

Village of Petersburg  
August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023

The Village Chairman and Board of Trustees met for a regular meeting on Tuesday August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in the Village Office. Notices of the meeting were posted at the Village Office, Post Office and Leifeld's on July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023 and published in the Petersburg Press on July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Board members were given prior notice of the meeting.

Board members present: Corey Stokes, Tina Henn, Mitch Koch and Ashley Thieman. Staff: Nick Prothman and Sundae Provencher. Guests: Russ Beam, Glen and Diane Myers, Clyde Stuhr, Deputy Hayden Niewohner, Helen Baumgartner, Larry and Radene Temme and Sheriff Denny Johnson.

Sales tax receipts from May: \$5,640.08 with \$1,345.59 motor vehicle sales tax.

Stokes made a motion to approve the minutes with the corrections needed on page 3, seconded by Henn; roll call votes in favor: Koch, Henn and Stokes; opposed: none; absent: Thieman and Werner.

Treasurer's report was approved with a motion by Henn, seconded by Koch; roll call votes in favor: Thieman, Koch, Henn and Stokes; opposed: none; absent: Werner.

Bills presented for payment:

Wages: 7,131.63

EFTPS, payroll taxes: 1,792.72

Village Regular Account, transfer loan payment: 1,000.06

Village Regular Account, transfer motor vehicle taxes: 1,345.59

Boone County Treasurer, zoning: 100.00

Boone County Treasurer, police protection: 1,375.00

Neil Baumgartner, service fire equipment: 120.00

Esther Steensnes, cleaning: 205.00

Great Plains State Bank, loan payment: 1,000.06

Bud's Sanitary Service, trash service: 2,905.75

Loup Power District, service: 2,202.19

Verizon, cellphone, 79.67

Mike's Auto Repair, tires for mower: 60.00

Boone County Development Agency, membership dues: 2,459.13

Great Plains Communications, service: 459.91

Applied Connective, Microsoft 365: 15.95

NE Public Health Env. Lab, lab fees: 15.00

Loup Power District, service: 144.38

Bomgaars, supplies: 41.55

Sundae Provencher, mileage reimbursement: 125.76

Power Tech, LLC, generator service agreement: 815.00

Helena, supplies: 37.37

Veseris, mosquito spray: 228.18

Rae Valley Repair, supplies: 49.96

Zabka, fuel: 1,012.90  
Appear, service: 77.05  
Island Supply, supplies: 29.76  
Albion News/Boone County Tribune: 92.61  
Yosten Law, LLC, attorney fees: 624.00  
Leifeld's, supplies: 1,484.71  
NE Department of Revenue, sales tax: 62.74  
Black Hills Energy, service: 288.55  
1<sup>st</sup> National Bank of Omaha, supplies: 1,620.11  
1<sup>st</sup> National Bank of Omaha, supplies: 414.00  
Rae Valley Market, supplies: 88.25  
Charles Schwab, retirement: 284.20  
Charles Schwab, retirement: 148.50

Thieman made a motion to pay the bills, seconded by Stokes; roll call votes in favor: Henn, Koch, Thieman and Stokes; opposed: none; absent: Werner.

Police reported 66.23 hours of patrol time. The board asked him to do a check on unlicensed vehicles. The contract with the Boone County Sheriff's Department was discussed. The current contract requires a deputy to live in the Village. Deputy Niewohner has intentions to relocate to St. Edward and asked if the Village Board would remove the stipulation of a deputy of living in town. Niewohner stated he hasn't been called out while off duty while living in Petersburg. Officers are still 10 miles out; response times wouldn't be affected. Niewohner will still take care of Ordinance violations and nuisances when on duty. Niewohner stated that he could wait till the contract renewal is up to change it, contract renews automatically in April. Stokes will speak to the insurance company regarding response times before proceeding with the changes.

Sheriff Johnson expressed his appreciation of the Village Board working with the department. There are openings for officers all over, it is a profession that is difficult to get people recruited for. The dynamics of law enforcement have changed in recent years. Sheriff Johnson stated that the contract with the Village has not been updated since 2007. Salaries for officers have increased but that cost has never been passed down to their contracted towns. He asked if the Village could budget for an increase.

No updates on Boone County Development Agency.

The Zoning board hired a new person to take over the Zoning Administrator position previously held by Mary. David Patak has been training him to take over the zoning and road departments.

Community improvement: Top Kote has been hired for the armor coating this year. The first quote the board received has been changed. The new quoted price is around \$18,000, the first bid was for a 6,000-gallon tanker which would do about 24 blocks, the Village will only be doing 7 blocks.

Stokes spoke with the engineer about a culvert on 8<sup>th</sup> and Lincoln St. The culvert needs a 5–6-foot extension. An invoice for the road construction on 145<sup>th</sup> street should be received soon. It was approximately \$85,000.

Ordinance 2018-2 regulating liquor sales was discussed. 386 Tap and the American Legion both have Class C Liquor Licenses. The current ordinance prohibits liquor sales on Sundays. The American Legion as a non-profit was believed to be allowed to sell liquor. Clyde Stuhr stated that was not correct because the bar in the American Legion is for profit. The city ordinance states no liquor can be sold on Sunday's, and for a long time the American Legion was the only one opened on Sunday. They became a Class C License holder years ago when Knotty Pine was closed.

386 Tap wants to be able to sell liquor on Sunday's. Stokes stated businesses should be allowed to sell liquor according to their license. Henn agrees the board shouldn't tell a business how and when to sell alcohol. Beam the Commander of The American Legion stated he wasn't opposed of 386 Tap selling on Sundays. People come to the American Legion and play KENO; he doesn't think they will lose business to 386 Tap.

Different crowds have been seen at both establishments. Both establishments have Class C licenses and according to State Laws are both allowed to sell on Sunday if the Village Board lifts the restrictions on Sunday sales. If the Tap closed earlier than the American Legion, some patrons may end up at the American Legion. Both businesses could benefit from lifting the restrictions on Sunday sales.

Stoks made a motion to lift the restrictions on Sunday sales in Ordinance 2018-2 so people can sell liquor according to their license, seconded by Henn; roll call votes in favor: Thieman, Koch, Henn and Stokes; opposed: none; absent: Werner.

Larry Temme said his store was brought into this discussion when it has nothing to do with the Bar, he would like it on the record that shouldn't have been mentioned. The store and the bar have nothing to do with each other.

The board asked how soon this Ordinance needed to be passed for the football season. The board may gather for a special meeting to pass this Ordinance sooner than the next regular meeting September 5<sup>th</sup>.

Bud's Sanitary amendment to contract was discussed. Bud's is moving to a new tote system, so it takes less personnel. Commercial properties will also move to the new tote system unless they have a dumpster. Bud's will own the totes and they stay with the house. The contract with Bud's Sanitary was up for renewal in January. The board decided to move ahead to guarantee the price of the totes. The new price will be \$17.75 per pick-up per month. A second tote would be an additional \$5 a month. The board decided to move forward sooner rather than January so the price of the totes would not increase. It will take a while to get all the totes. Bud's will only pick up what is in the totes, nothing else. Bud's Sanitary was going to move forward with this new tote system regardless. The increase will be passed down to residents. \$9 a quarter increase. The resolution for trash prices will need to be revised.

Koch asked if there was an alternative for the elderly people in town. 96-gallon tote might be too much for the elderly residents who only have one bag of trash a week. It doesn't seem fair to increase that much when they only have one bag a week. Bud's

will be asked if there is an alternative for elderly people. Contract will not be amended until asking Bud's for alternatives for elderly people.

Stokes asked to move the drafted occupation tax ordinance to next month for more time to review. Thieman stated wanting to pass it so it could be included in the new code being done by American Legal Publishing. The current occupation tax ordinance lists irrelevant things such as dog and pony show and a \$10 a day occupation tax for photographers. The responses to the Legal/Editorial review from Am. Legal are due back August 18<sup>th</sup>. The board could hold a special meeting for this ordinance. American Legal Publishing will be contacted to see if 2 new ordinances the board is about to pass could be included if submitted after September meeting.

Accountant's letter of engagement from Mueller and Honcik was reviewed. Jordan Mueller will be doing it and he will have access to past records from Martinsen. Koch made a motion to sign off on the accountant's letter of engagement with Mueller and Honcik, seconded by Thieman, roll call votes in favor: Stokes, Henn, Koch and Thieman; opposed: none; absent: Werner.

The semi-annual generator agreement with Power Tech, LLC was reviewed. Stokes made a motion to sign the agreement, seconded by Koch; roll call votes in favor: Thieman, Koch, Henn and Stokes; opposed: none; absent: Werner.

Prothman reported that Steve Faust couldn't make it to the meeting tonight but wanted Nick to speak from Faust's point of view. Faust had his sewer line cleaned out and he didn't think he needed to pay since it was filled with gravel from the county road. The town is responsible for the main, homeowners are responsible for their private lines. It was \$670 for the whole thing. It is not broken down from his house to the manhole. The gravel got in the line from a clean-out on the county road, the clean-out is the owners. The board would like for him to come to a meeting to discuss further.

Prothman gave an update on the interior painting of the water tower. The painting was finished today. It will have to sit and dry for a week. A tech will come next week to test it, then it can be filled up and chlorinated. It was sandblasted, primed, sika flexed and painted.

Top Kote has Petersburg's armor coating scheduled for the end of September. Gravel will come from Emme, 96-tons will be received.

Prothman said an electrician will provide a quote for replacing the light at the ballfield and look at other lights that are out there as well. A replacement LED will be around \$2,000 for one fixture. GPM was having issues with the flow meter at the wastewater treatment plant last year, Nick is awaiting an updated quote. There is still money budgeted in sewer repairs.

Prothman reported that lead and copper testing was completed today. It gets tested every three years and it's the same five residents every time, they were very helpful while collecting samples.

Sydney Newquist asked Nick if he could fog for mosquitoes for her wedding next weekend at a farm outside of town. The board didn't think that would be a good idea due to using Nick's time and the Village's spray.

Provencher asked if she could remove the surcharge off the water bills now that the UV loan for the wastewater treatment plant has been paid off. The board said that would be fine. Provencher reported that Prothman went over his credit limit last month due to the new fence at the ballfield and the splash pad project. Provencher inquired about increasing his limit. The current limit is set at \$1,500. In five years, this is the first time he has gone over his limit, some months he doesn't spend much, other months he spends more. The board agreed that \$1,500 isn't much anymore and the credit card bill is reviewed prior to paying. Thieman made a motion to increase Prothman's credit limit to \$3,000, seconded by Henn; votes in favor: Stokes, Henn, Thieman and Koch; opposed: none; absent: Werner.

Provencher told the board she had someone inquire about grilling at the Highway 14 park. There are no grills or firepits there so this person wasn't sure if she was allowed to bring in her own grill. The board discussed grills at the park and determined one was not necessary to provide, the one at the Main St. Park has never been used. People usually bring in their own grills.

Koch mentioned the board had \$20,000 set aside for fire equipment purchases, that was set aside for more air packs. Koch will talk to the Fire Department about the air packs.

Stokes reported receiving a letter from Great Plains Communications regarding them discontinuing cable services in September. Great Plains Communications will be going to streaming services only. The speeds are not fast enough for streaming. Current service is 20 x 1, not big enough for streaming. The Franchise Agreement will be reviewed to see if cable is a requirement.

Thieman made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Henn. Meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

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Corey Stokes, Chairman

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sundae Provencher, Clerk