

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

VILLAGE OF HEMINGFORD BOARD OF TRUSTEES

February 15, 2022-6:00pm

700 Box Butte Ave. Hemingford, NE. 69348

Zoom Virtual Meeting information

Meeting ID 839 3979 1838 Passcode 395727

Pledge of Allegiance

Opening prayer by -Jake Frost

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

Present: Wacker, Hunter, Frost, Annen.

Absent:

Zoom: Novotny* Note: Novotny appeared virtually by Zoom out of matter of convenience, not pursuant to an emergency declaration as anticipated by Neb.Fev.Stat.81-1411(7)(a), and therefore, Novotny abstained from voting throughout the meeting.

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

Consent Calendar items included the minutes of the January 18th, 2021 regular meeting. Claims against the Village of \$33,784.63, Claims against the Utilities of \$94,443.43, Claims against the Hemingford Community Care Center of \$150,965.34. January 2022 Village Financial Statements and Bank Reconciliations reports. January 2022 Library Report. Corrections and additions suggested by Straub include \$150.00 for Cabins and Clover for office cleaning to the total for claims against the Village and Utilities and additions to the Hemingford Community Care Center claims in the amount of \$612.00 for Abbott testing supplies.

Motion by Hunter Second by Wacker to approve the consent Calendar as read with the additions to the claims of the Village and Utilities in the amount of \$150 each and the addition of \$612 to the claims list for the Hemingford Community Care Center.

Voting Aye: Wacker, Hunter, Frost, Annen.

Abstain: Novotny.

Discussion and possible action: Hemingford Community Care Center Garden History and request for funding. Jodeen Sorensen shared a bit of the garden history with the board telling them that the garden is a part of the Nebraska Arboretum as an affiliate garden. Many years ago, there was a grant awarded to the Garden Club to help establish the garden, since then it has been up to volunteers, and mostly Jodeen, to maintain the garden. Cheryl Kaman has routinely done the spring and fall clean up with the volunteers maintaining during the summer months. Jodeen has paid Cheryl in past years for her time. The garden sits on Village property and is ultimately the responsibility of the village to maintain. The Garden Club is asking for help in making sure that the garden is taken care of. At the request of the Garden Club Cheryl Kaman will work with Barb Straub to make sure the garden gets the attention that is needed.

Motion by Wacker Second by Hunter, to approve the use of up to \$1500.00 from the Keno funds for upkeep of the Hemingford Community Care Center Garden.

Voting Aye: Wacker, Hunter, Frost, Annen.

Abstain: Novotny.

Discussion and possible action: Request for reimbursement for equipment damaged as a result of a power outage. **NO ACTION TAKEN**

Discussion and possible action: Approving the proclamation naming March 2022 as Problem Gambling Awareness Month.

Motion by Frost, Second by Wacker to approve the proclamation naming March 2022 as Problem Gambling Awareness Month.

Voting Aye: Wacker, Hunter, Frost, Annen.

Abstain: Novotny.

Discussion and possible action: Installation of Handicapped accessible automatic door at the library and review of quotes. The library door fund has a balance of \$7643.80, after review of quotes the board agreed that it was time to have the door installed and would follow the recommendations of the library board regarding the quote.

Motion by Hunter, Second by Frost to accept the quote by ACR Glass for \$5,325.91 and Triangle Electric for \$540.43 for the installation of the Handicap Accessible door at the library.

Voting Aye: Wacker, Hunter, Frost, Annen.

Abstain: Novotny.

Discussion and possible action: Trade-in and purchase of a new Walker Mower for the Cemetery, using funds from the equipment sinking funds. In the amount of \$13,670.95 plus freight.

Motion by Frost, Second by Wacker to purchase a new Walker mower from J&C Lawn Service in the amount of \$13,670.95 plus freight using the sinking funds for equipment.

Voting Aye: Wacker, Hunter, Frost, Annen.

Abstain: Novotny.

Discussion and possible action: Engaging West Plains Engineering Inc to provide a power factor correction study for the electrical distribution system.

Motion by Wacker, Second by Hunter to approve the proposal for a power factor correction study by West Plains Engineering Inc.

Voting Aye: Wacker, Hunter, Frost, Annen.

Abstain: Novotny.

Discussion and possible: Purchase of New Christmas Ornaments for the light poles using donations and Lottery Keno funds. 11 ornaments will fill the light poles on the two business blocks of Box Butte Ave. total cost is \$7,739.00, \$1382.00 comes from Believe donations and the balance could come from the Lotter/Keno funds. \$6,357.00.

Motion by Hunter, Second by Wacker to purchase 11 new Christmas ornaments using \$1382.00 from Believe donation and the balance from the Lottery/Keno funds.

Voting Aye: Wacker, Hunter, Frost, Annen.

Abstain: Novotny.

Discussion and possible action: Box Butte County Sheriffs Office PROPOSED contract points and payments for service. Review of proposal and comments from community members. Direction given to create a committee to review and report consisting of Village Attorney, Board members Frost and Hunter and community members Johnny and Lacy Covey.

Administrators Report: Brigette will return to work late March, the cost of the Caselle software support and maintenance will increase by 3% effective July 1, 2022.

Utilities Report: The water leak at the school was on the school side of the curb stop, water was turned off until the issue was fixed. Repair to the underground electric service for Haas pivot east of town. Had the first Lagoon Compliance Assessment in 5 years.

Hemingford Community Care Center Report: Censes remain at 29 on the nursing home side. The office manager has stepped into a different role at the facility so working to find a replacement. Nursing staff continues to be a problem and using agency staff is affecting the cash flow.

Discussion and possible action: Senex of Nebraska has approached the Village and Care Center with a unique approach to assisting municipally owned long term nursing facilities that could perhaps be advantageous to Hemingford. On behalf of the care center, Straub is asking permission to share financial information with Senex to determine if this might be a right fit for the facility as well as the community.

Motion by Wacker, Second by Hunter to allow the sharing of Hemingford Community Care Center financial information with Senex of Nebraska

Voting Aye: Wacker, Hunter, Frost, Annen.

Abstain: Novotny.

Motion to adjourn at 8:08 by Hunter, Second by Frost

Voting Aye: Wacker, Hunter, Frost, Annen.

Abstain: Novotny.

ATTEST:

John Annen, Chairman

Barb Straub, Village Clerk