

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

VILLAGE OF HEMINGFORD BOARD OF TRUSTEES

August 15, 2023-6:00pm

700 Box Butte Ave. Hemingford, NE. 69348

Zoom Virtual Meeting information

Meeting ID 892 5340 9132 Passcode 700775

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: Hunter, Frost, Novotny, Wacker

Absent: Mahony

Motion by Hunter, Second by Novotny to excuse Trustee Mahony from the August 15, 2023 Regular Meeting of the Village of Hemingford Board of Trustees

Voting Aye: Hunter, Frost, Novotny, Wacker.

Consent Calendar items included the minutes of the July 18, 2023 regular meeting. Claims against the Village of \$46977.61, Claims against the Utilities of \$186444.77. July 2023 Village Financial Statements and Bank Reconciliations reports. July 2023 Library Report.

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

Voting Aye: Hunter, Frost, Novotny, Wacker.

Discussion and possible action: Ratification of Resolution 2023-07 for the closing of Highway 2 (Niobrara Ave.) for the Box Butte County Fair Parade.

Motion by Novotny, Second by Frost to ratify Resolution 2023-07 closing Highway 2 on August 12, 2023 for the Box Butte County Fair Parade.

Voting Aye: Hunter, Frost, Novotny, Wacker.

Discussion and possible action: Cheryl Kaman no longer works in the office and it is necessary to remove her from the Nebraska Bank signature cards.

Motion by Hunter Second by Novotny to remove Cheryl Kaman from all signature cards and accounts at Nebraska bank.

Voting Aye: Hunter, Frost, Novotny, Wacker.

Discussion and possible action: Approval of Resolution 2023-08 Department of Transportation Annual Certification of Program compliance.

Motion by Novotny, Second by Frost to approve resolution 2023-08

Voting Aye: Hunter, Frost, Novotny, Wacker.

Discussion and possible action: Nuisance abatement at the property located at 604 Park Street Hemingford, NE. The property is owned by Michael Blumanthal. Mr. Blumanthal addressed the Board, showing first pictures of other properties in town that he felt needed to be prioritized. Blumanthal explained that he had been working on bringing the property into compliance but was working at his own pace and that the Village should not expect more. Mrs. Blumanthal explained to the Board that it was their intention to put up a fence around the property, while continuing to clean up. Village Administrator confirmed that a building permit was purchased by Mrs. Blumanthal for a fence at 604 Park Street. There are tenants on three (3) of the lots and there has been a minimal improvement to the property, grass on front facing Park Street has been mowed and some of the debris removed. Given that there has been some improvements and the property will be fenced the Board agreed to allow the Blumenthal's until October 18th to complete the fence and make the necessary improvement to become compliant with Hemingford Village codes. The Hemingford Code Enforcement officer was directed to monitor the progress weekly and report back to the Board at the next regular meeting in September.

Discussion and possible action: The Library roof is in need of repair or replacement. One quote for replacement was secured in the amount of \$34,264 and one for repair in the amount of \$1550. Both quotes were from Weathercraft Co. from Scottsbluff. Given it is budget time, it was suggested by the Administrator that a temporary repair to the roof be done and the entire replacement of the roof be put into the next years budget, with the intention of looking for potential grants to help with the cost of a total replacement.

Motion by Novotny, Second by Hunter to approve the library roof repair in the amount of \$1550.

Voting Aye: Hunter, Frost, Novotny, Wacker.

Information for budget consideration: Updated Splash Pad proposal, with the new proposal and the cost increase of construction and parts the Village is approximately \$48,000 short of the funding required for the project and will need to consider where to find funding in the budget to make up this shortfall. There are funds in the Keno account that would cover the shortfall as well as room on the line of credit at Nebraska Bank.

Updated Street project phase 1 and project funding source. Project scope and projected funding repayment schedule included in the board packet.

Updated drinking water well project estimate included in the Board packet. The street project and the new well project together is a \$3,968,837 expenditure that supports a tax levy request of 0.60 cents.

AMI metering project and costs. estimates are included in the Board packet and look like a project that would include all meters and software would need a budget of \$400,000.

Utilities Department Report: Concrete has been poured at the north west corner of Laramie and Niobrara, completing the water main repair project from the winter. The curb stop at the Ledger was replaced making it easier to shut water off if the pipes at the Ledger should freeze again. Downey drilled the test well and preformed the test pumping but we have no results yet. Sewer jetting and flushing hydrants continues. With the exception of Cheryl at the cemetery the summer help is all done. – Kyle Huss

Administrators Report: Sheriffs Office reports 12 calls for service and 1 traffic stop in the month of July. The Transportation Summit is August 23, 2023, Rick, Jake, and Will plan on attending as well as myself. I will be taking a couple of vacation days at the end of the month. -Barb Straub

Code Enforcement Report: Yard of the month went to Robyn and Brad Petersen. Working on several cases and with school starting code enforcement hours will be more regular through the week. Weekly rounds will be made to evaluate properties non-compliant with codes. - Kyla Cotant

Public Comment: Silverline Salvage owner, Perry Britsch, spoke about a nuisance letter he received from the Village attorney. He has taken steps to address weeds but believes he should not have received notice to clean property as the business is closed and people still just keep dropping junk off.

Motion by Hunter, Second by Novotny to adjourn at 7:10.

Voting Aye: Hunter, Frost, Novotny, Wacker.

ATTEST:

Barb Straub, Village Clerk

Richard Wacker, Chairman