

Village of Elwood regular meeting minutes, January 13, 2021

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Elwood, Nebraska was held by electronic means on Wednesday, January 13, 2021 at 7:00 pm. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Board Chair Martin who acknowledged the Open Meetings Act posted on the south wall of the meeting room and the proclamation by Governor Ricketts allowing public meetings to be held by electronic means in order to comply with Directed Health Measures of social distancing. Present via Zoom were Trustees Townsend, Kleine and Tilson; Trustee Fong was absent. Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the Valley Voice newspaper on January 7, 2021 and by notices posted on January 7, 2021 at Security First Bank, Pinnacle Bank, Village Office, Elwood Post Office and the Elwood Hometown Cooperative Market. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

A motion was made by Tilson, seconded by Kleine, to approve the December 9, 2020 regular meeting minutes as presented. There being no further discussion, the roll call vote was: Ayes: Townsend, Kleine, Tilson, Martin; Nays: none; Absent: Fong; motion carried 4-0-1.

A motion was made by Kleine, seconded by Tilson, to approve and pay the following Village and Library claims as presented:

Aflac	390.18	emp paid insurance
ATC Communications	54.90	internet
Aurora Cooperative	74.39	supplies
Black Hills Energy	223.98	utilities
CAMAS Publishing	78.89	publishing & subscription
Card member Services - Sec. First	100.34	supplies
Central District	51.00	water testing
Corder, Kirk	49.00	cell phone
Dawson Public Power District	3,823.15	utilities
Eakes-Copier	124.65	copier pymt
Elwood Hometown Coop Market	30.20	supplies & pool
Elwood Library	11,164.50	library support
Elwood Public School	30.00	tobacco lic fee income
Gerken, Lisa	28.10	supplies, coffee pot
Gosper Co. Treasurer (Sheriff Support)	11,486.02	sheriff support
Gosper Co. Treasurer (Zoning, Misc.)	100.00	election fees
Gosper Co. Treasurer. (Taxes)	477.48	leased land at dump
Hart & Huyser, P.C., L.L.O.	1,314.75	atty fees
John Deere Financial	123.11	shop supplies
MTL, Inc.	92.00	cleaning
NE Dept of Revenue	645.48	sales tax
NE Dept of Revenue	1,178.40	withholding
One Call Concepts, Inc.	2.30	811 fees
Pinnacle Bank	393.75	HSA
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Schaben Sanitation Inc.	5,845.15	solid waste
Schutz, Shane	20.00	cell phone
Trentham, Brian & Lisa	80.00	UT dep refund
Village Uniform	34.00	rugs
TOTAL	38,409.47	
PREAPPROVED/PREPAID CLAIMS:		
Blue Cross/Blue Shield	4,155.19	Jan emp health ins
CenturyLink, Inc.	124.82	phone

EFTPS withholding, SS, MC	2,926.34	Dec payroll taxes
Payroll	8,092.03	Dec net payroll
Star Marketing & Admin (Trustmark)	26.10	emp life ins
TD Ameritrade	310.08	emp retirement co. match
TOTAL PREPAID	15,634.56	
TOTAL CLAIMS	54,044.03	
LIBRARY CLAIMS: (pp=prepaid)		
Black Hills Energy (pp)	200.53	utilities
CenturyLink (pp)	127.06	telephone/internet
Amazon (pp)	211.46	books
Dollar General (pp)	25.56	supplies
Dawson Public Power District	111.51	utilities
MTL Inc	184.00	janitor
Village of Elwood	1904.33	wages/ss/mc, trash, mowing
Elwood Hometown Coop Market	6.70	supplies
Elk-O-Inc	210.75	snow removal
The Library Store	188.13	supplies
Wal-Mart card	120.19	books, supplies, magazines, misc.
TOTAL LIBRARY CLAIMS	3,290.22	

There being no further discussion, the roll call vote was: Ayes: Townsend, Tilson, Kleine, Martin; Nays: none; Absent: Fong; motion carried 5-0 4-0-1.

The Trustees discussed requesting funds from the Elwood Area Foundation designated to the cemetery. A motion was made by Kleine, seconded by Tilson to request that the funds be moved into the Village cemetery account. There being no further discussion, the roll call vote was: Ayes: Townsend, Tilson, Kleine, Martin; Nays: none; Absent: Fong; motion carried 4-0-1. The sales tax fund was discussed with Board Chair Martin noting several projects that these funds have assisted with.

Board Chair of the Community Redevelopment Authority (CRA), Katy Weissert, was present requesting \$25,000 of down-payment assistance funds for the CRA to be paid to the Elwood Housing Project as the house is complete and sold. A motion was made by Tilson, seconded by Kleine to grant \$25,000 to the CRA. There being no further discussion, the roll call vote was: Ayes: Townsend, Kleine, Tilson, Martin; Nays: none; Absent: Fong; motion carried 4-0-1. Weissert also informed the Trustees that a new house was approved by the CRA to be built on Lot 3 by the Elwood Housing Project.

Chief Deputy Craig Ward was present with the Sheriff's office reporting that a dangerous dog was quarantined and moved out of town, otherwise fairly quiet in town. Ward asked about changing procedures for the Board of Health for nuisance properties. The Board will work on these updates. Trustee Tilson voiced concerns regarding policing Village Ordinances. Ward reported they try to be proactive at reducing crime and welcomed a call at any time with questions or reports of items that need to be attended to.

Utility Superintendent Corder reported on recent training about how often water rates are changed and insurance coverage for computer information fraud. Corder noted the main well ran 2200 hours and 106 million gallons of water in 2020; this is about three times more than other towns our size. It was suggested posting information about the large dumpster as there have been some calls about what is or is not allowed. Trustee Tilson discussed expanding the dump hours in winter to match the summer hours. The dump supervisor has no objection to the increase in winter hours. A motion was made by Tilson, seconded by Martin to have the dump open Tuesday and Saturday 8 to 5 and Thursday 1 to 5 all year round. There being no further discussion, the roll call vote was: Ayes: Kleine, Townsend, Martin, Tilson; Nays: none; Absent: Fong; motion carried 4-0-1.

Board Chair Martin explained that the 4-H Council was interested in the Village sharing the cost of an electric pole at the fairgrounds and will attend next month's meeting when they get pricing.

Martin informed the Trustees he sent an email and left a message with Dawson Area Development with regard to its provided services and has not heard back yet. Dues payment will be held until services are discussed.

Board Chair Martin recommended appointments to the Elwood Care Center & Assisted Living. A motion was made by Tilson, seconded by Townsend to re-appoint Dick Bennet and appoint Lanae Matousek to 4-year terms on the Elwood Care Center & Assisted Living Board. There being no further discussion, the roll call vote was: Ayes: Kleine, Townsend, Tilson, Martin; Nays: none; Absent: Fong; motion carried 4-0-1.

The flow chart to determine commercial water and sewer rates was reviewed and will continue to be fine-tuned.

Clerk Jauken asked about upcoming training workshops. Treasurers are now required to have a minimum number of training hours every year. The Trustees agreed for the clerk to register for whichever workshop will meet those requirements and will get the most benefit from.

Trustee Tilson informed the Trustees he spoke to the installer for the concessions building at the ball fields and they should be in Elwood the following week.

Board Chair Martin informed the Trustees that Governor Ricketts extended the availability for electronic meetings through April. Trustees and public have the option to come in person or join the board meeting electronically.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for ~~March~~ February 10, 2021.

Board Chair Martin adjourned the meeting at 8:52 pm.

Laurie Jauken
Clerk/Treasurer