

Village of Elwood regular meeting minutes, February 15, 2023

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Elwood, Nebraska was held at the Elwood Village Office, 304 Calvert Avenue on Wednesday, February 15, 2023. 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. Present were Trustees Tilson, Kleine, Townsend and Fong. Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by posted notices at Security First Bank, Pinnacle Bank, Elwood Post Office and the Village Office. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

The Oath of Office was taken by Tom Martin.

A motion was made by Tilson, seconded by Kleine, to approve the January 11, 2023 regular meeting minutes. There being no discussion, the roll call vote was: ayes: Fong, Townend, Kleine, Tilson, Martin; nays: none; motion carried 5-0.

A motion was made by Fong, seconded by Townsend, to approve and pay the Village and Library claims as presented. There being no further discussion, the roll call vote was: ayes: Kleine, Tilson, Townsend, Fong, Martin; nays: none; motion carried 5-0. Claims are as follows:

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| Aflac | 256.40 | Feb emp paid ins |
| American Legal Publishing | 1,459.55 | updated codes |
| ATC Communications | 14.90 | email, website |
| Aurora Cooperative | 1,547.68 | fuel, supplies |
| Black Hills Energy | 451.60 | utilities |
| Blue Cross Blue Shield of NE | 5,155.01 | emp health ins |
| CAMAS Publishing | 159.28 | publications & subscription |
| Cardmember Service-Sec. Bank | 300.98 | stamps, supplies |
| Community Redev. Authority | 6,250.00 | support |
| Corder, Kirk | 149.00 | cell phone & pesticide class |
| D&R Computing Inc | 100.00 | computer support |
| Dawson Public Power District | 4,361.42 | utilities |
| Deaver, Kilah | 60.00 | UT dep refund |
| Eakes - Copier | 124.65 | copier payment |
| Elwood Hometown Coop Market | 15.78 | supplies |
| Evans Construction | 4,050.00 | snow removal |
| Gosper Co. Treasurer (Taxes) | 442.92 | RE tax on leased dump land |
| Gosper Co. Treasurer | 128.91 | election Fees |
| Great Plains Communications | 36.12 | phone (less internet credit x3) |
| Hart, Huyser & Miller P.C. L.L.O. | 225.00 | atty fees |
| Int. Institute of Municipal Clerks | 185.00 | dues |
| Jauken, Laurie | 53.58 | mileage |
| Lawn In Order - Shaune LaPrade | 100.00 | snow removal |
| Lofquist Welding Inc | 14.07 | dump gate supplies |
| MTL, Inc. | 98.00 | cleaning |
| Microsoft 365 Annual Renewal | 99.99 | subscription |
| NE Dept of Agriculture | 50.00 | pesticide permits |
| NE Dept of Environ. & Energy | 40.00 | pool permit |
| NE Department of Revenue | 253.94 | sales tax |

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|------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|
| Pinnacle Bank | 393.75 | HSA |
| Pinnacle Bank | 393.75 | HSA |
| Pollock, Susan | 60.00 | UT dep refund |
| Remmenga Drilling Co., Inc. | 50.00 | welding |
| Schaben Sanitation - Roll-off | 378.17 | large dumpster fee |
| Schaben Sanitation Inc. | 6,458.48 | trash fees |
| Schutz, Shane | 20.00 | cell phone |
| Starmark | 32.70 | Trustmark life insurance |
| The Red Barn | 109.66 | supplies |
| Total Lawn Care (TLC) | 170.00 | lawn chemicals annual |
| Village Uniform | 36.70 | rugs |
| TOTAL | 34,286.99 | |
| PREAPPROVED/PREPAID CLAIMS: | | |
| Aflac | 256.40 | Jan emp paid insurance |
| EFTPS withholding, SS, MC | 2,952.44 | federal payroll taxes |
| Payroll | 8,593.05 | Jan net payroll |
| Walmart | 97.83 | checks |
| TD Ameritrade | 321.60 | 401K company match |
| TOTAL PREPAID | 12,221.32 | |
| TOTAL CLAIMS | 46,508.31 | |
| LIBRARY CLAIMS: | | |
| Black Hills Energy | 380.39 | utilities |
| Dawson Public Power District | 125.92 | utilities |
| MTL Inc | 196.00 | janitor |
| Village of Elwood | 1,788.83 | wages/ss/mc, trash, phone |
| Pinnacle Visa | 503.51 | books, postage |
| Jane Hilton | 138.77 | meeting registration, mileage |
| TOTAL LIBRARY CLAIMS | 3,133.42 | |

After reviewing the Treasurer's report, a motion was made by Fong, seconded by Tilson, to approve said report as presented. There being no discussion, the roll call vote was: ayes: Kleine, Townsend, Tilson, Fong, Martin; nays: none; motion carried 5-0.

The Community Redevelopment Authority (CRA) minutes were reviewed. Plans for the Veteran's Memorial were briefly discussed with Board Chair Martin planning to attend the County Commissioners meeting to see if the County can assist with funding.

Sheriff Naputi is applying for a grant with the highway safety grant program for speed signs.

UT Supt Corder shared an estimate to repair the street sweeper and an optional lease agreement from Rose Equipment for a sweeper. March thru October is the lease timeframe. The Board discussed leasing vs trading a sweeper; more information will be gathered on this.

The Trustees briefly reviewed the Hazard Mitigation information.

Kevin Reiners was present to discuss the summer ball program and its finances. It was discussed to have 3 people from each community to be on the ball committee. The Village Board in Eustis would like to contribute to the summer ball program and is working on the field in Eustis. Discussion was held on creating a smaller league and a budget for estimated income and expenses.

Wages were discussed for summer pool employees as minimum wage is now \$10.50/hour. A motion was made by Tilson, seconded by Kleine to raise the lifeguard hourly wage to \$10.50, assistant manager to \$13.35 and manager to \$15.50. There being no further discussion, the roll call vote was: ayes: Fong, Townsend, Kleine, Tilson, Martin; nays: none; motion carried 5-0.

Pool admission fees were also discussed. A motion was made by Tilson, seconded by Townsend to raise the family rate to \$90.00 for a season pass, \$55 for a single person season pass, and \$2.50 for the daily pass. There being no further discussion, the roll call vote was: ayes: Kleine, Fong, Townsend, Tilson, Martin; nays: none; motion carried 5-0.

Wording for new signs to be placed at the dump were discussed including fees for violations. A motion was made by Tilson, seconded by Fong, to have an ordinance drafted to create fines and loss of dump privilege as: first offense will be a \$250.00 fee, 2nd offense at \$500, and 3rd offense at \$500 and loss of access to dump. There being no further discussion, the roll call vote was: ayes: Kleine, Fong, Tilson; nays: Townsend, Martin; motion carried 3-2. Further discussion included setting summer dump hours from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. between April 1 and October 31 and winter hours will be 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. from November 1 through March 31st. Trustee Tilson will contact Sign Pro to order signs to be placed at the dump.

A letter and spring notice to be sent to utility customers was reviewed with a motion by Fong, seconded by Kleine, approving the notices. There being no discussion, the roll call vote was: ayes: Fong, Townsend, Kleine, Tilson, Martin; nays: none; motion carried 5-0.

A request was made by a customer at 301 Ripley Street to eliminate the business utility bill as there is only storage at this location with the apartment in the back. A motion was made by Tilson to only charge the residential utility fee and was seconded by Kleine. There being no further discussion, the roll call vote was: ayes: Fong, Townsend, Kleine, Tilson, Martin; nays: none; motion carried 5-0.

A motion was made by Fong, seconded by Tilson, to approve the Special Designated Liquor License request for an event to be held at the Elwood Civic Center on March 23, 2023. There being no discussion, the roll call vote was: ayes: Townsend, Kleine, Fong, Tilson, Martin; nays: none; motion carried 5-0.

A motion was made by Fong, seconded by Kleine to approve Resolution 2023-01 appointing West Central Nebraska Development District (WCNDD) as the Nuisance Officer for the Village in 2023. There being no discussion the roll call vote was: ayes: Townsend, Tilson, Kleine, Fong, Martin; nays: none; motion carried 5-0.

The nuisance abatement map was reviewed with a motion by Tilson, seconded by Kleine, to have area 4 reviewed for nuisances in 2023. There being no further discussion, the roll call vote was: ayes: Townsend, Fong, Kleine, Tilson, Martin; motion carried 5-0.

There was no information to review on health insurance companies.

The letter from Schaben regarding a rate increase of 6% was reviewed.

Resolution 2023-02 was discussed and considered for approval. A motion was made by Tilson, seconded by Fong, to pass and adopt Resolution 2023-02, implementing a 15% water and sewer rate increase and 6% trash increase effective

April 1, 2023. There being no further discussion the roll call vote was: ayes: Kleine, Townsend, Fong, Tilson, Martin; nays: none; motion carried 5-0.

Resolution 2023-03 establishes a new procedure for collecting dump fees and providing dump access for Gosper County residents who do not live within Elwood municipal limits. A motion was made by Tilson, seconded by Fong to pass and adopt Resolution 2023-03. There being no further discussion, the roll call vote was: ayes: Kleine, Townsend, Fong, Tilson, Martin; nays: none; motion carried 5-0.

Clerk Jauken suggested that one of the Trustees meet with JEO Consulting regarding the Hazard Mitigation plan to help finalize the plan. Chairperson Martin agreed to be the contact.

The check signing policy was reviewed and a Village ordinance is already in place establishing guidelines for the absence of the Board Chair. No additional policy is needed.

Clerk Jauken made a claim for reimbursement of PTO used during 2020 for Covid related illness under The Families First Coronavirus Response Act. The claim was discussed by the Board and tabled for further review by the Village Attorney.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 8, 2023

Board Chair Martin adjourned the meeting at 9:29 p.m.

Laurie Jauken, Clerk/Treasurer