

VILLAGE OF CLEARWATER, NEBRASKA REGULAR MEETING MINUTES APRIL 14, 2025

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Clearwater met for a regular meeting Monday, Apr. 14, 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: Kelly Kerkman, Marsha Hart, Cody Kester, Brian King, Jeff Schlecht. Others present: Clerk Angie Hupp, Attorney Kyle Petersen, Maintenance Operator Troy Behnke, ED Director Lauren Sheridan, Kate Ahlers.

No board members absent.

Motion by King, seconded by Schlecht, to approve minutes of Mar. 10, 2025 regular meeting as presented. Voting aye: King, Schlecht, Kerkman, Hart, Kester. Voting nay: none.

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

Quarterly treasurer's report presented.

Motion by Kester, seconded by Schlecht, to approve building permit for Andrew and Jessica Blecher home addition at 85130 515 ½ Ave. Voting aye: Kester, Schlecht, Kerkman, Hart, King. Voting nay: none.

Motion by Kerkman, seconded by Hart, to approve building permit for Tim and Kristen Kester "dog-proof" fence and dog kennel at 503 Mitchell's Ave. Voting aye: Kerkman, Hart, Kester, King, Schlecht. Voting nay: none.

Opened one hay bid from Jay Snider for \$1,800 for the 2025 haying season. Motion by Kester, seconded by Kerkman, to approve bid and contract with Jay Snider to hay Village-owned parcels between June 1-Nov. 1, 2025 for \$1,800. Voting aye: Kester, Kerkman, Schlecht, King, Hart. Voting nay: none.

Opened one mowing bid from Coffey's Lawn and Snow Removal for \$5,300 for the 2025 mowing season. Discussion held regarding payment options and contract length. Motion by Kester, seconded by King, to approve bid and contract with Coffey's Lawn and Snow Removal to mow the park, veterans' park, library and cemetery between May 1-July 31, 2025 for \$5,300 pending proof of liability insurance. Payments will be split equally amongst the May, June and July board meetings. Voting aye: Kester, King, Schlecht, Kerkman, Hart. Voting nay: none.

Kate Ahlers, 605 Dibble St., let board know two of the name stones will be delivered to veterans' park this week.

Motion by Schlecht, seconded by Hart, to approve Fiscal Year 2023-2024 audit by Lengemann & Associates as presented. Same deficiencies found as previous year, due to small number of employees of Village, resulting in less oversight of finances than preferred. Voting aye: Schlecht, Hart, Kester, King, Kerkman. Voting nay: none.

Motion by Hart, seconded by Kester, to approve special liquor license for The Waterhole June 27-28, 2025 rodeo concert. Voting aye: Hart, Kester, King, Schlecht, Kerkman. Voting nay: none.

Motion by Kester, seconded by Hart, to approve special liquor license for American Legion Post 267 June 27-28, 2025 rodeo concert. Voting aye: Kester, Hart, Schlecht, King. Voting nay: none. Abstain: Kerkman.

Motion by King, seconded by Schlecht, to approve special liquor license for Clearwater Chamber June 27-29, 2025 rodeo. Voting aye: King, Schlecht, Kerkman, Hart, Kester. Voting nay: none.

Motion by Hart, seconded by King, to approve special liquor license for Clearwater Chamber Aug. 9, 2025 rough stock rodeo. Voting aye: Hart, King, Schlecht, Kerkman, Kester. Voting nay: none.

Economic development report presented. Eleven Clearwater seniors graduating from Summerland in May will receive mailboxes as in past. Showcase Community award not received, but only Village in top five applicants. Will try again next year. Lauren Sheridan suggests increasing façade and digital façade grant amounts from \$750 to \$1,000 due to increased costs. Will be presented to loan review committee before going to Village Board. Sheridan asked about board interest in using LB840 funds to paint mural on north side of Clearwater Custom Cabinet building, 503 Main St. Would need to be pressure washed, some areas fixed up and primed before mural painted by Summerland art student. Chamber may assist with labor.

Maintenance report presented. At conference, Troy Behnke told to keep working through lead service line inventory to identify all lead lines before 2027 deadline, in case rules aren't reversed.

Discussion held regarding Oakdale approaching Clearwater to share water and sewer operator services until Oakdale can hire and train new operator. Kerkman stated he was against due to lack of time for Behnke to finish everything that needs to be done in town. Board agreed they weren't able to assist at this time.

Discussion held regarding which blocks to repave with 15,000 square foot paving contract with Knife River Midwest. Behnke stated he measured Nebraska St. and from east edge of curve east to three-way stop, contracted amount will only cover about one and a half blocks. Behnke thought accountant showed about \$400,000 available for streets in budget, but Angie Hupp thought board budgeted \$100,000. Hupp will bring numbers to May meeting so board may discuss adding to project. Behnke stated he was told by county employee that due to previous interlocal agreements, Antelope Co. Roads Dept. plans to grade tree dump and lagoon roads once a year. Discussion held regarding keeping millings from paving project and purchasing more. Behnke to find out when Knife River to be in town.

Library report presented. Hupp stated librarian working with Waterhole to host pub trivia night.

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Motion by Schlecht, seconded by King, to transfer \$335 from library checking to library savings. Hupp explained money was from Christmas store. Hart asked why just being deposited if from Christmas. Hupp stated it wasn't deposited until March but was unsure of reason for delay. Voting aye: Schlecht, King, Kester, Hart, Kerkman. Voting nay: none.

Clerk report presented. Five late fees and three disconnect letters assessed this month. Hupp read thank you note from Terri Schade family for condolence card. Keno Community Day at Two Bills Steakhouse scheduled for April 19, from 5-10 p.m., during which extra \$7,000 jackpot available to win. Jenn Kester reached out to ask if Village interested in bike rack. Board decided against it as there's already one at park and too big to go in front of library. Clerk school went well and Hupp hopes to establish changes soon. Sheridan and Hupp spent several hours making notes for website redesign. On Apr. 3, gWorks received letter from Village canceling all services effective Oct. 1, 2025. Hupp won't be able to use old utility program much longer, so might not be able to send utility bills. Hoping gWorks Hub works, but not sure what to do until PowerManager installed if it doesn't. About 10 businesses contacted Village office regarding trimlights. Some interested, but majority either uncommitted or uninterested. Hupp received building permit on morning of meeting and was told pre-fab storage building being delivered because company selling wanted it gone. Address is in floodplain, so extra paperwork required before approval, which means fine may have to be assessed.

Sheriff report presented. February hours were 73 hours 13 minutes with three 911 calls. March hours were 63 hours four minutes with four 911 calls.

No unfinished business discussed as no updates regarding sidewalk extension, proposed subdivision or paving of River Rd. and Nebraska St.

New business presented. Spring clean-up coming soon. Will schedule roll-off dumpster May 19-June 2. Monday, May 12 meeting moved to Tuesday, May 13 at 7 p.m.

Public comment heard. Ahlers stated that potholes need to be filled when small. Behnke said some roads not draining properly because sides have grown up on them, so will be reclaiming street edges this spring. Large trucks being driven on north side of town, tearing up streets. There are some signs, but Behnke to make sure "no trucks" signs in problem areas. Board may send letter to truck owner.

Motion by Hart, seconded by Schlecht, to approve claims and payroll. Claims: \$29,377.51; payroll: \$8,569.16. Voting aye: Hart, Schlecht, Kerkman, Kester, King. Voting nay: none.

General Checking: Eakes Office Solutions, sup, 161.94; Mid-American Research Chemical, sup, 375.61; Flenniken Electric, rpr, 407.08; Neligh Auto & Machine, sup, 283.31; Carquest of Neligh, sup, 184.94; Carhart Lumber, sup, 38.00; Dinkel Implement, sup, 155.45; ERPPD, util, 1,152.66; NNTC, util, 155.69; ALLO Business, srv, 348.00; Clearwater Market, sup, 9.03; Western Oil II, fuel, 54.25; ColdType Publishing, adv/rent, 927.50; Black Hills Energy, util, 355.36; Clearwater Library, tnfr, 2,250.00; Petty cash, cash, 49.85; Advanced Consulting Engineering Services, srv, 548.75; Jarecki Sharp Petersen, lgl, 300.00; Antelope Co. Sheriff, srv, 1,302.25; General Savings, tnfr, 2,664.63; Economic Savings, tnfr, 2,664.63; Capital One, sup/conf, 979.14; Neb. Dept. of Revenue, tx, 1,528.72; Payroll, pay, 7,839.74.

Water/Sewer Checking: Neb. Public Health Enviro Lab, srv, 47.00; Comfort Inn, Kearney, srv, 235.90; One Call Concepts, Inc., srv, 5.70; Flenniken Electric, rpr, 2,125.00; Municipal Supply, Inc. of Omaha, sup, 1,267.39; ERPPD, util, 685.71; Bud's Sanitary Service, srv, 3,437.00; US Post Office, sup, 146.00; Capital One, srv, 69.20; Neb. Dept. of Revenue, tx, 576.00; Water/Sewer Savings, tnfr, 3,000.00.

Economic Development Checking: Clearwater Chamber, dues, 50.00; ColdType Publishing, rent, 60.00.

Fire Checking: Overhead Door Co., srv, 178.00; Quick Med Claims, srv, 78.00.

Library Checking: Clearwater Market, sup, 23.85; Library Savings, tnfr, 335.00; Capital One, sup/sub, 160.97; Payroll, pay, 729.42.

Capital One Credit Card: Cleanbrowsing, sub, 75.00; Amazon, sup, 539.93; US Post Office, srv, 69.20; Wendy's, conf, 14.96; McDonald's, conf, 19.56; Kahill's Restaurant, conf, 46.38; Marriott Riverfront, conf, 550.00; Tactacam, sub, 70.01.

Motion by Kerkman, seconded by Hart, to enter executive session at 8:21 p.m. to receive legal advice. Voting aye: Kerkman, Hart, Kester, King, Schlecht. Voting nay: none.

Motion by Kester, seconded by King, to exit executive session at 8:40 p.m. Voting aye: Kester, King, Schlecht, Kerkman, Hart. Voting nay: none.

Attorney Kyle Petersen reiterated that board can choose to assess fines to owners of 205 Colorado St. for noncompliance of mandatory water and sewer hookup or take another route, such as declaring it unsafe building. Kester asked for clarification on assessing fines and taking them to court.

Motion by King, seconded by Kester, to decline assessing fines to owners of 205 Colorado St. for noncompliance at this time. Voting aye: King, Kester, Hart, Schlecht. Voting nay: Kerkman.

Motion by King, seconded by Kester, to close and adjourn meeting at 8:44 p.m. Voting aye: King, Kester, Schlecht, Hart, Kerkman. Voting nay: none.

Chairperson Kelly Kerkman

Clerk Angie Hupp