

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
VILLAGE OF HEMINGFORD BOARD OF TRUSTEES
December 27, 2022-6:00pm
700 Box Butte Ave. Hemingford, NE. 69348
Zoom Virtual Meeting information
Meeting ID 852 1757 3068 Passcode 324390

Pledge of Allegiance

Opening prayer by – Jake Frost

Meeting called to order at 6:05 p.m.

Present: Novotny, Wacker, Hunter, Frost, Annen

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

Discussion and possible action: First Reading of Ordinance #814

AN ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF HEMINGFORD, NEBRASKA, ESTABLISHING SALARIES AND COMPENSATION FOR THE VILLAGE OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES REPELAING ALL PRIOR ORDINANCES AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

This ordinance would increase the Board of Trustees wages from \$100 monthly to \$150 monthly for Trustees and the wages for the Chairman would increase from \$150 to \$200 monthly, the ordinance also adopts the current employee salaries that were approved with the adoption of the 2022/2023 budget.

Motion by Novotny to waive all readings and approve Ordinance #814.

Voting Aye: Novotny, Wacker, Hunter, Frost, and Annen

Oath of Office was read before the current Board of Trustees by newly elected Trustees Will Mahony and Riki Hunter. Chairman John Annen stepped down from the board table taking a seat in the audience. New Board members took their seats at the table. Once new Board members were seated, Trustee Frost spoke recognizing John Annen for his many years of service and dedication to the Village of Hemingford and residents. With much gratitude, John Annen was presented a plaque and gift certificate from the Board of Trustees and the Village of Hemingford.

The Village Clerk called for nominations for the Board of Trustees for the Village of Hemingford Chairman position. Trustee Novotny nominated Trustee Wacker for the position of Chairman, Trustee Frost seconded the nominations, 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 Novotny nominated Trustee Frost; the nomination was seconded by Trustee Hunter. The Board unanimously voted to elect Trustee Frost as the Board Vice Chairman.

Consent Calendar items included the minutes of the November 15, 2022 Regular meeting. Claims against the Village of \$57,221.96, Claims against the Utilities of \$126,118.71. November 2022 Financial Statements and Bank Reconciliations. November 2022 Library Report. Appointment of Village of Hemingford Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer. Appointment of Village of Hemingford Attorney, Simmons, Olsen Law Firm, P.C- 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.

Approval of resolutions; **2022-20** appointing Nebraska Bank as the Village Depository,

2022-21 for the Appointment of Jeff Wolfe of MC Schaff and Associates as Street Superintendent,

2022-12 appointing a representative to the Solid waste Agency of Northwest Nebraska Board of Directors,

2022-13 appointing a representative and alternate to the Public Alliance of Community Energy Board,

2022-14 appointing a representative and alternate to the Members Council of the Nebraska Municipal Power Pool,

2022-15 appointing a representative and alternate to the Box Butte Development Corporation Board of Directors, Resolution

2022-16 appointing a representative and alternate to the Panhandle Area Development District (PADD),

2022-17 appointing a representative and alternate to the Nebraska Public Power District Board of Directors (NPPD),

2022-18 appointing a representative and alternate to the League Association of Risk Management Board of Directors (LARM),

2022-19 appointing a representative and alternate to the Box Butte County E-911 Emergency Communication Advisory Board.

Acceptance of the resignation of George Bremer from the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Motion by Hunter, second by Frost to approve the consent calendar as read with the necessary corrections to the date of the financial statements and bank reconciliations and the bank name on resolution 2022-20.

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

Discussion and possible action: Barb Keegan reported that the Hemingford Volunteer Fire Department received 3 Vendor Bids for a new ambulance for the Department, the Department would like to move forward with the bid from ARV at a cost of \$339,196.08, with the grant from DHHS and the match for the grant that would leave a shortfall of approximately \$50,000. The build for the new ambulance is expected to take up to two (2) years so there is time to collect enough service invoices for ambulance service and apply for further grant funds to make up the difference. The Rural Fire Protection Board has already approved the bid from ARV even with the shortfall offering the potential of further funds from them if need be.

Motion by Frost, Second by Novotny to approved the bid for a new ambulance for the Hemingford Volunteer Fire Department by ARV for \$339,196.08.

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

Keegan also reported that the Fire Department had responded to 30 fire calls, 117 rescue calls and attended 23 trainings. The Department has a total roster of 30 members.

Discussion and possible action: Ordinance # 813 and letter regarding Ordinance # 813 from the County Attorney discussion, the Hemingford Village Board of Trustees directed the Clerk to visit with the Box Butte County Sheriff to determine whether there are proposed changes which would make the ordinance more readily enforceable. No further action was taken.

Discussion and possible action: Ratification of the Village of Hemingford Utilities bad debt write off of \$1,433.92 during the year 2022. Bad debt is the dollar amount of uncollectable payments once collection procedures have been exhausted.

Motion by Frost, Second by Mahony to approve and ratify the Village of Hemingford Utilities bad debt write off of \$1,433.92.

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

Discussion and possible action: North Wing HVAC unit at the Hemingford Care Center is only working at 50% efficiency creating the need to act quickly. MPC as well as the Carrier manufacture Representative confirmed that the unit is needing replaced. The unit is acting just like the south wing that was just replaced. Scott with MPC felt like at some point the system was over pressurized while looking for a leak which caused bigger issues leading to the need for replacement. He said we could spend time and money looking for the leaks and end up needing to replace the system anyway. MPC previously bid the South Wing and was selected due to the price and proven ability to do the work. The Board felt that it makes sense that the same entity perform work on the North Wing as well.

Motion by Novotny, Second by Hunter to authorize the Village Administrator to approve the HVAC replacement on the North Wing of the Hemingford Care Center by MPC, not to exceed \$110,000.00.

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

Utilities Department Report: Snow Removal, insulated the booster pump house Christmas lights were put prior to the November 30th Believe event, a water main break was fixed over the Christmas Holiday.

Administrators Report: The annual Highway maintenance agreement has been signed for 2023 and returned to the State for signature. There was no Sheriffs Office report at the time of agenda preparation, Audit of the Village and the Care Center has started and will continue early January with auditors being "in house". Cheryl Kaman will be starting in the office the first week of January working 24 hours per week until June 1 when the position will transition into full time hours

Public Comment: A brief explanation of how Public Comments are handled. Those that wish to speak are not limited to subject but are limited to 3 minutes, the board may take no action on these items but could refer the item to a future agenda.

Kay Bakkehaug of the Hemingford Ledger thanked Kyle and Colt for helping her with frozen pipes at the Ledger building.

Lori Dannar thanked the Village Utility Crew for all their work during the blizzard and extreme cold temperatures for keeping the streets clear and safe.

John Annen thanked the Board for stepping up and making the decision to replace the HVAC at the Care Center, "you have outstanding members on the board and I think you will do great things for the Village of Hemingford."

Motion to adjourn at 7:35 by Hunter, Second by Frost

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

ATTEST:

John Annen, Chairman

Barb Straub, Village Clerk