

## **MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING FEBRUARY 8, 2021**

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Clearwater met in regular session Monday, February 8, 2021 at 7 p.m., in the fire hall meeting room. Meeting was opened at 7:01 p.m. Notice of meeting was given in advance by publication in *Summerland Advocate-Messenger* and notice was given to prior to meeting. Public was informed of location of Open Meeting Act poster. Present: Kevin Filsinger, Steve Stearns, Mike Klabenes, Kelly Kerkman, Steve Hankla. Others present: Lauren Sheridan-Simonsen, Kate Ahlers, Bill Thiele, Mike Sanne, Angie Hupp.

Motion by Stearns, seconded by Kerkman, to approve January 11, 2021 special meeting minutes. Voting aye: Stearns, Filsinger, Kerkman, Klabenes, Hankla. Voting nay: none.

Motion by Klabenes, seconded by Filsinger, to approve January 11, 2021 regular meeting minutes. Voting aye: Stearns, Filsinger, Kerkman, Klabenes, Hankla. Voting nay: none.

The treasurer's report was given. Motion by Klabenes, seconded by Stearns, to place report on file. Voting aye: Stearns, Filsinger, Kerkman, Klabenes, Hankla. Voting nay: none.

Late water bills were presented. Two customers were notified bills needed to be paid by the 20<sup>th</sup>.

Advertisement for bids was sent to *Summerland Advocate-Messenger* by Miller & Associates for construction of lagoon project.

Economic report: Motion by Klabenes, seconded by Stearns, to set a 60-day deadline to apply for micro façade program funds. Voting aye: Stearns, Filsinger, Kerkman, Klabenes, Hankla. Voting nay: none. Motion by Filsinger, seconded by Kerkman, to set December 31, 2021 deadline to apply for digital façade program funds. Voting aye: Stearns, Filsinger, Kerkman, Klabenes, Hankla. Voting nay: none. Unused funds from both programs will roll back to general economic development account. Motion by Klabenes, seconded by Filsinger, to approve four emails through Rackspace Technology with @clearwaterne.com designations. Monthly fee of \$3.99 for larger capacity for village clerk email, monthly fees of \$2.99 each for village board, library, and economic development emails. Links will be put on website so public can find contact info easily. Voting aye: Stearns, Filsinger, Kerkman, Klabenes, Hankla. Voting nay: none. Lauren Sheridan-Simonsen and Angie Hupp have been working to improve information on village website to bring more online traffic and create easier access to public. Building permit applications, dog tag forms, auto pay authorizations, and water shut off request forms are now available online. The goal is to add current year's minutes, zoning regulations, and other relevant information. Motion by Klabenes, seconded by Kerkman, to set up online pay through Nebraska Payport on clearwaterne.com website. Customers will be able to pay water bills, dog tag and building permit fees through the site. They will also be responsible for card use service fees, so the village will not be responsible for any fees beyond set-up. Letters regarding the new service will be sent in the February water bills. Voting aye: Stearns, Filsinger, Kerkman, Klabenes, Hankla. Voting nay: none. Miller & Associates will get the housing grant application ready for 2021. To increase chances for approval, it was suggested the village raise the matching LB840 funds from \$25,000. Motion by Filsinger, seconded by Klabenes, to approve LB840 matching funds for housing grant application be raised from \$25,000 to \$35,000. Sheridan-Simonsen testified in Lincoln in support of LB366 changes to the Nebraska Microenterprise Tax Credit. Changes include increasing lifetime tax credit from \$10,000 to \$20,000 and updating restrictions on related parties, and transitioned business qualifications. Also testified in opposition to LB74, ending the Microenterprise Tax Credit and shifting funds to the Business Innovation Act, where minimum investment to qualify for the program would be \$250,000. One hundred percent of businesses in Clearwater would no longer qualify for the new program. Motion by Stearns, seconded by Kerkman, to approve nomination of Dick Kester to economic development board. Voting aye: Stearns, Filsinger, Kerkman, Klabenes, Hankla. Voting nay: none. Motion by Filsinger, seconded by Klabenes, to approve moving \$1,000 from economic savings to economic checking. Voting aye: Stearns, Filsinger, Kerkman, Klabenes, Hankla. Voting nay: none.

Maintenance report: Kate Ahlers has worn through one set of snow chains this season and had to replace them. Mike Klabenes replaced culverts at maintenance shop and Neuer Street. A strobe light that was ordered for the loader didn't fit but works on the pickup. Motion by Stearns, seconded by Filsinger to approve purchase of both strobe light for pickup and new one for loader. Voting aye: Stearns, Filsinger, Kerkman, Hankla. Voting nay: none. Abstain: Klabenes. Mosquito sprayer has been delivered to Osmond for repair. Ahlers will buy books to study for pesticide spraying license to spray for mosquitoes this summer. Discussion will be held in future regarding crow's nest and scoreboards at park once football field is no longer needed by school. Ahlers will compile list of outdated or duplicate tools and equipment that can be sold. Tree pile needs to be burned while snow is on ground. Water leak discovered on corner of Nevada and Custer streets. There is water to the house, but meter not reading water use for house either. Hupp will contact plumber to get leak fixed when weather improves. Village will be mowing cemetery again this summer. Ahlers would like to pour a cement slab near shop to hold Bobcat attachments. Using leftover brine sludge from State to deice Village roads. Free to use, but needs to be moved from county barn, so will possibly set out by dump. Hupp will talk to Appera about changing contract to only getting roll towels for park bathrooms.

Mike Sanne presented information regarding tracts of land that might be for sale by school once ESU buys school building, effective June 15, 2021. Village interested in possibly purchasing land for housing. School board has not yet finalized decision on how tracts will be sold. After discussion, a motion was made by Kerkman, seconded by Stearns, to approve hiring engineer to view tracts and present evaluation to Village board for possible acquisition after school board finalizes position. Voting aye: Stearns, Filsinger, Kerkman, Klabenes, Hankla. Voting nay: none.

Motion by Stearns, seconded by Klabenes, to approve annual casualty insurance values. Voting aye: Stearns, Filsinger, Kerkman, Klabenes, Hankla. Voting nay: none.

Klabenes interested in receiving Class IV water operator's license. Clerk will find classes for him to complete. Motion by Klabenes, seconded by Filsinger, to approve annual membership to Nebraska Rural Water Association.

Clerk report: Motion by Stearns, seconded by Klabenes, to write off old water bill for customer who moved three years ago with no forwarding address. Most of remaining bill is late fees. Voting aye: Stearns, Filsinger, Kerkman, Klabenes, Hankla. Voting nay: none. Motion by Stearns, seconded by Filsinger, to approve \$5,000 bond insurance for Angie Hupp, clerk/treasurer, and Kelly Kerkman, water commissioner. Voting aye: Stearns, Filsinger, Kerkman, Klabenes, Hankla. Voting nay: none. Dog tag notice will be sent for three months with water bill. Discussion will be held if more needs to be done to enforce ordinance. Village had agreement with Don Zegers to use part of his parking lot in exchange for armor coating every other year. Board has decided to hold off on armor coating until streets can be upgraded. Discussion will need to be held with Zegers. Hupp will check on status of nuisance letter that was delivered by sheriff's department. Mowing bids will be placed in *Summerland Advocate-Messenger* for summer mowing/haying of dike. One location for water samples needs to be changed. Catholic church board will be asked for permission to collect samples from there a few times a year.

Kids have been seen playing on Village-owned sand pile in parking lot by park. As Village would be liable if there was an injury, Ahlers will move sand pile to dump area.

Old business: Motion by Kerkman, seconded by Klabenes, to approve Rutjens Construction estimate for \$10,589 to install 1 ¼ inch line southwest of town to hook up a house where the well went down. Security cameras for park are backordered until March.

New business: Hupp to look at Verizon contract. Board will decide whether to keep maintenance cell phone once contract is fulfilled. Klabenes interested in clarifying certain EMC Insurance values. Community member interested in creating a committee to fix up old gas station to create small museum. Board would like to see if committee can be formed and be presented with a plan.

Motion by Kerkman, seconded by Stearns, to pay Innovative Ag claim. Voting aye: Stearns, Filsinger, Kerkman, Hankla. Voting nay: none. Abstain: Klabenes.

Motion by Kerkman, seconded by Klabenes, to pay KF Repair claim. Voting aye: Stearns, Kerkman, Klabenes, Hankla. Voting nay: none. Abstain: Filsinger.

Motion by Stearns, seconded by Filsinger, to approve all other claims. Voting aye: Stearns, Filsinger, Kerkman, Klabenes, Hankla. Voting nay: none.

Innovative AG Services	\$2791.19	KF Repair	\$100.00
Road Builders	\$594.39	Bomgaars	\$55.60
Spud Trucking	\$422.80	Barco Municipal Products	\$298.88
City of Neligh	\$3,329.35	Northeast NE Clerk's Assn.	\$20.00
Herley's Collision Repair	\$263.90	Bearinger Tax & Accounting	\$70.00
Verizon Wireless	\$89.07	NNTC	\$191.63
Rueter's	\$2,806.59	Famers Pride	\$385.31
Miller & Associates	\$585.00	Switzer Welding	\$6,940.00
EMC Insurance	\$2,903.16	Antelope Co. Sheriff	\$1,202.25
Economic Savings	\$1,771.51	General Savings	\$1,771.51
Angie Hupp	\$813.33	Kathleen Ahlers	\$2,935.05
Tina Snider	\$627.65	Nebraska Dept. of Revenue	\$1,010.12
Kelly Kerkman	\$69.26	Kevin Filsinger	\$69.26
Mike Klabenes	\$69.26	Steve Hankla	\$69.26
Steve Stearns	\$69.26	Graciela Reyes	\$64.64
McNally Law Office	\$265.08	ColdType Publishing	\$87.60
Clearwater Market	\$80.94	Nielsen Insurance	\$200.00
ERPPD	\$1,652.01	WEX Bank	\$582.64
Alan Potter	\$62.00	US Post Office	\$164.70
One Call Concept	\$1.54	Bud's Sanitary	\$2,079.00
Water Savings	\$685.00	Sewer Savings	\$865.00
Lagoon Savings	\$1,450.00	Nebraska Rural Water Assn.	\$125.00
One Office Solution	\$85.72	Three & Co. Baking	\$750.00
Kathy Feusse	\$470.99		

Motion by Filsinger, seconded by Stearns, to adjourn. Voting aye: Stearns, Filsinger, Kerkman, Klabenes, Hankla. Voting nay: none. Meeting adjourned at 9:22 p.m.

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Chairman

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Clerk