

**REGULAR MEETING FOR BOARD OF TRUSTEES
VILLAGE OF FAIRMONT, NEBRASKA
MONDAY, DECEMBER 8TH, 2025 AT 7:00 PM**

The Village Board of Fairmont, Nebraska met in regular session on Monday, December 8th, 2025, at 7:00p.m. at the Fairmont Village Hall, 635 6th Ave., Fairmont NE. Notice of the meeting was given in advance according to proper notification by posting of meeting notice at Heartland Bank-Fairmont Branch, U.S. Post Office and Fairmont Village Hall. Chairman Rod Ehmen called the meeting to order. Clerk/Treasurer Karen Margheim recorded the minutes. The board members present upon roll call were: Rod Ehmen, Matt Hafer, Bill Schropfer, Stuart Bridges and one vacant position. Visitors to the meeting were: Isaac Rodriguez, Juan Rodriguez, Butch Long, Brenda Hafer, Larry Burton, Chuck Nun, Wanda Marget, Mike Scheil, and Tyler Salmon. Chairman Ehmen noted that a copy of the Open Meetings Act was posted on the bulletin board in the council meeting room for public inspection and review. Hafer moved and Schropfer seconded to approve the minutes from November 10th, 2025, Regular Meeting. Voting: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion passed. The Treasurer's Report for November 2025 was placed on file.

At 7:04pm, Chairman Ehmen announced there would be at brief recess.

New Board Member-Oath of Office

Newly appointed Board Member Dave Seggerman read his oath of office.

Reorganization of the Village Board of Trustees

Schropfer moved, seconded by Bridges to approve the nomination of Rod Ehmen for Chairman of the Board and Matt Hafer as Vice Chairman. Roll call vote: ayes-Schropfer, Bridges, Seggerman; nays-none; abstain-Ehmen and Hafer.

Chairman Ehmen made the following appointments within the board:

Police-Trustee Schropfer

Maintenance Department-Streets, Alleys & Signs-Trustees Hafer and Bridges

Village Hall and Utilities (electric, water & sewer)-Chairman Ehmen

Parks-Trustee Seggerman

Board of Health-Rescue Captain Anna Yates, Marshal Salmon and Chairman Ehmen

Chairman Ehmen nominated the following appointive employees for the Village:

Village Attorney-Charles Campbell, York, NE

Village Engineers-JEO Consulting Group, Inc., Wahoo, NE

Village Street Superintendent-Andrew Wilshusen from JEO Consulting Group, Inc. Wahoo, NE

Utility Superintendent-Mike Scheil

Clerk/Treasurer-Karen Margheim

Village Marshal-Tyler Salmon

Hafer moved, seconded by Schropfer to accept and approve Chairman Ehmen's appointments. Roll call vote – 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Trash Service Estimates

No city-wide trash service estimates were received. Larry Burton mentioned pros and cons for the Village to contract garbage service. He mentioned some towns use the contract to bring in extra revenue for the service. He would offer a discount of \$1.00 for each residential toter. It would save his company the cost of a stamp and time spent sending invoices. Burton Enterprises currently have 2-year and 3-year contracts with some municipalities. One suggestion he made to the board members is to visit with other council members in towns who already have contracts. The main purpose of looking into one company handling the garbage service for the town is to cut down on traffic going through the alleys. Larry said his drivers would prefer not to go down the alleys especially when it is muddy. Dialog ensued on moving trash toters to the streets for the day of service. Brenda Hafer stated it is nice to be able to choose to support a company who also supports her business.

Building application-Storage container

Isaac said he wanted to move in a storage container on his residential property for additional storage space. The suggestion was made to look into a prefabricated shed since the zoning requirements for a residential property does not allow for storage containers.

2026 Village Engineer Appointment-JEO Consulting Group, Inc.

A motion was made by Hafer, seconded by Bridges to approve JEO Consulting Group, Inc. as the 2026 Village Engineering Firm. Roll call vote – 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion passed.

2026 Village Street Superintendent Appointment, Andrew Wilshusen JEO Consulting Group, Inc.

A motion was made by Seggerman, seconded by Hafer to approve Andrew Wilshusen as the 2026 Village Street Superintendent. Roll call vote – 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Utility Superintendent Report – Mike Scheil

Prior to the meeting, Mike shared his monthly report with the board. The water treatment plant has begun the testing process. There has been some discoloration of the water due to the pumps not working. Then when the pumps started, it overwhelmed the filters. The backwash has been completed to clear up the color. No electricity is connected to the poles needing to be removed at 95 E Street. The leaning pole needs the lines cut. It was mentioned to get rid of extra, unused electrical pods. The heater needed to be fixed in the skid steer and the fuel injector isn't working right. The equipment is mostly ready for snow removal. A discussion began on where to store equipment inside. There is more snow fence that will be put up.

Village Marshal Report – Tyler Salmon

Tyler shared he had been asked by Mark Jarosz to issue a nuisance letter to him for the building to be torn down for the insurance company. A nuisance letter will not be issued at this time. Tree branches have been cleaned up on a property of concern.

Vacated alleys

Butch shared a brief history on vacated alleys, explained what it takes for them to be maintained and some concerns with them not being maintained. A discussion over the utility easements prevailed.

Consider demand by Mark Jarosz for payment of \$16,116

At 8:30pm a motion was made by Schropfer, seconded by Bridges to enter into executive session for the reason of potential litigation. Roll call vote -5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion passed. At 8:56pm a motion was made by Hafer, seconded by Schropfer to exit executive session. Roll call vote – 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion passed. A motion was made by Bridges, seconded by Schropfer to deny the claim of \$16,116. Roll call vote – 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Resolution 2025-10 Mowing Lien

A motion was made by Schropfer, seconded by Hafer to approve Resolution 2025-10 authorizing a Mowing Lien to be filed. Roll call vote – 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Employee Handbook Review

A motion was made by Bridges, seconded by Hafer to have Woods/Aitken, LLP look over and review the Village's employee handbook. Roll call vote – 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Claims

A motion was made by Schropfer, seconded by Hafer to approve claims as they were presented. Roll call vote – 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Correspondence

An email was received from Emergency Manager, Jean Engle, regarding the communications upgrade to take place across the county. Towers and antennas will arrive at the end of December or January.

Old Business

A suggestion was made to either increase the mowing fees or consider the possibility of hiring a contractor to mow properties with overgrown vegetation. The mowing and clean-up fees would be billed to the property owner. If a contractor was hired it would free up the maintenance crew to work on other duties. Dialog ensued over properties of concern.

Clerk/Treasurer Report-Karen Margheim

The annual water and sewer needs survey has been submitted to the State of Nebraska. Tomorrow a representative from FEMA and NEMA will meet with the clerk to start the FEMA grant process for losses incurred during the August storm.

Payment Arrangement(s)

A motion was made by Hafer, seconded by Schropfer to approve payment arrangements #432 & #433. Roll call vote – 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion passed.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Hafer, seconded by Schropfer to adjourn the meeting at 10:01pm. Roll call vote – 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion passed.

The next Regular Meeting will be held on Monday, January 12th, 2026, at 7:00pm.

ROD EHMEN,
CHAIRMAN

KAREN MARGHEIM,
CLERK/TREASURER

Claims

Aflac	Ins	624.12
Amazon	Su	1,002.44
Ameritas	Be	900.43
B & J Automotive	Ma	134.10
Bankcard/CMS	Fee	330.87
Biblionix	Ma	1,350.00
Black Hills Energy	Ut	1,228.53
Blue Cross/Blue Shield	Ins	6,889.03
BOK Financial	Bond	13,778.75
BOK Financial	Bond	3,076.25
BOK Financial	Bond	104,830.00
BOK Financial	Fees	600.00
Bonsall Pools	Ma	485.00
Burton Enterprises	Ex	1,268.00
Burton Enterprises	Ex	100.00
Cash-Wa Distributing	Su	1,035.85
CMC Insurance	Ins	1,909.00
Farmers Coop	Fu	361.39
Farmers Coop-Fire Dept.	Fu	63.55
Illmore County Clerk	Ex	2,287.45
First Concord Benefits	Be	402.04
First Concord Benefits	Be	75.00
First National Bank of Omaha	Su	2,621.81
First National Bank of Omaha	Su	738.22
First National Bank of Omaha	Su	70.53
First National Bank of Omaha	Su	111.20
First National Bank of Omaha	Su	213.51
Friesen Ford	Ma	801.23
Greenwood	Ut	188.07
Guardian Insurance	Ins	40.80
Lawkins Water Treatment	Su	259.00

Heartland Bank	Fee	20.00
James &/or Tricia Groom	Misc	200.00
JEO Consulting Group, Inc.	Ex	4,241.25
Kopchos	Ex	33.00
Madison National Life	Ins	17.64
Nebraska Public Power District	Ut	21,040.41
Nebraska DWEE	Loans	10,845.09
Nebraska Public Health Env. Lab	Ex	15.00
Neon Link	Ex	88.20
NMC, LLC	Re	3,064.06
One Call Concepts, Inc.	Ex	9.02
Paycom	Fees	559.06
Payroll		20,875.80
Payroll Taxes		7,083.06
Perennial Public Power	Ut	24.71
Perennial Public Power	Ut	2,042.57
Pitney Bowes	Ex	254.55
Post Office	Su	201.00
Power Manager	Ma	8,100.27
Premier Power, LLC	Re	13,450.00
Sargent Drilling	Ma	900.00
Shandra Reinsch	Fu	64.54
State of Nebraska	Tax	1,972.15
State of Nebraska	Ut	254.48
The Nebraska Signal	Pu	60.75
USDA	Loan	4,607.00
Vestis	Su	251.84
Village	Ut	3,289.66
Village	Ex	213.51
Windstream	Ut	355.25
Windstream	Ut	505.43
Windstream	Ut	171.71
Windstream	Ut	95.54
York Heating & Air Conditioning	Ma	4,800.00

Publication Codes Be: Benefits; Eq: Equipment; Ex: Expense; Fee: Fee; Fu: Fuel; Ma: Maintenance; Mi: Mileage; Misc: Miscellaneous; Pu: Publications; Re: Repairs; Sa: Salaries; Se: Service; Su: Supplies; Ut: Utilities; CI: Capital Improvement; TIF: Tax Increment Financing, RE: Retirement; Ins: Insurance, Tax: Taxes

RESOLUTION NO. 2025- 10

WHEREAS, as authorized by §3-405 of the Fairmont Village Code, notice was sent on July 24, 2025 to Jose Rafeal Cabral to advise that property owned by Mr. Cabral was a nuisance, and giving notice that the nuisance must be removed regarding property located at 615 4th Ave., Fairmont, Nebraska 68354, legally described as follows:

Original Town Lots 616-617 and North 18' Lot 618, Fairmont,
Fillmore County, Nebraska.

WHEREAS, the property owner failed to abate the nuisance as required by the Notice, and the Village proceeded to abate the nuisance by mowing the vegetation on the property, and has incurred expenses in the abatement of the nuisance in the sum of \$300, which expenses were necessarily incurred and which charges are fair and reasonable.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Village of Fairmont hereby levies and assesses a lien upon the above-described real estate for the cost of the abatement of the nuisance in the sum of \$300, which lien shall be collected in the manner provided for the collection of special assessments.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Village Clerk shall file the lien for the special assessment of \$300 against the above-described real estate with the Fillmore County Clerk and Fillmore County Treasure.

DATED this 8th day of December, 2025.

Moved by: William Schopler

Second by: Matt Hafer

Roll Call:

YEAS: William Schopler, Matt Hafer, Stuart Bridges, Dave Seggerman

NAYS: none + Red Ehlmen

MOTION CARRIED.

Rodney Elmon
Chairman, Fairmont Village Board