

The regular monthly meeting of the Village Board of Page was held Monday, August 14, 2017, at the Village Office. Chairperson Rachel Linquist called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with Trustees Mosel, Kennedy and Bartak present. Also present: Cora Calkins, Don Linquist Jr., Diane Heiss, Rick Hammer and Officer Rachel Kohlman. Chairperson R. Linquist informed all persons present, that this meeting was in compliance with the Nebraska Open Meetings Act and the Open Meeting Laws are posted for inspection at any time.

After a call for discussion, Trustee Bartak made a Motion to approve the Regular Minutes of the July 10, 2017 meeting as presented by the Clerk. The Motion was seconded by Mosel. Motion passed all ayes.

Chairperson Linquist then sought a Motion regarding the Special Meeting Minutes presented by the clerk. After review, a Motion was made by Kennedy, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bartak to approve Minutes as presented. Motion passed all ayes.

Public Comments – Chairperson Linquist opened the floor for public comment. All visitors opted to wait for appropriate Agenda issue for discussion.

Patrick Kennedy entered the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Treasurer’s Report - Calkins presented the following for approval:

**General Fund**

<b>Bank statement balance 6/30/2017</b>	<b>\$ 70,387.48</b>
Total income	\$ 6,155.27
Total Expenditures	\$ (4,523.03)
<b>Bank statement balance 7/31/2017</b>	<b><u>\$ 72,019.72</u></b>

**Bills Due:**

Anson Insurance	Qtrly	\$ (1,882.00)	
Calkins, Cora	Wages	\$ (842.80)	
Calkins, Cora	Reimb. Office Equip	\$ (316.97)	
Farmers Pride	Tank Rental	\$ (65.00)	
Farmers Pride	Prepaid Propane	\$ (570.00)	
Great Plains Comm.	office - includes DSL	\$ (121.50)	
Highway allocation savings	July	\$ (558.00)	
IRS USA Tax	payroll liabilities	\$ (433.16)	
Kennedy, Patrick	maintenance	\$ (560.94)	
Kohlman, Rachel	Police Expense	\$ (204.79)	
League of Municipalities	2018 Dues	\$ (210.00)	
Lyons, Laura	Park Cleaning	\$ (80.00)	
McNally Law Office	Fees	\$ (125.00)	
Miller & Assoc.	Grant Admin - Fee	\$ (150.00)	
NCPPD	street lights / office	\$ (962.53)	
Orchard News	Publication	\$ (166.72)	
Tore It Up Roofing	Clinic & Office	\$ (3,672.64)	
Village of Ewing	June/July	\$ (160.82)	
	Total bills due:		\$ (11,082.87)

**Utility Fund**

<b>Bank statement balance 6/30/2017</b>	<b>\$ 19,476.67</b>
Total Income	\$ 19,367.94
Total expenditures	\$ (12,729.01)
<b>Bank statement balance 7/31/2017</b>	<b><u>\$ 26,115.60</u></b>

**Bills Due:**

Cora Calkins - Wages	water	\$ (204.79)
Great Plains Comm.	treatment plant phone	\$ (67.90)
IRS USA Tax	payroll liabilities	\$ (55.62)
J & J Sanitation	Garbage pick-up	\$ (1,605.62)
Kennedy, Patrick	Wages	\$ (109.90)
Kennedy, Patrick	Mileage	\$ (33.00)
NCPD	Treatment plant and well house	\$ (456.55)
NE Health Lab	Testing	\$ (163.00)
Orchard News	Special Meeting Minutes	\$ (180.02)
Visa	Postage	\$ (80.93)

Total Bills Due: \$ (2,957.33)

Calkins advised that repairs had been completed on the clinic and village office roofs under the revised estimate amount and that the office equipment reimbursement was for the scanner, cables, and extended warranty plan approved at the previous meeting in preparation to change accounting procedures and attach copies of invoices and checks in QuickBooks.

Leonard Mook entered the meeting at 7:08 p.m.

After review by all members present, a Motion was presented by Mosel and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kennedy to pay all other bills as presented. Motion passed all ayes.

Laura Asher entered the meeting at 7:14 p.m.

Public Comments – Revisited – Chairperson Linquist reopened comments from the floor for Mr. Mook. He was present to discuss concerns regarding the mini-bike and underage driving of golf carts within the Village. He expressed concerns regarding the safety of the children involved. Officer Kohlman advised that mini-bike operation within the Village is expressly prohibited by Ordinance 3-305 and that persons operating any motorized vehicle on public streets are required to be licensed appropriately for the type of vehicle being driven. Officer Kohlman advised she will be addressing the issue as several complaints have been received regarding the matter.

Village Police/Ordinance Enforcement –

Nuisance Enforcement: Officer Kohlman advised that she and Calkins had conversed regarding the status of nuisance property cleanup for the first round of notifications. Kohlman inquired as to whether or not the Village was ready to proceed to citing any individual that remained in non-compliance and was given the approval of the Board to proceed with appropriate legal actions.

Rick Hammer inquired rather the Village intends to enforce the unlicensed vehicle ordinance. He challenged the Board to drive the town to see that this is becoming an issue. Trustee Mosel volunteered to do this, and Calkins advised that vehicles were on her nuisance plan enforcement for the 3<sup>rd</sup> round of violation letters.

Pet Licenses / Violations: Calkins advised that certified notices of the animal permit denial and removal demand had been sent, as had the notice regarding the need to remedy a water issue. Both parties have until August 26<sup>th</sup> to comply with requests. Calkins advised that the Village attorney had advised that the party who is in violation of a previously issued animal permit (housing un-permitted animals / and increased numbers) should be sent a letter rescinding with a 30 day compliance demand. A Motion was made by Bartak, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kennedy for Calkins to send such notice to this individual as several additional complaints have been received. Motion passed all ayes.

Calkins advised that three parties are in violation of pet licensing requirements. Officer Kohlman will follow-up with these individuals.

Water & Utility Report –

GIS Utility Database: Calkins advised that she is still attempting to track the location of this data.

USDA Grant Application Status: Application has been submitted. No further action taken.

Shut-off Report: Calkins advised that two individual's services had been disconnected for failure to pay. One has paid for reconnection which has been done.

Notice to remedy meter bypass: Calkins presented a copy of the certified letter sent to the property owner to make arrangements to remedy this issue. To date there has been no further communications.

Visitor, Diane Heiss, requested to speak regarding her views on the water department. Mrs. Heiss expressed concerns over the fairness that several residential meters had been inoperable throughout the Village and that other residents had been “supporting” those users unfairly. She voiced her opinion that, since the South Well has excellent water quality, that the Board should look at reducing if not eliminating water costs to the residents after disconnecting the North well.

Mrs. Heiss was also upset about certified letters being sent regarding shut-offs and/or notices to the residents, stating that this is an unnecessary expense and serves to intimidate or humiliate the recipients.

The Board and Calkins, as the lead water operator, responded that they shared her concerns regarding the inoperable meters. This issue had been addressed on a very regular basis with the previous water operator who had failed to make this project a priority. Calkins advised that since becoming the lead operator in March, she had made meter repair her primary goal. Calkins stated that all non-functioning meters have been repaired with the exception of two. (These residences had been re-plumbed at some time to eliminate the meter and therefore required additional fittings which have resulted in a delay.) They will be repaired shortly.

Calkins stated that it is unreasonable to believe that water rates will decline or disappear. Even if the Village could receive permission to operate with only one well, there is still the need to generate revenue to pay for water testing, well operation/repairs, water tower maintenance/repair, the current outstanding USDA loan balance, and an aging distribution system.

With regard to certified mailings, Calkins advised that this is a substantial but necessary expense for the Village. Certified mail is necessary to ensure that it can be proven that parties have received notice of the Village’s pending actions and it is required for those few instances that documentation is needed to proceed with further legal action. Therefore, any resident in non-compliance of an ordinance, or who is subject to service disconnection will be mailed notice of the same by certified mail. This is not meant to be intimidating to residents, but to initiate some discussion between the resident and the Village to remedy an issue.

The Board thanked Mrs. Heiss for coming to the meeting to voice her concerns and discuss them with the Board. Chairperson Linquist was joined by other members, stressing that the Board wants to hear from the residents on any and all matters concerning the Village. This is how we can all work together to improve the quality of living within our town.

Mrs. Heiss exited the meeting at 8:16 p.m.

Park Report – Bartak reported no new issues. Calkins advised that Ms. Lyons had advised that she is now ready to begin the project. Calkins will make arrangements to procure the necessary supplies to get the project started. Calkins also asked if there would be any objections to including some repairs/repainting to the benches along 5th street. The Board was in consensus that these should be updated/repaired as well.

Leonard Mook and Officer Kohlman exited the meeting at 8:19 p.m.

Street Report – Culvert Report: Patrick Kennedy advised that he is finishing up this project shortly.

Mosel advised that he had spoken to the Road Guy with regards to getting a better price for street repair. They advised that this late in the year it would be better to increase the budget and lock prices in over the off season when materials are much cheaper. It was agreed to table the matter until January.

Village Maintenance Report – Kennedy reported he has all necessary supplies and no new issues. He will be installing the No Thru Traffic signs on 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> street in the near future to deter traffic on the minimum maintenance streets on Gray Street.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Roof Repair: Calkins advised that repairs are complete with a one year warranty.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Finalize Housing Study – Grant Admin – Calkins presented a release of funds request for signature to close out this grant. After review of the same, Bartak mad a Motion to execute the same, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mosel. Motion passed all ayes.

Delinquent Account Collection – Calkins advised that there is still a balance owing on a resident who moved 2-3 months ago leaving no forwarding address beyond an email. Calkins requested permission to proceed with formal collection action. Linquist made a Motion to authorize all actions necessary to collect the past due account, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kennedy. Motion passed all ayes.

**OTHER / ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Calkins requested permission to attend a wastewater informational class on Thursday, August 24<sup>th</sup> in Albion. She advised it is a no cost informational training for board members, clerks, residents and wastewater operators which she feels might be beneficial. There is no charge for the class, however the Village office would be closed that day. There were no objections from the Board.

Calkins advised that we are still waiting on the digital speed reader trailer to use here at the Village of Page from the Holt County Sheriff's office. She will inquire as to a possible date of availability with that office.

Trustee Bartak expressed concern over the safety of the large cottonwood tree on the abandoned Grothe property. P. Kennedy will do some measurements to see if it is in the right away limits or if its removal will have to be negotiated with the property owner.

Chairperson Linquist advised that Direct Automation in Sioux Falls had expressed an interest in quoting repairs to the operations panel issues at the treatment plant. After some discussion, a Motion was made by Bartak, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mosel to have them come to quote the designated work. Motion passed all ayes.

There being no further business, Trustee Bartak made a Motion to adjourn; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Mosel. Motion passed all Ayes. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Next month's meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 11, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

/s/ Rachel Linquist, Chairperson

/s/ Cora L. Calkins, Clerk