

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

VILLAGE OF HEMINGFORD BOARD OF TRUSTEES

December 17, 2024-6:00pm

700 Box Butte Ave. Hemingford, NE. 69348

Zoom Virtual Meeting information

Meeting ID 852 0523 8240 Passcode 053177

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: Frost, Hunter, Mahony, Wacker

Absent: Novotny

Oath of Office by newly elected Board of Trustee Members

Oath of Office was read before the current Board of Trustees by newly elected Trustees Richard Wacker, Jake Frost and Mikayla Smith. New Board of Trustees members were duly sworn into office, and took seats at the Board table.

Roll Call: Present: Frost, Hunter, Mahony, Smith, Wacker.

Reorganization of the Village Board of Trustees

The Village Clerk called for nominations for the Board of Trustees for the Village of Hemingford Chairman position. Trustee Mahony nominated Trustee Wacker for the position of Chairman, Trustee Hunter seconded the nomination, as there were no other nominations, The Board unanimously voted to elect Trustee Wacker as the Board Chairman. Elections were then turned over to the new Chairman.

Chairman Wacker called for nominations for the position of Vice -Chair. Trustee Hunter nominated Trustee Frost; the nomination was seconded by Trustee Mahony. The Board unanimously voted to elect Trustee Frost as the Board Vice Chairman.

Consent Calendar items included the Minutes of the November 19, 2024 Regular meeting, Claims against the Village of \$48,092.86 Claims against the Utilities of \$114,382.25. November 2024 Village Financial Statements and Bank Reconciliations reports. November 2024 Library Report. Appointment of Village of Hemingford Administrator/Clerk - Treasurer Barb Straub, Appointment of Village of Hemingford Attorney Simmons, Olsen Law Firm, PC, Libby Stobel, Appointment of Village of Hemingford Engineer MC Schaff & Associates. Reappointment of the Hemingford Board of Health to consist of Village of Hemingford Code Enforcement Officer, Board of Trustees Chairman and the Director of Nursing at the Hemingford Care Center.

Resolution 2024-16 appointing Nebraska Bank as the Village Depository.

Resolution 2024-17 for the Appointment of Jeff Wolfe of Mc Schaff & Associates as Street Superintendent.

Resolution 2024-08 appointing a representative to the Solid Waste Agency of Northwest Nebraska Board of Directors. Richard Wacker

Resolution 2024-09 appointing a representative and alternate to the Public Alliance for Community Board of Directors. Jake Frost, representative and Riki Hunter, alternate

Resolution 2024-10 appointing a representative and alternate to the Members Council of the Nebraska Municipal Power Pool (NMPP). Jake Frost, representative and Richard Wacker, alternate

Resolution 2024-11 appointing a representative and alternate to the Box Butte Development Corporation Board of Directors (BBDC). The Village Clerk, representative and Richard Wacker, alternate

Resolution 2024-12 appointing a representative and alternate to the Panhandle Area Development District (PADD). Will Mahony, representative and Richard Wacker, alternate

Resolution 2024-13 appointing a representative and alternate to Nebraska Public Power District Board of Directors (NPPD). Will Mahony, representative and Richard Wacker, alternate

Resolution 2024-14 appointing a representative and alternate to the League Association of Risk management (LARM). Mikayla Smith, representative and Riki Hunter, alternate

Resolution 2024-15 appointing a representative and alternate to the Box butte County E-911 Emergency Communication Advisory Board. Will Mahony, representative and Mikayla Smith, alternate
Appointment of Nancy Swanson to the Hemingford Housing Authority Board.

Motion by Frost, second by Hunter to approve the consent calendar with corrections noted.

Voting Aye: Frost, Hunter, Mahony, Smith, Wacker.

Discussion and possible action: Third reading of Ordinance #829

AN ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF HEMINGFORD, BOX BUTTE COUNTY, NEBRASKA, TO ESTABLISH REVISED SEWER RATES FOR THE VILLAGE OF HEMINGFORD MUNICIPAL SEWER SYSTEM; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND REPEALING ANY EXISTING ORDINANCES OR OTHER PROVISIONS IN CONFLICT THEREWITH; AND DIRECTING THE PUBLICATION OF THIS ORDINANCE.

Motion by Mahony, Second by Frost to pass and publish Ordinance # 829 revising the Village of Hemingford Sewer Rates to be effective January 1, 2025

Voting Aye: Frost, Hunter, Mahony, Smith, Wacker.

Discussion and possible action: Ratification of 2024 utility bad debt write off of \$3701.58. There are 4 accounts that have been deemed uncollectable, as the account owners have left with no forwarding address. Total amount of uncollectable debit is \$3701.58

Motion by Mahony, Second by Hunter to approve utility bad debit write off in the amount of \$3701.58

Voting Aye: Frost, Hunter, Mahony, Smith, Wacker.

Discussion and possible action: Approval of transformer purchased per T&R quote 126054-1 in the amount of \$35,574 and quote 126451-1 in the amount of \$19,764. Total of \$55,338, using capital outlay budgeted amount for the purchase of transformers. The transformer that is by itself on the quote would be a backup for the high school. When we had out transformers and electrical system thermal imaged the transformer at the high school showed a hot spot internally behind one of the bushings. There isn't a way to fix this issue. Eventually that transformer will fail and when it does, we need one on hand to be able to replace it. This transformer could continue to operate this way for years or it could fail tomorrow. The other 3 transformers would be for a project that we are planning for next spring/summer. The transformer rack behind Nebraska bank, Tabletop, Adamson Automotive, and the post

office is in rough shape and needs replaced/rebuilt. We would like to convert all of it to underground. It is important to note that the lead time on transformers is 18 to 20 weeks.

Motion by Hunter, Second by Mahony to approve the purchase of transformers as quoted in the total amount of \$55,338.

Voting Aye: Frost, Hunter, Mahony, Smith, Wacker.

Discussion and possible action: Approval of revised SCADA quote from Buchheit Precision Inc. to include Well 5. The addition to SCADA is to get Well 5 grouped into our already approved SCADA plan. Well 5 was an emergency use only well until recently when it became cleared to be used as a normal use drinking water well. As far back as anyone can recall, Well 5 has always been an emergency use well, therefore, is without existing controls which allow it to communicate to the water tower. Presently, Well 5 does not kick on automatically when water pressure drops and has to be turned on manually to be able to be used for drinking water, adding SCADA controls to it would eliminate this problem.

Motion by Frost, Second by Smith to approve the revised SCADA quote in the amount of \$76,123.01 to include Well #5.

Voting Aye: Frost, Hunter, Mahony, Smith, Wacker.

Administrators Report: BBCSO reports 16 calls for service and 6 traffic stops, Splash Pad grants funds in the amount of \$57,000 have been deposited into the Village General account on 12/04/24, property tax funds for bonds have been transferred from the Village General account to the Debit Service account in the amount of \$221,663.03. Believe in Hemingford Tree Lighting and soup supper was a great success, almost \$1,000 was donated and 2 families were helped this holiday season.

Utilities Department Report: Crew is working on installing radio reads on the water meters and will begin with electric meters soon, well 4 has been repaired and water testing has been done prior to bringing it back on line. Several electric services had been updated and the benches at the pool have been rebuilt.

Code Enforcement Report: Currently working on 31 Cases, 2 have been closed, one new case was opened. I have not received any correspondence from one of the two cases that were forwarded to the attorney. I will have the attorney's office follow-up with another letter, then we will be looking at sending the 5-day notice of intention to abate the properties, as there are 3 properties in violation in this case, which are both health and safety violations.

The second case has contacted the attorney's office, stating that they have a contractor they are working with on the property. Follow-up from the attorney has been sent, asking for the name of the business or individual that they are going to be working with. If proof isn't provided, the attorney's office will need to send a follow-up letter with the intention of also moving towards the 5-day notice of intention to abate the property as this is a safety issue as well.

Animal Control: Hemingford's First Spay & Neuter Day was a success! All the owners delivered their pets to the mobile clinic, right at 8:30 a.m. on the 7th. They parked on the west side of the PD garage in the lot, and it was easy access for drop-offs and delivery of the animals. The Wyobraska Vet Clinic did an outstanding job, the pets' owners and I were impressed and very appreciative of the services that they

provided. Wyobraska Vet Clinic will be back for the next Spay/Neuter Day, which tentatively is being scheduled after March – there are already 9 pets signed up on the wait list.

A very huge THANK YOU to Legacy Co-Op for donating a large amount to the Spay/Neuter Day, this helped tremendously with offsetting the costs of the procedures as the money was divided amongst the clients. Legacy Co-Op was the sole donor for this event.

Cotant applied for the Mission Store Grant in hopes of receiving extra funds, as the pound doesn't have the capability to house a small dog, puppy or cats. The Village received the letter saying that a grant was awarded to Animal Control for \$500 to purchase an animal pod. This pod can hold one medium sized animal, or with the divider can house two in the same unit. The pod and divider will be ordered this week and hopefully will arrive before the end of the month. I would like to express my gratitude to The Mission Store for offering this opportunity to our area, as well as awarding my department this grant.

Updating the Ordinances for the Animal Chapter is going well and should have everything ready for the January 2025 Board Meeting.

Public Comment: No comments

Motion to adjourn at 6:31 pm by Mahony, Second by Hunter

Voting Aye: Frost, Hunter, Mahony, Smith, Wacker

ATTEST:

Richard Wacker, Chairman

Barb Straub, Village Clerk