

The regular monthly meeting of the Village Board of Page was held Monday, September 11, 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., Rick Hammer, Janann Sobotka, and Matt & Jenni Kellum. 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, Vice Chair Mosel made a Motion to approve the Regular Minutes of the August 14, 2017 meeting as presented by the Clerk. The Motion was seconded by Kennedy. Motion passed all ayes.

Budget Hearing Opened – Chairperson Linquist declared the budget hearing open for discussion at 7:01 p.m. To allow for all comments, hearings will remain open for the duration of the meeting.

Tax Request Hearing Opened - Chairperson Linquist declared the budget hearing open for discussion at 7:01 p.m. To allow for all comments, hearings will remain open for the duration of the meeting.

Public Comments – Chairperson Linquist opened the floor for public comment. Janann Sobotka presented a letter addressing her concerns regarding nuisance violations and animal issues. Mrs. Sobotka noted that unlicensed vehicles and dangerous buildings need to be addressed as well.

The Board advised that this process is underway, but takes time. There were five notices sent last month regarding property cleanup and one notice to refuse an animal permit and request removal of animals from the village limits. As a result of these notifications, two individuals have been ticketed for failure to comply, one ticket is pending contact with the owner, one resident corrected their violations, and the final made progress, but will be advised that projects need to be completed to avoid a citation being issued. The animal issue will be followed up on by Officer Kohlman to see if a citation needs to be issued for failure to remove unpermitted animals.

With regard to dangerous buildings, the Board has previously chosen to join the CNEDD this year and will be discussing possible assistance with this issue from Judy Petersen.

Laura Asher entered the meeting at 7:16 p.m.

Ms. Asher was also present to discuss nuisance issues regarding appliances, etc. in front of some residences and to encourage the board to continue with enforcement of nuisance ordinances.

Laura Asher exited the meeting at 7:23 p.m.

Matt & Jenni Kellum were present to discuss animal issues within the Village. They also asked the Board to clarify removal notices, property cleanup requests and ordinances regarding the operation of a mini bike within the town limits. Any animal properly permitted may remain in the Village limits, but others must be securely housed outside of town. Violations will result in tickets being issued. The Board advised that Mini bikes are in violation of Section 3-305 and several residents had expressed safety concerns about the operation of motorized vehicles by underage drivers within the Village. It was also noted that, it is unlawful for any person who does not hold a valid drivers license to operate any motorized vehicle on a highway.

Patrick Kennedy entered the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Concerns were raised about animals possibly being enticed into violation by individuals. It was noted that if animals are property secured, this point should be moot. The Board encouraged complaints of this type of enticement be forwarded to the Village Clerk for documentation, however, that would need to be investigated for possible future legal action if confirmed.

The Board also advised that a second batch of notices have been sent and, after consulting with the village attorney a letter to rescind an animal permit previously issued has been delivered. The owner of these animals has requested and been granted an extension from the 11th to the 15th to remove animals from the property. If these animals are not removed by the revised deadline no further extension will be granted and a citation will be issued.

A third round of notices is forthcoming to address the unlicensed vehicles issue and other violations present within the community.

Mr. & Mrs. Kellum exited the meeting at 7:39 p.m.

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

General Fund

Bank statement balance 7/31/2017	\$ 72,059.72
Total income	\$ 7,502.22
Total Expenditures	\$ (11,139.62)
Bank statement balance 8/31/2017	<u>\$ 68,422.32</u>

Bills Due:

Calkins, Cora	Wages	\$ (677.50)
Farmers Pride	Fuel	\$ (73.97)
Great Plains Com m .	office - includes DSL	\$ (124.10)
Highway allocation savings	Sept	\$ (535.00)
IRS USA Tax	pay roll liabilities	\$ (368.28)
Kennedy, Patrick	maintenance	\$ (532.75)
Kohlman, Rachel	Police Expense	\$ (204.79)
Lyons, Laura	Park Cleaning	\$ (80.00)
McNally Law Office	Fees	\$ (125.00)
NCPPD	street lights / office	\$ (924.76)
O'Neill Public Schools	Liq. License	\$ (300.00)
Orchard News	Publication	\$ (182.37)
Page Rural Fire	Siren Contribution	\$ (650.00)
Plains Equip	Supplies	\$ (100.23)
Quill Corporation	Office	\$ (210.83)
State of NE	Pet Licenses	\$ (47.50)
Visa	Supplies / Postage	\$ (333.55)
	Total bills due:	\$ (5,470.63)

Utility Fund

Bank statement balance 7/31/2017	\$ 26,115.60
Total Income	\$ 8,406.54
Total expenditures	\$ (4,658.90)
Bank statement balance 8/31/2017	<u>\$ 29,863.24</u>

Bills Due:

Cora Calkins - Wages	water	\$ (318.34)
Great Plains Com m .	treatment plant phone	\$ (67.90)
IRS USA Tax	payroll liabilities	\$ (72.98)
J & J Sanitation	Garbage pick-up	\$ (1,605.62)
Layne Christensen	Well Testing	\$ (460.02)
NCPPD	Treatment plant and well house	\$ (378.05)
NE Health Lab	Testing	\$ (31.00)
Village of Page	Reim. SEARCH Grant	\$ (5,000.00)
Visa	Postage/Supplies	\$ (406.89)

Total Bills Due: \$ (8,340.80)

Calkins brought the Board's attention to the EOY one-time expenses to the O'Neill Public Schools to forward liquor license fees collected, the balance of the amount approved at the November 2016 meeting for the fire siren donation, and fees forwarded to the State of NE for pet licenses. Calkins also noted that to balance books a reimbursement of funds was required from the utility account to the general fund for money forwarded for the executed of the PER report reimbursed by the SEARCH Grant.

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

Village Police/Ordinance Enforcement – Officer Kohlman was unable to be in attendance.

Nuisance Enforcement: Please refer to Public Comments.

Trustee Bartak took this opportunity to request action be taken regarding the large tree on vacated/defunct lots on East Market street to be removed. After some discussion it was decided that P. Kennedy & Bartak will down this tree and dispose of it as a removal of a public hazard.

Water & Utility Report –

GIS Utility Database: Calkins continues to research whereabouts of data.

Well Testing Results: Calkins advised that Layne Christensen had completed testing and that currently no issues were noted.

Discussion of utilities prompted discussion regarding the proposed water project and USDA grant/loan status.

USDA Application: Calkins presented a summary sheet for the scope of the water project and terms as outlined by the USDA to the Board and public in attendance. The proposed water project would include replumbing of the South well directly into the distribution system to allow both wells to operate at the same time, repairs to the treatment plant, fixing some distribution line issues to provide better water pressure to the East half of the Village, and providing emergency power sources for both well sites.

Proposed funding is for a total project cost of \$583,500.00 of which \$364,500.00 (68.71%) would be funded by a grant from the USDA. The remaining \$189,000.00 would be covered with a G.O. Bond from Rural Development over 40 years at a max 2% interest rate.

Don Linquist, Jr. presented a quote received from Direct Automation out of Sioux Falls regarding repairs needed to the control panel at the treatment plant. This will be taken under advisement when considering the final course of action.

Don Linquist, Jr. exited the meeting at 8:53 p.m.

The Board and public present, expressed concern over the long term revenue needed for repayment. After a lengthy discussion, it was decided to table the matter and request that USDA attend a meeting to answer questions and concerns. Calkins will contact the USDA to determine possible dates and schedule accordingly.

Rick Hammer and Janann Sobotka exited the meeting at 9:33 p.m.

Village Maintenance Report – Kennedy reported the mower will need to go into the shop at the end of the season as some issues are developing. He also advised that he has completed the culvert list noting that the top priority for replacement should be the intersection of 3rd & Smith Street where the culvert has a large hole. Calkins will get pricing and P. Kennedy advised that he can complete the installation.

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS

USDA Grant / Loan Offer – See Water & Utilities Report.

Budget Hearing Closure – Chairperson Linquist asked for discussion regarding the proposed Budget document compiled by Dana Cole & Associates. Upon final review of the same in length, a Motion was made by Trustee Bartak to approve the budget which includes the USDA Grant in case the project is approved at a later date. Vice Mosel seconded. Roll call vote was as follows: R. Linquist – Aye; T. Kennedy – Aye; C. Mosel – Aye; T. Bartak – Aye; D. VanEvery – Absent. Motion passed. Hearing closed at 9:23 p.m.

Tax Request Hearing Closure - Chair Linquist called for any additional comments to be heard regarding tax issues. There being no further comment, the following Resolution 04 – 2017 Setting Tax Requests for 2017-2018 Fiscal Year was presented and read into record as follows:

Resolution 04-2017 Setting Tax Requests for 2017-18 Fiscal Year

WHEREAS, Nebraska Revised Statute 77-1601.02 provides that the property tax request for the prior year shall be the property tax request for the current year for purposes of the levy set by the County Board of Equalization unless the Governing Body of the Village of Page passes by a majority vote a resolution or ordinance setting the tax request at a different amount; and

WHEREAS, a special public hearing was held as required by law to hear and consider comments concerning the property tax request; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the Village that the property tax request for the current year be a different amount than the property tax request for the prior year.

NOW< THEREFORE, the Governing Body of the Village of Page, by a majority vote, resolves that:

1. The 2017-18 Property tax request as adopted be set at \$25,957.02 for the General All Purpose Fund.
2. A copy of this resolution be certified and forwarded to the County Clerk prior to October 13, 2017.

Adopted this 11th day of September, 2017.

/s/ Rachel Linquist, Chairperson
/s/ Cora L. Calkins, Clerk

After the reading, a Motion was made by Vice Mosel, to adopt said Resolution 04-2017 as read into record. Motion was 2nd by Trustee Kennedy. . Roll call vote was as follows: R. Linquist – Aye; T. Kennedy –Aye; C. Mosel – Aye; T. Bartak – Aye; D. VanEvery – Absent. Motion passed.

A Motion was then made by Trustee Kennedy, to increase the total restricted funds by an additional 1%. Motion was 2nd by Trustee Bartak. Roll call vote was as follows: R. Linquist – Aye; T. Kennedy –Aye; C. Mosel – Aye; T. Bartak – Aye; D. VanEvery – Absent. Motion passed.

A lengthy discussion was held regarding the budget waiver process, after which a motion was made by Trustee Bartak, 2nd by Trustee Kennedy not to waive the audit this year. Roll call vote was as follows: R. Linquist – Aye; T. Kennedy –Aye; C. Mosel – Aye; T. Bartak – Aye; D. VanEvery – Absent. Motion passed.

A Motion was then made by Trustee Bartak, 2nd by Vice Mosel to have Calkins will make arrangements to start the audit process with the first accountant choice being Christensen, Brozak, Faltys out of Norfolk. Roll call vote was as follows: R. Linquist – Aye; T. Kennedy –Aye; C. Mosel – Aye; T. Bartak – Aye; D. VanEvery – Absent. Motion passed.

There being no further discussion, Chairperson Linquist declared the Tax Request Hearing closed at 9:30 p.m.

OTHER / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Trustee Bartak advised that he had been approached by a resident regarding the repair state of the business buildings along 5th Street; namely the buildings between the Page Clinic and the Post Office. Calkins advised that she had received a complaint from the same party requesting that a request be made to improve these structures. Calkins will add this to topics of discussion with CNEDD for advice on the subject and converse with property owners.

There being no further business, Vice Mosel made a Motion to adjourn; 2nd by Trustee Bartak. Motion passed all Ayes. Meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

Next month's meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 9, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

/s/ Rachel Linquist, Chairperson
/s/ Cora L. Calkins, Clerk