior to the strategic planning session suggested the need for a community center to potentially house a Day Care and Senior Center as well as room for youth activities. With the Hemingford Public School District making future plans for renovations and expansions Frost and Straub took the opportunity to meet with the Hemingford School Board and the Box Butte County Ag Society to plant the seed of a possible future collaboration that would benefit the schools and Ag Society as well as the Hemingford community on this issue. First impressions are that all parties are interested in future talks and collaborations. J. Jespersen reminded the Board that there are grants for community centers and that the Village would need to be the grant applicant and that a community needs assessment could be done prior to any application.

**Discussion and possible action:** First reading of SWANN rate increase Ordinance #823

AN ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF HEMINGFORD, NEBRASKA AMENDING THE SOLID WASTE RATES; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE AND REPEALING ANY ORDINANCES OF OTHER PROVISION IN CONFLICT THEREWITH, DIRECTING THE PUBLICATION OF THIS ORDINANCE AND PRESCRIBING THE TIME WHEN THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BE IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT.

**Motion** by Mahony, Second by Hunter to waive the three readings of the SWANN rate increase ordinance #823.

**Voting Aye:** Novotny, Frost, Hunter, Mahony, and Wacker

**Motion** by Hunter, Second by Novotny to pass and publish Ordinance #823 for the SWANN rate increase.

**Voting Aye:** Novotny, Frost, Hunter, Mahony, and Wacker

**Discussion and possible action:** Trash Hauling and Disposal taken over by the Solid Waste Agency of Northwest Nebraska (SWANN) Chairman Wacker stated that SWANN will be taking over the trash collection for the Village replacing H & H. A rental/purchase agreement was delivered to the Village by H & H regarding the use or purchase of H & H owned containers. Village Attorney Stobel was directed to review the rental agreement and return it to the Village office. The Village and their attorney will work with SWANN and H & H to create an amicable agreement for the rental and or purchase of containers currently owned by H & H. No further action to be taken at this time.

**Discussion and possible action:** First reading of Ordinance #824 Setting Speed Limits on State Highways within the Village Limits.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF HEMINGFORD, NEBRASKA, AMENDING AND REPLACING PORTIONS OF THE HEMINGFORD MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO SETTING SPEED LIMITS ON STATE HIGHWAYS WITHIN VILLAGE LIMITS, REPEALING ANY OTHER ORDINANCES OR PROVISIONS IN CONFLICT THEREWITH, DIRECTING THE PUBLICATION OF THIS ORDINANCE AND PRESCRIBING THE TIME WHEN THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BE IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT.

**Motion** by Mahony, Second by Frost to waive the 3 readings of Ordinance #824

**Voting Aye:** Novotny, Frost, Hunter, Mahony, and Wacker

**Motion** by Hunter, Second by Mahony to pass and publish Ordinance #824 Setting Speed limits on State Highways within the Village limits.

**Voting Aye:** Novotny, Frost, Hunter, Mahony, and Wacker

**Discussion and possible action:** Approval of Resolution 2024-05 Dot Annual Certification of Program Compliance.

**Motion** by Frost, Second by Novotny to approve Resolution 2024-05 for the DOT Annual Certification of Program Compliance.

**Voting Aye:** Novotny, Frost, Hunter, Mahony, and Wacker

**Discussion and possible action:** Approval of MPC Heating and Cooling bid of \$15872.40 for the replacement of HVAC units on the Memory Care Unit wing at the Hemingford Care Center.

**Motion** by Mahony, Second by Hunter to approve the MPC Heating and Cooling bid of \$15872.40 for the replacement of HVAC units on the Memory Care Unit wing at the Hemingford Care Center, with funds from the care center general account to be used.

**Voting Aye:** Novotny, Frost, Hunter, Mahony, and Wacker

**Discussion and possible action:** Addition to the welcome to Hemingford Signs. "Home of the Girls Cross Country State Champs". Jake Frost ask if this was possible all Board members thought that is a great idea and there are not issues from the Utilities Department but this actually would need to be the Hemingford Boosters to get a sign permit from the State to place the signs. R. Hunter will take this to the Booster club for consideration. No further action taken.

**Administrators Report:** BBCSO reports 15 calls for service and 3 traffic stops. A full description of service calls is provided in the Board Packet, Code Enforcement/Animal control will be going to full-time mid-August. Kyla has received her Animal Control 1 Officer Certification. Budget workshop date 8/27/24 (Tuesday) Budget Hearing Date 9/16 (Monday) Regular meeting 9/17 (Tuesday)

**Utilities Department Report:** New Hire, Carson Cobb. Carson will be training for the Utilities Superintendent position. Fast Forward GIS mapping to help reduce the risk of power outages. 360 panoramic and thermal processing to be used for pre disaster documentation and system inventory. Fast Forward will be in town over the weekend or first of next week to do the mapping. Well 5 testing is back and is hardly pumping any sand so will start the procedures with the State to return it to regular usage vs. emergency only status. Added new electric service to the football field concession area, several photocells have been replaced through out town on the light poles due to hail damage. Summer help's last day was Friday August 16, AMI

progress: hoping to have a antenna on the tower by the end of the month and all of the electric meters in October and could is all works as scheduled be fully AMI by the end of the year.

**Discussion and possible action:** Approval of the Sargent Drilling quote for well 4 repairs. Well 4 is not pumping water like it should the amount keep decreasing. Sargent Drilling believes we need to pull the pump and do a camera survey of the well and repair the pump, to correct the issues.

Motion by Mahony, Second by Frost to approve the quote by Sargent Drilling in the amount of \$56,658.60 to pull the pump on well 4 and do a camera survey.

**Voting Aye:** Novotny, Frost, Hunter, Mahony, and Wacker

The Board would also like K.Huss to get a quote from Sargent Drilling to add a VFD to well 4.

**Discussion and possible action:** SCADA water security systems. Received one quote still waiting on another.  
NO ACTION TAKEN.

**Discussion and possible action:** Purchase of a sand spreader for the Tool Cat., a sand spreader for the tool cat is required since we were able to sell the old pickup and sander box. A new Bobcat sand spreader expected delivery time is about 3 months out, cost quote from Chadron Motors is \$7,357. This would need to be ordered soon, to be able to efficiently maintain street safety in the winter months. Board directed K. Huss to check with other Bobcat dealers in the area to see if there was any sooner availability.

**Motion** by Mahony, Second by Novotny to purchase a sand spreader for the Toolcat in an amount up to \$7,357.

**Voting Aye:** Novotny, Frost, Hunter, Mahony, and Wacker

**Code Enforcement Report:** August Yard of the month was Marty Kuhn, Cotant thanked Dave's Pharmacy and the Village for prizes for Yard of the Month recipients. Currently there are 24 open enforcement cases, 6 new cases opened in July and 11 closed in the month of July. In the process of completing the registry of vacant and abandoned properties. Also started on a fee schedule for animal control and will hope to be able to combine them with the Village and Utilities fee schedule for Board approval at a later date.

**Public Comment:** No comments

**Motion** to adjourn at 7:47 pm by Mahony, Second by Hunter

**Voting Aye:** Novotny, Frost, Hunter, Mahony, and Wacker

ATTEST:

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Richard Wacker, Chairman

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Barb Straub, Village Clerk