

VILLAGE OF CLEARWATER, NEBRASKA REGULAR MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 10, 2025

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Clearwater met for a regular meeting Monday, Feb. 10, 2025 at 7 p.m., in the fire hall meeting room. Meeting opened at 7 p.m. Notice of meeting was given in advance by publication in *Summerland Advocate-Messenger*, was posted at US Post Office in Clearwater, Clearwater Market, and Cornerstone Bank-Clearwater and was given to board members prior to meeting. Public was informed of location of Open Meeting Act poster.

Present: Marsha Hart, Cody Kester, Brian King, Jeff Schlecht. Others present: clerk Angie Hupp, maintenance superintendent Troy Behnke, LTK Holiday Lighting owner Joe Kaup, Sheriff Bob Moore, Bridget Scott, Andrew Blecher and young daughter and Jay Snider. Absent: Kelly Kerkman.

Kester read and signed the oath of office since he'd missed the December and January meetings.

Motion by Schlecht, seconded by King, to approve minutes of Jan. 13, 2025 regular meeting as presented. Voting aye: Schlecht, King, Kester, Hart. Voting nay: none. Absent: Kerkman.

Motion by Hart, seconded by King, to approve treasurer's report as presented and place on file. Voting aye: Hart, King, Schlecht, Kester. Voting nay: none. Absent: Kerkman.

Discussion held with Bridget Scott, of 106 Main St., regarding letter she sent to board stating, "I would like to again offer my services of cleaning the ditches and culverts on the north side of town. Including the removal of debris from culvert openings. Removing noxious plants, trees and bushes from the ditches on Frenchtown Rd. and Colorado St. This would include cleaning the debris from the culverts so they flow free and shut properly." Scott willing to weed and clear but doesn't have anything to mow with so Village will need to do that. Last year, King mowed with a sickle bar before rodeo.

Motion by Kester, seconded by King, to approve offer by Bridget Scott to volunteer time to clean ditches and culverts on north side of town along Frenchtown Rd. and Colorado St. Voting aye: Kester, King, Schlecht, Hart. Voting nay: none. Absent: Kerkman.

Joe Kaup, owner of JTK Holiday Lighting of Norfolk, discussed trimlight options for businesses in town. Ewing paid for two blocks and has one person run the programming so everything is uniform. Clerk Angie Hupp to call Ewing clerk to find out what funds used to pay for project. Kaup told board pricing starts at \$23 per foot including installation. Some tracks may cost more. LED lights warranted for 50,000 hours which is approximately 20-30 years. Clearwater Legion has plans to install. Hupp will send letter to all businesses in Clearwater to gauge interest if Village can obtain funds to assist with project.

Moved agenda item 17a up with no objections. Engineer John Zwingman planned to attend meeting but bad roads prevented it, so Hupp called him on phone to join discussion regarding sewer expansion. Zwingman explained drawings and cost estimates for two projects. Project 1 expands sewer to 707 Nebraska St. storage units owned by Dwaine and Deb Trease. Due to number of lines and pipes in area, Zwingman stated sewer will need to run in street, increasing cost. Estimated cost of Project 1 is \$100,000 with approximately \$60,000 to replace asphalt. Project 2 expands sewer to Andrew Blecher residence at 85130 515 ½ Ave. Blecher's lines to run through alley north of Dibble St., through right-of-way along several properties and connect to basement lines on northeast side of house. Estimated cost for Project 2 is \$72-80,000. Hupp told Zwingman that Project 1 not necessary to complete, Village simply needs plan in place. Zwingman stated agreement was hourly so didn't need to be amended before signing.

Motion by Hart, seconded by King, to approve short form agreement between Village and Advanced Consulting Engineering Services, Inc. for professional engineering services to extend sewer service to 707 Nebraska St. and 85130 515 ½ Ave. with an amendment to exclude construction phase of Project 1 to 707 Nebraska St. Voting aye: Hart, King, Kester, Schlecht. Voting nay: none. Absent: Kerkman.

Motion by Hart, seconded by Kester, to approve plans and estimated costs from Advanced Consulting Engineering Services for sewer expansion to 85130 515 ½ Ave. with amendment to exclude plans for 707 Nebraska St. Voting aye: Hart, Kester, King, Schlecht. Voting nay: none. Absent: Kerkman.

Motion by Schlecht, seconded by King, to approve Advanced Consulting Engineering Services to publish and mail notice of contractor bids for Project 2 sewer expansion to 85130 515 ½ Ave. with bid deadline of Thursday, Mar. 6 at 11 a.m. Voting aye: Schlecht, King, Kester, Hart. Voting nay: none. Absent: Kerkman.

Discussion regarding sidewalk extension on Main St. to Hwy. 275 tabled until next month.

Brief discussion held regarding proposed subdivision. Zwingman asked board to consider ways of paying for project including planning grant for engineering process, TIF or developer taking on full project. Kester asked if water has to run north to Nebraska St. Zwingman stated that's easiest unless property owner to east/southeast allows easement to run water to Clearwater Creek.

Motion by Kester, seconded by Hart, to approve right-of-way and testing agreement between Village and USCOC Nebraska/Kansas, LLC, as presented, giving USCOC access to Village-owned parcel no. 000660500 for purposes of testing viability to place cell tower. Voting aye: Kester, Hart, Schlecht, King. Voting nay: none. Absent: Kerkman.

Discussion regarding ground lease for cell tower. Jay Snider stated it probably wouldn't be viable due to ground being dump for so many years. Troy Behnke told Snider it was north of the tree dump and should be fine.

Motion by King, seconded by Schlecht, to approve ground lease between Village and USCOC Nebraska/Kansas, LLC, as presented, leasing 100 ft. by 100 ft. area plus driveway easement to USCOC at \$700 per month for 100 years, with 10 percent increase every fifth year for life of lease providing area proves viable to install US Cellular cell tower. Voting aye: King, Schlecht, Hart, Kester. Voting nay: none. Absent: Kerkman.

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Discussion regarding updating emergency veterinarian on record as required by Neb. Dept. of Agriculture. Behnke mentioned it might be a good idea to send form to several area clinics in case a need arises and one isn't available. Board agreed. Hupp will send form requests to Antelope Co. Vet Clinic, Heartland Vet Clinic and Town & Country Vet Clinic.

Approval of company to weed and fertilize park tabled until next month so can get more than one bid.

Motion by Schlecht, seconded by King, to approve home addition building permit for Regino Olivan and Graciela Reyes at 403 Nevada St. Voting aye: Schlecht, King, Kester, Hart. Voting nay: none. Absent: Kerkman.

Hupp presented economic development report.

Behnke presented maintenance and park report. Behnke going through list of water meters that don't work, replacing if necessary. They have 10-year warranty so will be sent to Municipal Supply for replacement. Asked board to consider whether to advertise for summer help or try to contract mowing to companies/individuals instead. Will be on March agenda. Discussed rising cost to ship water samples through US Post Office and unreliability of getting samples to or from Lincoln in time. FedEx or UPS may be more expensive but worth it if samples reach destination within deadline. Board told Behnke to look into options.

No library report presented.

Hupp presented clerk report. Letter to company that made water tower asking for blueprints didn't work. Without contract number or information on nameplate, company unable to help. Tower built in 1952 for Lafayette, Indiana. Jay Snider told Hupp to call Maguire Iron because they've maintained tower for decades. Hupp stated she contacted them first and with no luck but can try again with more information. Hart suggested contacting Lafayette and seeing if they still have paperwork. Hupp had video conference with PowerManager. Despite salesperson's assurances, team won't be able to switch Village over before end of March so board will need to decide how to proceed with utility billing if gWorks' program still doesn't work when required to switch from UBMax until PowerManager begins in May or June. Ordinance and survey map for annexation of parcel nos. 000660500 and 000660501 filed at Antelope Co. Clerk's office on Jan. 28.

Sheriff report presented. December hours were 81.21 hours with four 911 calls and January had 66.38 hours with seven 911 calls. Sheriff Moore told board they had small, white dog in doggie jail that was picked up on north side of highway in Clearwater. Hupp didn't know who it belonged to but would share post on Village Facebook page.

No updates regarding paving River Rd. and Nebraska St.

Confirmed next regular meeting date of Monday, Mar. 10 at 7 p.m.

No attorney report presented.

Public comment heard. Jay Snider, of 608 Colorado St., asked about trimlights as he didn't arrive at meeting until after that discussion. Board explained light system and what was being considered. Snider asked if all businesses were being included and Hart said yes. Snider then asked if businesses could be reimbursed if they've already signed contract for lighting. Hart said it would be discussed if Village moves forward. Front of Snider Memorial Funeral Home costs around \$4,000 for 120-130 ft. of lights.

Motion by Kester, seconded by King, to approve claims and payroll. Claims: \$39,763.72; payroll: \$8,719.61. Voting aye: Kester, King, Schlecht, Hart. Voting nay: none. Absent: Kerkman.

General Checking

Bomgaars, sup, 299.43; City of Neligh, srv, 4,637.14; Sanne Service, LLC, sup, 146.20; Bearinger Tax & Accounting, srv, 70.00; Northeast Neb. Clerks Association, dues, 20.00; Barco Municipal Products, sup, 1,308.40; Main St. Repair, rpr, 42.25; Kayton International-Neligh, sup, 978.82; ERPPD, util, 1,172.16; Clearwater Market, sup, 67.87; Farmers Pride, sup, 297.17; Neligh Auto & Machine, sup, 273.52; NNTC, util, 160.90; Heartland Fire Protection, srv, 141.00; Western Oil II, fuel, 105.40; ALLO Business, srv, 61.00; Black Hills Energy, util, 707.58; ColdType Publishing, adv, 210.50; Carquest of Neligh, sup, 9.73; Jarecki Sharp Petersen, lgl, 300.00; Antelope Co. Sheriff, srv, 1,302.25; General Savings, tnfr, 3,541.62; Economic Savings, tnfr, 3,541.62; Neb. Dept. of Revenue, tx, 2,464.51; Capital One, sup, 158.89; EMC Insurance, ins, 4,646.48; Payroll, pay, 7,801.68.

Water/Sewer Checking

NeRWA, dues, 250.00; Neb. Public Health Enviro Lab, srv, 85.00; Municipal Supply, Inc., sup, 378.72; One Call Concepts, Inc., srv, 26.24; ERPPD, util, 786.85; Advanced Consulting Engineering Services, srv, 2,648.01; Bud's Sanitary Service, srv, 3,437.00; US Post Office, sup, 219.00; Dylan Wright, reimb, 150.00; Neb. Dept. of Revenue, tx, 572.39; Capital One, srv/sup, 63.80; Water/Sewer Savings, tnfr, 3,000.00.

Fire Checking

Carquest of Neligh, sup, 241.38; Quick Med Claims, srv, 233.98.

Library Checking

Clearwater Market, sup, 24.91; Capital One, sup, 1,232.00; Payroll, pay, 917.93.

Capital One Credit Card

Tax1099, srv, 18.90; US Post Office, srv, 32.75; Kelly Supply Company, sup, 31.05; Walmart, sup, 59.00; Amazon, sup, 139.99; ALLO Business, sup, 1,173.00.

Motion by Schlecht, seconded by Kester, to close and adjourn meeting at 8:29 p.m. Voting aye: Schlecht, Kester, King, Hart. Voting nay: none. Absent: Kerkman.