

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

VILLAGE OF HEMINGFORD BOARD OF TRUSTEES

May 17, 2022-6:00pm

700 Box Butte Ave. Hemingford, NE. 69348

Zoom Virtual Meeting information

Meeting ID 856 7902 4957 Passcode 525067

Pledge of Allegiance

Opening prayer by -Jake Frost

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

Present: Frost, Hunter, Wacker, Novotny, Annen

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 April 19th, 2022 regular meeting. Claims against the Village of \$38,294.77, Claims against the Utilities of \$77,915.63, Claims against the Hemingford Community Care Center of \$136,825.47. April 2022 Village Financial Statements and Bank Reconciliations reports. April 2022 Library Report.

Motion by Wacker, Second by Frost to approve the consent calendar as read with the addition of \$11,000.00 added to the claims against the village for the monthly payment to the Box Butte County Treasury for the Sheriffs' office interlocal agreement. Making the total claims against the village \$49,294.77.

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

Discussion and possible action: Hemingford Baseball Association would like permission to have a firework display as a closing ceremony at end of the season (June 29). The current Village ordinance reads "no fireworks after 10pm" and the association would like the display to last until 10:30 or 11:00pm. Roger Christianson told the board that there would be no commercial fireworks only items that are available to public for home displays. It was explained that because it would be a display on Village property that a special use permit would be required from the Association and that the Village Board would need to pass a resolution to allow a specific exception to the current Ordinance # 795. Further the Village Board is requiring that the Baseball Association contact the Hemingford Volunteer Fire Department for further guidance in fire safety control. The special use permit application and Resolution for exception will be addressed at the next Village Board Meeting on June 21, 2022. Christianson also ask that the Board review policies and regulations prohibiting animals, specifically dogs, at the ballfields.

Discussion and possible action: The Village Board is very proud of the Avenue of Flags and the posting of casket flags on the Patriotic Holidays by the American Legion Post #9. Knowing the amount of time and effort it takes to maintain and display the flags the Village Board would like to offer help and support in the process. Chairman Annen ask that Huss (Utility Superintendent) visit with American Legion representatives to determine the best way to assist.

Discussion and possible action: Possible addition of funds for the Sidewalk Grant program. The Hemingford CRA budgeted \$2500.00 for the grant program that is open to property owners in the Village of Hemingford, awarding up to \$500 per property for the repair or replacement of sidewalks. There have been 5 applications using all the budgeted funds. The question before the Board is “shall we allocate more funding to allow for the possibility of more residential repairs.

Motion by Frost, Second by Novotny, to allocate matching funds of \$2500.00 to the Residential Sidewalk Grant program using Keno Lottery funds and allowing up to \$500 per property for the repairs or replacement of sidewalks.

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

Discussion and possible action: Review of the Power factor Penalty Study by West Plains engineering. Huss told the Board that the study was complete and the conclusions and recommendations are included in the final report. The thought is that there is a large motor that is probably old and not running efficiently and most likely running continuously. This could be at any of the businesses in town or even a motor that powers the Village wells. The best way to determine where the issue is, is to purchase a tool that would measure the power factor at each electric meter over the course of a 24-hour period, and could be moved from location to location. While this tool is approximately a \$4000 expense, the alternative is to guess where the problem might be and start changing meters that will show the power factor at that location only. The specialized tool to measure power factor has been ordered but due to supply issues it is not expected until mid to late summer. Once it is received the utility crew will begin monitoring to locate the problem motor or motors. Other municipalities that have similar power factor issues, once they determine where the problem is charges the customer the penalties. A low power factor penalty would require a change to the electric rates ordinance.

Utilities Department Report: Working on the Truck Route Ordinance and should have a proposed ordinance draft at the June 21, 2022 Regular meeting, Pool preparations are done and ready for Ammie and her crew to clean and start their opening process. We will need to start looking at the surface maintenance of the pool there are several chips and cracks that will need repaired. 2 of the 3 summer employees have started and the third will start on the 23rd of May. The high winds of the past few weeks have caused several electric poles to be replaced, that has been done with minimal outages. The Nebraska State Drinking Water Survey was done by the Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy last week and we had no deficiencies in our drinking water system and operations.- Kyle Huss

Discussion and possible action: TextMyGov is a residential automated information, notification, and reporting system and is accessed via text. The cost proposal is \$2500.00 per year and is a 2-year agreement with an addition \$1250.00 the first year for implementation and set-up of the system. We would be able get started with the process and our first billing would be at the start of the new fiscal year (10/01/2022) and would be invoiced annually after that on 10/01.

Motion by Wacker Second by Hunter to approve the proposal by TextMyGov for a 2-year agreement at \$2500.00 per year and an implementation and set up fee the first year of \$1250.00, also authorizing the Village Administrator to be the signing agent for the Village of Hemingford.

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

Discussion and possible action: As Lori Dannar is no longer an employee of the Village of Hemingford it is necessary to remove her from the signature cards for all bank accounts at the Nebraska Bank. It is also necessary to move all outstanding accounts receivable and payable to the responsibility of the Village Administrator.

Motion by Hunter Second by Novotny to remove Lori Dannar from the signature cards for the Hemingford Community Care Center accounts at Nebraska Bank and move all outstanding accounts receivable and payable to the responsibility of the Village Administrator.

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

Administrators Report: April Sheriff Office Hemingford Calls: 28 service calls and 2 traffic stops. Deputies continue to check in at the Village office on an almost daily basis. Public Hearings for the Economic Redevelopment Plan for the Dorthey Ray Lot purchase by the Hemingford CRA. Special meeting for Public Hearing, Tuesday May 24, 2022 4:45pm Accounting and Finance Conference is June 15-17 in Kearney; I will be taking Monday June 20th off. -Barb Straub

Hemingford Community Care Center Report: Census is at 28, staffing remains low but are expecting an LPN and 2CNA's in the next 7-10 days. Administrative Assistant and Social Services employees have been hired and pending the completed hiring process are expected to start next week. Vetus Foundation received their change of ownership paperwork and license making the lease with the Village effective on May 8, 2022. The Staff of the care center and the Vetus Foundation have been working well during the transition and continue to look forward to the future of the Hemingford Care Center. Thank you to the Village Board, Employees and residents of Hemingford for the support and love shown to the facility. -Lori Dannar

Motion to adjourn at 6:55 by Wacker, Second by Hunter

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

ATTEST:

Barb Straub, Village Clerk

John Annen, Chairman