

MEETING MINUTES  
VILLAGE OF HEMINGFORD BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
Regular Meeting  
September 15, 2020 6:00pm  
700 Box Butte Ave. Hemingford NE. 69348  
308.487.3465

Pledge of Allegiance

Opening prayer by Lori Dannar

Meeting called to order at 6:05 p.m.

Present: Thomas, Wacker, and Novotny

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

**Motion** by Thomas Second by Novotny to excuse both Trustee Annen and Planansky

**Voting Aye:** Thomas, Wacker, and Novotny.

**Motion** by Thomas, Second by Novotny to move the Hemingford Care Center report to third on the agenda.

**Voting Aye:** Thomas, Wacker, and Novotny.

**Motion** by Thomas, Second by Novotny to add an emergency item to the agenda in the fourth position: discussion and possible action regarding the emergency siren at the south end of town malfunctioning.

**Voting Aye:** Thomas, Wacker, and Novotny.

**Consent Calendar** items included the minutes of the August 18, 2020 regular meeting. Claims against the Village of \$34,345.13, Claims against the Utilities of \$126,860.43, Claims against the Hemingford Community Care Center of \$150,939.39. August 2020 Village Financial Statements and bank reconciliation reports. August 2020 Library Report. Appointment of Taryn Wood to the Hemingford Planning Commission. MC Schaff Engineering Services invoice in the amount of \$2827.50.

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

**Voting Aye:** Thomas, Wacker, and Novotny.

**Discussion and possible action:** Request by the Hemingford Redevelopment Authority (CRA) to increase the storefront improvement grant awards by \$2000.00. There were 12 applicants that were all very worthy projects in improving the curb appeal of the village, the CRA would like to award each applicant the full amount of the grant \$1000.00. The original request was to use \$10,000.00 of the CRA funding for the grant. - **Chelsie Herian**

**Motion by** Novotny, Second by Thomas to approve the use of an extra \$2000.00 to award storefront improvement grants to 12 applicants.

**Voting Aye:** Thomas, Wacker, and Novotny.

**Hemingford Community Care Center Report:** facility census is 10 on the assisted living side and 20 on the nursing home side, as well as, one new admit this week. Covid remains a way of life at the facility with outside family visits and video meeting weekly. The facility has received a point of care testing machine and is used weekly to test staff. The new washing machine is installed and working great. There is damage to the roof from past storms and snow build up, an insurance adjustor was out and looked at it, who did not feel it was weather related damage but age related. The company will send an engineer out to take a better look at the damage and make a determination at that time. Job opening continue to be posted and advertised but the facility is getting closer to being fully staffed. – **Lori Dannar**

**Discussion and possible action:** Shad Bryner addressed the board concerning the non-functioning siren at the south end of town. It was noted that the south siren has stopped working, the utility crew inspected the siren tried replacing fuses, to repair the siren. They are unsure what has caused the malfunction, it could possibly be related to the lighting strike that damaged the transformer at well 6,7,8. Bryner explained that the siren system belongs to the village and there

could be potential funding available through Region 23 and suggested that Nan Gould be contacted to help with the process. The utility department will continue to work and find a solution to the problem, there is a possibility that it could be as easy as replacing the motor and starter. In the meantime, the village Administrator was directed to contact Region 23 and look for funding should system replacement become necessary.

**Open Public Hearing at 6:25pm** to propose to the resident of the Village, a One (1) Year Definite Street Improvement and Six (6) Year Street Improvement programs for the fiscal year 2021

Jeff Wolfe, Street Superintendent, proposed no changes to the current One- and Six-Year Program. He did suggest that we leave the north Box Butte Ave. in the plan. That project is contingent upon the county resurfacing County Road 70 from the corporate limits north to Box Butte Reservoir. Should the county do this project it would be prudent for Hemingford to start at the north railroad tracks and resurface to the corporate limits, where the county would then continue their project. There were no comments or questions regarding the One-and Six-Year Street Improvement Programs for the fiscal year 2021.

**Closed the Public Hearing at 6:30pm**

**Discussion and possible action:** Approval of Resolution 2020-03 to adopt the One (1) and Six (6) Year Street Improvement Program for the fiscal year 2021.

**Motion by** Thomas, Second by Novotny to approve Resolution 2020-03 to adopt the One (1) and Six (6) Year Street Improvement Program for Fiscal Year 2021.

**Voting Aye:** Thomas, Wacker, and Novotny.

**Discussion and possible action:** Review of the current Street Rehab Project, Kl Wood Application for Payment #9, final payment, and the Letter from Aaron Wood of Kl Wood Construction regarding proposed pay deduct for the rough surface on the north 200 feet of Park Ave. Jeff Wolfe told the board that the project was complete and had been inspected. The north part of Park Ave is rough, as Wolfe explained a new machine was used and that was first pour at that section of the project, it took a bit of time to be able to use the machine effectively and create nice smooth streets. Other than the first 200 feet of Park Ave. the rest of the project is good and smooth. The suggest pay reduction of \$5400.00 is \$9.00 per square yard or an approximate reduction of 25% of material cost for that section of street. Wolfe thought that was a fair reduction. Other options included removing the entire section and repouring it, or grinding off the ridges. If the village opts to take the pay reduction the rough surface is in no danger of changing the integrity of the concrete. With time and use the ridges will begin to smooth out. When asked, Wolfe's recommendation would be to take the pay reduction.

**Motion by** Novotny, Second by Thomas to accept the pay reduction offered by Kl Wood Construction in the amount of \$5400.00 and approve the revised pay application #9 (final payment for the 2019-2020 street project) in the amount of \$10350.35

**Voting Aye:** Thomas, Wacker, and Novotny.

Due to missing two board members all items related to the Village of Hemingford 2020-2021 Fiscal Year Budget were tabled until a special meeting to be held on Friday September 18, 2020 at 9am.

**Hemingford Police Department Report:** Two Alliance officers have expressed interest in part-time work with the village of Hemingford, one application has been received, it is a non-certified candidate, there have been casual conversations with another officer from an area department. Box Butte County department has agreed to help out as much as possible and needed to keep Hemingford safe and patrolled. **-Chief Bryner**

**Utilities Department Report:** the park shed has been rebuilt, testing at the Solar Array was completed, the sewer jetting for the summer is done, all seasonal help is done with the exception of Cheryl at the Cemetery, she will be done October 1, things are gearing up for fall and will begin to make sure winter equipment is ready for use. Johnson service was in

town cleaning sewers there were no major issues just the normal tree roots in some areas that needed removed. -**Kyle Huss**

**Discussion and possible action:** Cemetery is in need of a new well the estimate from Sargent Drilling is \$52,000.00 to drill a replacement 8" well and install new pumping equipment and would not include the electrical. There was no action taken. The Administrator was directed to look for potential grant funding for the project.

**Administrators Report:** Barb will be taking vacation days on the 24<sup>th</sup> through the 28<sup>th</sup> of September, Solar Project is online, during testing it was expected that energy production would be around 12% but was actually much better at 30%, Ribbon cutting at the Solar Array will be on Monday September 21, 2020 at 10:15am, fundraising for the splash pad is going well with nearly \$8,000.00 collected so far. 3D drawings will be available soon and the Nebraska Game and Parks Grant Application was submitted.

**Discussion and possible action:** Ratification of the Land and Water Conservation Grant Fund Application Resolution. The grant requires that permission from the governing body to pursue grant funds be in the form of a resolution using their format rather than in motion form within the minutes of a meeting.

**Motion by** Thomas, Second by Novotny to approve and ratify the land and water conservation grant fund application resolution.

**Voting Aye:** Thomas, Wacker, and Novotny.

**Discussion and possible action:** Approval of Resolution 2020-05 giving GenPro Energy Solutions permanent permission to operate for the Hemingford Solar Project

**Motion by** Novotny, Second by Thomas to approve Resolution 2020-05 giving GenPro Energy Solutions permanent permission to operate the Hemingford Solar Array.

**Voting Aye:** Thomas, Wacker, and Novotny.

**Motion** to adjourn at 7:10 by Thomas, second by Novotny

**Voting Aye:** Thomas, Wacker, and Novotny.

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John Annen, Chairman

ATTEST:

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Barb Straub, Village Clerk