

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

VILLAGE OF HEMINGFORD BOARD OF TRUSTEES

October 18, 2022-6:00pm

700 Box Butte Ave. Hemingford, NE. 69348

Zoom Virtual Meeting information

Meeting ID 840 5641 6910 Passcode 170490

Pledge of Allegiance

Opening prayer by – Jake Frost

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

Present: Wacker, Novotny, Frost, Hunter, Annen

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

Motion by Frost, second by Wacker to add the introduction of the New Hemingford Code Enforcement Officer, and department update as item number 2 on the agenda

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

Consent Calendar items included the minutes of the September 20, 2022 regular meeting and September 20, 2022 Budget Hearing. Claims against the Village of \$59,242.38, Claims against the Utilities of \$137,645.89, Claims against the Hemingford Community Care Center of \$18,800.00. September 2022 Village Financial Statements and Bank Reconciliations reports. September 2022 Library Report.

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

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

Discussion and possible action – Kyla Cotant, Hemingford’s new Code Enforcement Officer introduced herself to the Village Board. She gave a brief outline of what she would be looking for and her strategy to help residents become compliant with nuisance matters. She spent one day with the Code Enforcement Officer in Sidney doing some job shadowing and training.

Open Public Hearing for the 2022/2023 Hemingford One (1) and Six (6) Year Street Improvement Program at 6:14pm

Mike Olsen of MC Schaff and Associates explained that on the one- year plan is the North Box Butte Ave project in conjunction with Box Butte County and Roland Street north of the Highway. On the six- year plan is the Box Butte Ave project both north and south of Niobrara, this includes the 800 Block of Box Butte and ever thing south of Niobrara to the corporate limits. While the entire Box Butte Ave project is on the six year it can be moved by amending the program to the one year once funding becomes available.

As there were no questions or comment from the Board or attending public the Public Hearing was closed at 6:21pm.

Motion by Hunter and seconded by Wacker to approve Resolution 2022-07 adopting the 2022-2023 Hemingford One (1) and Six (6) Year Street Improvement Program as described and reviewed during the public hearing.

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

Discussion and possible action: Request for approval of the new Dispatch Agreement between the Hemingford Volunteer Fire Department and City of Alliance. Chief Bryner explained to the Board that the Department would be responsible for maintaining equipment and radios that are capable of receiving emergency communications and dispatches from the City of Alliance. The City of Alliance will provide emergency communications dispatch services at the City's cost and expense.

Motion by Novotny, second by Hunter to approve the Dispatch agreement between the Hemingford Volunteer Fire Department and the City of Alliance as written.

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

Discussion and possible action: Brigette Jespersen, Village of Hemingford Deputy Clerk, shared her thoughts on donations received during the Believe in Hemingford Tree Lighting and Soup Supper. The thought is to help Hemingford Residents using the donations make Christmas wishes come true for those who might not otherwise be able to afford it. All Board members thought this was a great idea and would like to see the Village partner with another philanthropic group to receive the actual donations and distribute them to the selected recipients. Brigette also ask permission to do a utilities giveaway during the Holiday season again this year in the amount of \$500. Treats on the Streets planning is going very well with most every Hemingford Business participating, volunteers are still needed for judging the costume contest. Lynda volunteered. Brigette is participating in the Leadership Box Butte classes and will be attending her third class on Thursday the 27th of October.

Motion by Frost, second by Wacker to approve the utility giveaway in the amount of \$500 total during the Holiday Season, to be given to randomly chosen residents \$100.00 weekly for the month of December.

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

Discussion and possible action: Approval of Resolution 2022-09 giving permission and authority to apply for the State of Nebraska Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Planning Grant on behalf of the Village of Hemingford to the Village of Administrator.

Motion by Wacker, second by Frost to approve Resolution 2022-09 giving permission and authority to apply for the State of Nebraska Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Planning Grant on behalf of the Village of Hemingford to the Village of Administrator.

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

Discussion and possible action: Approval of Resolution 2022-08 designating an agent to approve Special Designated Liquor Licenses. This resolution would designate the Village Clerk as the approving agent for the

Village of Hemingford regarding Special Designated Liquor Licenses (SDL's). The resolution further lays out that first time SDL applications would still require full Board approval, and any subsequent SDL applications may be approved by the Village Clerk provided the applicants satisfies all other requirements of the SDL application.

Motion by Hunter, second by Frost to approve Resolution 2022-08 designation the Village Clerk as the approving agent for the Village of Hemingford regarding Special Designated Liquor Licenses approval.

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

Discussion and possible action: NMPP (Nebraska Municipal Power Pool) Electric Rate Study Proposal. The last rate study was done for the Village in late 2015-early 2016 and the new rates put into effect by ordinance #788 in June of 2017. Proposed cost for the rate study is \$9970. The cost of supplies and equipment to maintain the Village Electric system in some cases costs have doubled, if not tripled.

Motion by Frost second by Wacker to accept the Electric Rate Study Proposal provided by NMPP in the amount of \$9970.

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

Discussion and possible action: Review of the amortization schedules for the Village of Hemingford line of credit at the Nebraska Bank. The note matures on October 31, 2022 and will need to be determined at the next Board meeting how repayment will be calculated

Utilities Department Report: The Village pool, baseball concession stands and sprinklers have all been winterized. A water service leak under the highway on the 700 block of Niobrara Ave. has been repaired. While the highway was torn up preventive maintenance was performed by running a 2inch poly line in place of the existing ¾" galvanized line that was in deteriorating. A second hole was dug in the highway to shut off the neighbor's curb stop at the main. As a result, there is now one brand new poly line under the highway in place of two decaying galvanized ones. Cheryl's last day at the cemetery was September 30th, Again, she did a great job and huge thank you to her for all her help. Both the pool and dog pound were broken into, and reports have been filed with the Sheriff's Office – Kyle Huss

Administrators Report: – As a result of the pool break in the existing camera system was destroyed, Mobius has been ask to prepare a quote to replace and upgrade of the Village's security camera system for consideration at the next board meeting. There were 20 service calls and 2 traffic stops reported by the Box Butte County Sheriffs Office. The fiscal year 2021 Hemingford Community Care Center audit is underway currently, and in late November or early December the fiscal year 2022 audits for both the Village and the Care Center will get started. Barb asked if she felt we were in a financially better position at the Care Center after leasing the Care Center to the Vetus Foundation.... To date the Village has not put any funds into the Care Center debt other than the deposit for the new HVAC system. With the CPE funds received, the original line of credit was paid off as well as the outstanding liabilities. There are still pending accounting fees and a couple of small contract buy outs pending. All things considered, she shared we are in a better place financially as the Village is not responsible for the day-to-day operations of the facility. The new HVAC would have been a Village expenditure regardless. The business model

makes sense and is workable, there are just a few kinks in the chain that need to be straighten out especially regarding communication. - Barb Straub

Motion to adjourn at 7:14 by Wacker, Second by Novotny

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

ATTEST:

Barb Straub, Village Clerk

John Annen, Chairman