

**REGULAR MEETING FOR BOARD OF TRUSTEES
VILLAGE OF FAIRMONT, NEBRASKA
MONDAY, DECEMBER 11TH, 2023**

The Village Board of Fairmont, Nebraska met in regular session on Monday, December 11th, 2023 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 Don Moses called the meeting to order. Clerk/Treasurer Karen Margheim recorded the minutes. Matt Hafer read the Oath of Office. Board members present upon roll call were: Don Moses, Rod Ehmen, Jack Slocum and Matt Hafer. Absent was Victoria Verhage. Visitors to the meeting were: Eric Johnson, Mike Scheil, Wanda Marget and Shandra Reinsch. Chairman Moses 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. Ehmen moved and Hafer seconded to approve the minutes of the November 13th, 2023 Regular Meeting. Voting: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Absent: Verhage. Motion passed. The Treasurer's Report for November 2023 was placed on file.

Resolution 2023-08 Local Emergency Operations Plan

A motion was made by Ehmen, seconded by Hafer to approve the updated Local Emergency Operations Plan by Resolution 2023-08. Roll call vote – ayes: Ehmen, Hafer, Slocum, Moses. Nays: None. Absent: Verhage. Motion passed.

Fillmore County Development Corporation

Eric Johnson gave an overview of the significant increase in membership of the FCDC Organization. Also, shared were various updates of improvements in the county. The next Odegeo Leadership class will begin in April 2024 for anyone who is interested in learning more about Fillmore County. To register e-mail Eric at: fillmoredevco@gmail.com. The annual banquet will take place in Geneva on February 21st, 2024.

Old Business

There was a discussion regarding annexing property into the Village limits. The clerk will reach out to the Village attorney and ask him to type a contract regarding possible reimbursement for electrical installation expenses.

(Brief Recess)

Reorganization of the Village Board of Trustees

A motion was made by Slocum, seconded by Hafer to approve Don Moses as Chairman for the Board. Roll call vote – ayes: Slocum, Hafer, Ehmen and Moses. Nays: None. Absent: Verhage. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Moses, seconded by Slocum to approve Rod Ehmen as Acting Chairman. Roll call vote – ayes: Moses, Slocum, Hafer, and Ehmen. Nays: None. Absent: Verhage. Motion passed.

Chairman Moses made the following appointments within the board:

Police--Verhage

Maintenance Department -Streets, Alleys & Signs--Ehmen and Slocum

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

Parks--Hafer

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

Chairman Moses nominated the following appointive employees for the Village:

Village Attorney – Charles Campbell, York NE;

Village Engineers – JEO Consulting Group, Inc., Wahoo NE;

Village Street Engineer – Steven A Parr, from JEO Consulting Group, Inc. Wahoo, NE;

Utility Superintendent –Mike Scheil;

Clerk/Treas. – Karen Margheim;

Village Marshal – Tyler Salmon.

A motion was made by Ehmen, seconded by Hafer to accept and approve Chairman Moses' appointments. Roll call vote – ayes: Ehmen, Hafer, Slocum and Moses. Nays: None. Absent: Verhage. Motion passed.

Senior Center Board Member Vote

A motion was made by Ehmen, seconded by Slocum to approve Dwight Dirks to serve on the Senter Center Board. Roll call vote – ayes: Ehmen, Slocum, Hafer and Moses. Nays: None. Absent: Verhage. Motion passed.

Department of Transportation-Right of Way Agreement for Hwy 6 Improvement Project

A motion was made by Hafer, seconded by Moses to approve the right-of-way agreement with the Nebraska Department of Transportation for improvements made to Nebraska State Highway 6 scheduled in 2025. Roll call vote – ayes: Hafer, Moses, Slocum and Ehmen. Nays: None. Absent: Verhage. Motion passed.

Handbook Discussion

The Village Board of Trustees discussed the sick leave and vacation benefits in the employee handbook. At the next regular meeting the following changes will be made by resolution:

“Sick leave benefits begin after the six-month probationary period will be changed to “Sick leave benefits will begin immediately”.

“Unused sick leave benefits will not be paid to employees while they are employed or upon termination of employment” will be changed to “Unused sick leave benefits will not be paid to employees while they are employed, but one-third of unused sick leave benefits will be paid to employees upon termination of employment.”

“An employee shall be permitted to carry over a maximum of five vacation days from one year to the next, with no more than five vacation days being carried over at any time” will be changed to “An employee shall be permitted to carry over a maximum of 15 vacation days from one year to the next, with no more than 15 vacation days being carried over at any time.”

“Upon termination of employment, employees will be paid for unused vacation time that is pro-rated based on the portion of the employee's anniversary year that the employee has worked prior to termination” will be changed to “Upon termination of employment, employees will be paid for unused vacation time, eliminating “pro-rated based on the portion of the employee's anniversary year that the employee has worked prior to termination.”

ARPA Funds

A motion was made by Moses, seconded by Ehmen to use the remaining ARPA funds for the bill to Sargent for pulling the water well in the amount of \$71,518.57 and for the purchase of a set of bunker gear to be purchased from Fyr-Tek for roughly the remainder of unused funds in the amount of \$2,202.82. Roll call vote - ayes: Moses, Ehmen, Slocum and Hafer. Nays: None. Absent: Verhage. Motion passed.

Insurance Renewal

There was a discussion on the insurance policy and the cost of Cyber Insurance coverage along with other changes made to the policy.

Nuisance Property

A trial date has been set for the nuisance property owner on April 3rd, 2024. Conversation followed.

Claims

A motion was made by Slocum, seconded by Ehmen to approve claims as they are presented. Roll call vote – ayes: Slocum, Ehmen, Hafer and Moses. Nays – None. Absent – Verhage. Motion passed.

Correspondence

A letter was received about the warranty time for the paving project on Road F from JEO Consulting Group.

Library Report-Stephanie Chambers

Wanda Marget was present to give the Library Report. Wanda indicated her last day of full-time employment may be at the end of December.

Aging Services-Shandra Reinsch

The Senior Center will host a game time the first and third Monday of every month from 3:00-5:00pm for anyone who is interested of any age. CPR certification was discussed and food class certification for Kathy was mentioned. There will be a hot chocolate extravaganza on Tuesday, December 12th following lunch.

Village Marshal Report – Tyler Salmon

There was no report.

Utility Superintendent Report – Mike Scheil

Mike mentioned the cost of a few electrical projects in town. At 8:44pm, a motion was made by Slocum, seconded by Ehmen to enter executive session regarding personnel issues. Roll call vote – ayes: Slocum, Ehmen, Hafer and Moses. Nays – None. Absent – Verhage. Motion passed.

At 9:02pm, a motion was made by Ehmen, seconded by Hafer to exit executive session. Roll call vote – ayes: Ehmen, Hafer, Slocum and Moses. Nays – None. Absent – Verhage. Motion passed.

Clerk/Treasurer Report-Karen Margheim

The clerk will check with our auditor regarding Christmas bonuses.

Payment Arrangement(s) #384, #385 & #386

A motion was made by Hafer, seconded by Ehmen to approve Payment Arrangements #384, #385 and #386. Roll call vote – ayes: Hafer, Ehmen, Slocum and Moses. Nays – None. Absent – Verhage. Motion passed.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Ehmen, seconded by Hafer to adjourn the meeting at 9:09pm. Roll call vote – ayes: Ehmen, Hafer, Slocum and Moses. Nays – None. Absent – Verhage. Motion passed.

The next Regular Meeting will be held on Monday, January 8th, 2024 at 7:00pm.

DONALD MOSES,
CHAIRMAN

KAREN MARGHEIM,
CLERK/TREASURER

Claims

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-----|----------|
| Aflac | Be | 648.06 |
| Amazon | Su | 367.56 |
| Ameritas | RE | 2,206.46 |
| Aramark | Ma | 199.95 |
| Bankcard/CMS | Fee | 239.88 |
| Barbur Floral | Su | 48.38 |
| Black Hills | Ut | 1,282.36 |
| Black Strap, Inc. | Su | 370.00 |
| Blue Cross/Blue Shield | Ins | 8,619.30 |
| Burton Enterprises | Ma | 100.00 |
| Diode Technologies | Ma | 319.00 |
| Dutton-Lainson Company | Su | 2,292.89 |
| Eakes Office Products, Inc. | Su | 24.99 |
| Eakes Office Products, Inc | Fee | 256.64 |
| EMC Insurance | Ins | 5.00 |
| Farmers Coop | Fu | 2,276.29 |
| Farmers Coop | Fu | 199.68 |
| Fillmore Central School | Fee | 50.00 |

| | | |
|------------------------------------|------|-----------|
| First Concord Benefits | Be | 402.08 |
| First Concord Benefits | Be | 36.00 |
| First Concord Benefits | Be | 15.59 |
| First National Bank-Omaha | Su | 2,845.94 |
| First National Bank-Omaha | Fu | 446.31 |
| First National Bank-Omaha | Su | 434.67 |
| First National Bank-Omaha | Fu | 98.17 |
| First National Bank-Omaha | Su | 115.79 |
| GBE (Gabriel, Burger, & Else, CPA) | Ex | 6,000.00 |
| Hawkins Water Treatment | Su | 1,546.56 |
| Heartland Bank | Fee | 20.00 |
| Integrated Security Solutions | Ma | 1,191.00 |
| JEO Consulting Group, Inc. | CI | 1,000.00 |
| JEO Consulting Group, Inc | CI | 24,300.00 |
| Karen Margheim | Fu | 67.62 |
| Kopchos | Ma | 32.00 |
| Lincoln Winwater Works | Su | 109.20 |
| Madison National Life | Ins | 36.44 |
| NE Dept. of Environment & Energy | CI | 15,188.90 |
| NE Public Power District | Ut | 20,890.77 |
| NE Rural Water Association | Ex | 445.00 |
| NE Public Health Envir. Lab | Ex | 304.00 |
| NeonLink | Fee | 83.00 |
| Nick's Farm Store Co. | Su | 38.50 |
| One Call Concepts, Inc. | Fee | 3.58 |
| Paycom | Fee | 546.99 |
| Payroll | | 21,841.33 |
| Payroll Taxes | | 7,381.72 |
| Perennial Public Power | Ut | 2,146.19 |
| Perennial Public Power | Ut | 12.03 |
| Perennial Public Power | Ut | 2,146.19 |
| Petty Cash | Misc | 100.00 |
| Pitney Bowes | Ma | 254.55 |
| Post Office | Su | 8.15 |
| Post Office | Su | 201.00 |
| Sargent Drilling | Ma | 71,518.57 |
| Schmader Electric | Ma | 1,044.00 |
| Schrock Innovations | Re | 493.35 |
| Shandra Reinsch | Fu | 57.38 |
| The Nebraska Signal | Pu | 91.43 |
| Vericheck | Fee | 32.20 |
| Viaero | Ut | 368.22 |
| Village | Ut | 3,373.72 |
| Wanda Marget | Be | 267.96 |
| Windstream | Ut | 172.19 |
| Windstream | Ut | 103.78 |
| Windstream | Ut | 499.86 |
| Windstream | Ut | 165.50 |
| Windstream | Ut | 95.21 |
| York Farm Supply LLC | Su | 34.94 |

Publication Codes Eq: Be: Benefits; 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)