

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
VILLAGE OF HEMINGFORD BOARD OF TRUSTEES
July 18, 2023-6:00pm
700 Box Butte Ave. Hemingford, NE. 69348
Zoom Virtual Meeting information
Meeting ID 862 7239 3040 Passcode 751703

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 6:05 p.m.

Present: Novotny, Frost, Hunter, Wacker

Consent Calendar items included the minutes of the June 20, 2023 regular meeting. Claims against the Village of \$67,756.59, Claims against the Utilities of \$102,620.13. June 2023 Village Financial Statements and Bank Reconciliations reports. June 2023 Library Report.

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

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

Discussion and possible action: Deb Planansky addressed the Board regarding the Village's maintenance of Crook Street to the south of her property at 301 Laramie. Crook St recently had new gravel put on it by the Village. As the street was graded there were some rocks and gravel were pushed to the edge of the street and into Planansky's grass. Planansky's would like the Village to not grade the street as much, however the Village Street crew members feel this is not a good option considering the traffic that uses it. The Village has a significantly wider right of way than is occupied by the street, in which a ditch could be dug. After some discussion it was agreed that the Village would cut a ditch to the edge of the right of way line so that the street could be graded and new gravel added without as much likelihood of rocks going into the Planansky's yard.

Discussion and possible action: Fire Department update between January and June there were 8 fire calls and 48 rescue calls. There are 11 EMT's that can drive the ambulance. A new fire engine was delivered on July 12th. The interlocal agreement between the Hemingford Fire Department, Hemingford Rural Fire Protection District and the Village of Hemingford was reviewed and sent back to Village Counsel for edits to be presented at a future meeting.

Discussion and possible action: Dave Schaff with MC Schaff and Associates shared with the Board a broad estimate of cost per block for new concrete streets and the recommended division of Village streets into three phases. Dave suggested, that prior to any bonding or financing commitments are made by the Village, a preliminary engineering of the priority streets be done for a more accurate estimate of project cost. Andy Forney of DA Davidson explained to Trustees how a street Improvement district is formed and the benefits. Andy shared tax levy options and also recommended that the street project be done over

time in three (3) phases, this makes financing more manageable as well as saving borrowing power for other Village projects as needed. DA Davidson would also work with the Clerk making sure all the ordinances and notices are properly prepared and posted.

Motion by Frost second by Novotny to authorize preliminary engineering for street project phase 1 prior to creating any street improvement district.

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

Discussion and possible action: Approval of Resolution 2023-05 Establishing that Department Heads of the Village of Hemingford may make or authorize grant applications which do not obligate the Village to any matching contribution and are valued at \$2500.00 or less.

Motion by Mahoney, Second by Hunter to approve Resolution 2023-05

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

Discussion and possible action: Approval of LARM Renewal Resolution 2023-06

Motion by Novotny, second by Mahony to approve resolution 2023-06 requiring a 180-day termination notice and 3-year commitment for a 5% discount.

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

Discussion and possible action: the Hemingford American Legion is again this year hosting the Hemingford 1960's Car Show and would like to request as street closure for the 700 block of Box Butte Ave. on August 19th from 3pm to 11pm.

Motion by Frost, second by Novotny to approve the closure of the 700 block of Box Butte Ave. on August 19th 2023 for the American Legion's Hemingford 1960 Car Show.

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

Utilities Department Report: Replaced the electric pole at the Car Wash, Downey drilling has been here and drilled the test well at the golf course for the new drinking water well. Eli's last day was Friday 7/14/23. Kyle and Seth attended Wastewater training in Chadron on Tuesday July 11th. Mosquito spraying has started, sewer jetting continues and trimming tree branches out of power lines have kept the crew busy. – Kyle Huss

Administrators Report: Budget workshop is scheduled for August 29th at 6pm, Jim Gardner will be here on the 31st of August to review the budget worksheets and prepare the final budget documents. The Budget Hearing will be scheduled for September 18th at 6pm. The office air conditioning unit has been replaced. The Transportation Summit is August 23, we can send as many attendees as we would like to hear about grant opportunities for street and road improvements, registration is free. Box Butte Sheriffs Office reports 12 calls for service and 1 traffic stop. Accounts will be in the office this week, getting us closer to finishing up the last audit for the care center. -Barb Straub

Code Enforcement Report: Yard of the Month for July was Gary and Kathy Gettert. There are 22 open code violation cases, 3 have been resolved and closed this week and there are 3 properties that have been sent to the Village attorney for the next steps. - Kyla Cotant

Discussion and possible action: Michael Blumenthal, 604 Park Ave., was sent a 5-day notice to bring his property into compliance with Village Codes prior to the Village starting the abatement of the property. There was no response to this letter. Prior to beginning any abatement steps, the VIN numbers of any vehicles and mobile homes are needed to verify ownership, and a time line and costs of abatement will be brought to the Board next month for review/approval.

Motion by Frost, second by Hunter directing Kyla to take a Sheriffs Deputy with her to gather VIN numbers on mobile homes and vehicles at 604 Park Ave and send to the Village Attorney for ownership verification.

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

Public Comment: Erik Pehoviack, 500 Ogallala. – question about abatement “What Happens if M. Blumenthal is at the property line preventing code enforcement from obtaining VIN numbers?”

Motion: by Mahony Second by Novotny to adjourn at 7:40pm

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

ATTEST:

Richard Wacker, Chairman

Barb Straub, Village Clerk