

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
VILLAGE OF HEMINGFORD BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
June 15, 2021-6:00pm  
700 Box Butte Ave. Hemingford, NE. 69348  
**Zoom Virtual Meeting information**  
**Meeting ID 890 3005 9255 Passcode 694760**

Pledge of Allegiance

Opening prayer by -Jake Frost

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

Present: Frost, Hunter, Wacker, Novotny, and Annen

Public Open Meeting Act poster location was pointed out on the front panel of Chamber Council located at the Village office.

Official welcome to the Board from John Annen to Riki Hunter, who was appointed at the June 1, 2021 special meeting to fill the vacancy left by board member Planansky.

**Consent Calendar** items included the minutes of the May 18, 2021 regular meeting, minutes of the June 1, 2021 Special meeting. Claims against the Village of **\$51,956.68**, Claims against the Utilities of **\$133,614.33**, Claims against the Hemingford Community Care Center of **\$131,682.48**. May 2021 Village Financial Statements and bank reconciliation reports. May 2021 Library Report. The appointment of Deb Finley to the Library Board.

**Motion by** Wacker second by Novotny to approve the consent calendar as read.

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

**Hemingford Volunteer Fire** department update and ambulance report- Barb Keegan reported that there are now 30 members on the fire department, there have been two retirements Lisa Haas and Shawn Hunter, there are two new members Marley Pehoviack and Taylor Keegan they are both on probation and will be sitting the EMT certification exams. There have been so far this year 15 fire calls and 49 rescue calls. The Department is looking at purchasing a new ambulance. The ambulance is self-funded rates are \$540 base rate and \$15 per loaded mile. The time line for purchase is: out for Bid in August with contract awarded in September. 7 vendors were invited and 5 responded to the invitation. Ambulance cost is approx. \$270,000 with out power cot or power lift. There is a potential that both of the defibs will be taken out of service and that would be a minimum replacement cost of \$60,000

**Discussion and possible action:** Farmers Coop, Buchheit Precision and Tim Kumpf are interested in having the approach to Roland Street from the Highway resurfaced and potentially resurfacing the street to the north past the two businesses to cut down on the dust created by the traffic on the street. Steve Baker of Buchheit Precision told the board that it was impossible to have windows open at their business due to the amount of dust that comes in and could potentially damage some of the machinery. The board directed the village Administrator to contact MC Schaff to give an estimate on the potential for street improvements on Roland Street, and bring information to the next meeting.

**Hemingford Community Care Center Report:** Staff is working on scheduling to eliminate overtime, and evaluation expenditures to cut costs where we can. Claims to the state are being reworked regularly and we have received back pay on 5 residents at this point. We have had one facility tour and another scheduled later in the week. Transportation for the residents has been a challenge but the bus is up and running for now and will be looking for a rebuilt engine for the small van. There are several other changes that are in the works that will help the bottom line. **-Cathy Snyder**

**Discussion and possible action:** The care center needed a short-term loan, while waiting for payments from the State of Nebraska, in order to make payroll for 6/10/2021. On 6/8/21 the village initiated a transfer to the Hemingford Community Care Center in the amount of \$22,000 from the debit service account. This amount covered the balance of

payroll as well as payroll withholding taxes it is suggested that the care center repay this amount in two installments during the last week of August 2021 and the last week of September 2021 in equal amounts of \$11,000.

**Motion** by Wacker Second by Hunter to retroactively approve the loan in the amount of \$22,000 with a repayment plan of \$11,000 the last week of August 2021 and another payment of \$11,000 the last week of September 2021.

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

**Discussion and possible action:** The care center is without a vehicle to do transports for the residents in, the bus is not working and the small van needs an engine replacement, Red Beard Garage has a rebuilt engine that will work in the van and would cost \$6500 including parts labor and a 4-year warranty.

**Motion** by Frost, Second by Wacker to have Red Beard Garage install a rebuilt engine at a cost not to exceed \$6500 including parts, labor and a 4-year warranty. Also, that the admin team at the care center continue to watch the auction sites for a newer used bus.

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

**Discussion and possible action:** Chelsie Herian presented the written strategic plan as created by the board during the March planning session. A full copy of the plan can be viewed at the village office. Thank you, Chelsie, for leading our session and helping facilitate the process.

**Utilities Department Report:** there are 3 employees now certified to do mosquito spraying, the fogger has been calibrated, there have been many pool repairs including the pump, a new pump and housing should probably be put into the budget for next year, the old one was repaired but had been used for the entire life of the pool. The water tower pressure switch went out and was repaired. – **Kyle Huss**

**Parking** on Cheyenne Street at the intersection of Niobrara- there have been a few complaints of vehicles parked on both sides of the street on Cheyenne making it difficult to pass through. Chief Bryner will watch the intersection and try to control the parking issues.

**Splash Pad update-** Grant funds have not yet been released so no work can be done at this time. Kyle is still working on ideas to be able to recycle the water used in the splash pad. There is a chance that if we license the pool and splash pad together, we could send the run off water from the splash pad back into the zero-depth entry of the pool. We will continue to look for a solution to recycling water. Given the late release of grant funds, it is looking like the splash pad won't be complete are ready for opening until summer 2022.

**Discussion and possible action:** Well 1 and the Cemetery well upgrades, Sargent Drilling thought we might need a new well pump but if there is a hole in the casing we are into a bigger problem. With the incoming federal ARPA funds that are to be used for infrastructure, specifically drinking water, it might prove more advantageous to look at plotting a new well to replace well 1 rather than the expense to repair and put back into service the old well. The Cemetery well is also needing major repair, closer to the \$60,000 mark. Since we will have funding that would help with the drinking water well project it would be great if we could reallocate the already approved amount of \$29,238 for the well 1 to the cemetery well project. The topic will be further discussed at a later time.

**Hemingford Police Department report:** We have two Box Butte County Deputies that are working for the village part-time, filling in 3-4 days per week. -**Chief Bryner**

**Administrators Report:** Will be taking a Code 4 online training for Verbal Excellence: Leading, Persuading and Defusing. Splash pad fundraising efforts to date are \$11061.23, Between the pool tax account and the donation account we have more than met the match for the grant (\$4,935 over). The pool opened on the 12<sup>th</sup> of June and held a BBQ splash pad

fundraiser on June 18<sup>th</sup>. Brigitte White is the new face in the office working Wednesdays – Fridays. Armor Cote for N. Box Butte Ave is planned to start late the week of the 21<sup>st</sup> of June, if they are working on the 25<sup>th</sup> arrangements will be made to haul rock without disturbing Bands on the Butte. - **Barb Straub**

**Motion** to adjourn at 7:02 by Wacker, second by Novotny

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

ATTEST:

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John Annen, Chairman

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Barb Straub, Village Clerk