

Village of Petersburg
November 7th, 2023

The Village Chairman and Board of Trustees met for a regular meeting on November 7th, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in the Village Office. Notice of the meeting was posted at the Village Office, Post Office and Leifeld's on October 30th and published in the Petersburg Press on November 1st. Board members were given prior notice of the meeting.

Board members present: Mitch Koch, Tina Henn, Corey Stokes, Steve Werner and Ashley Thieman. Staff: Nick Prothman and Sundae Provencher. Guests: Helen Baumgartner of Petersburg Press and Deputy Dustin Martin.

Sales tax receipts from August: \$6,991.33 with \$2,189.39 motor vehicle sales tax.

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

Treasurer's report was approved with a motion by Thieman, seconded by Henn; roll call votes in favor: Thieman, Koch, Werner and Henn; Stokes abstained.

Bills presented for payment:

Wages: 5,471.21

EFTPS, payroll taxes: 1,647.38

Village Regular Account, transfer loan payment: 1,000.06

Village Regular Account, transfer motor vehicle taxes: 2,189.39

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, security box: 26.00

Great Plains Communications: service: 459.97

Applied Connective, Microsoft office 365: 25.40

Boone Central School, 3 class C liquor license fees: 900.00

Great Plains State Bank, TIF Bond & wiring fee: 10,015.00

Great Plains State Bank, TIF Interest & wiring fee: 1,358.75

Loup Power District, service: 2,011.75

NE Public Health Env. Lab, lab fees: 49.00

Bud's Sanitary, service: 3,489.00

Mueller & Honcik, budget and end of year report: 2,400.00

NDEE Water Operators, water license: 115.00

Peterburg Building Supply, supplies: 47.38

Appeara, laundry costs: 79.72

Island Supply, supplies: 29.76

Midwest Labs, lab fees: 305.12

American Legal Publishing, recodification: 1,739.72

Speed Services, repairs: 1,615.00

One Call Concepts, service: 1.18

Yosten Law, attorney fees: 416.00
Leifeld's, supplies: 150.85
Zabka, fuel: 489.12
Helena, supplies: 550.00
NE Department of Revenue, sales tax: 49.50
Black Hills Energy, service: 272.70
1st National Bank of Omaha, supplies: 108.52
1st National Bank of Omaha, supplies: 93.64
Verizon, service: 86.85
Charles Schwab, retirement: 284.20
Charles Schwab, retirement: 148.50

Henn made a motion to pay the bills and those not in yet, seconded by Stokes; votes in favor: Thieman, Koch, Werner, Henn and Stokes.

Werner was informed by a board member from another town that they saved up money instead of doing annual armor coating and paved the whole town. The board had a small discussion on the topic and decided it could be something to think about.

Police reported 55.82 hours of patrol time. The board asked if the list of unlicensed vehicles given last month was checked on. Martin wasn't aware of it but will check into it.

A newsletter from BCDA was distributed to the board.

Community Improvement: Letters were sent to some residents with overhanging trees. One resident has requested assistance with his trees. Another resident in town offered to help assist anyone with overhanging trees by the Village Campus.

Chairman Stokes had Dwayne Kuhlman and Tony Levander take an updated aerial photo of the Village to hang up with the two currently in the Village Office. The best two were presented to the board to choose the best one. The pictures are not the same angle as the others but capture the new housing development. A photo was chosen, Stokes will do some research on where to get it blown up and printed.

Thieman made a motion to adopt Resolution 2023-7 signing of the year-end certification of city street superintendent for 2023, seconded by Koch; roll call votes in favor: Stokes, Henn, Werner, Koch and Thieman. Chairman Stokes signed the Year-end Certification.

Brandi Yosten of Yosten Law drafted a letter to send to Sea Spray regarding the unfunctional splash pad. Rick from Sea Spray wants to drill down and ground each individual component. The State Electrical Inspector said that will not bring the Splash Pad to compliance. Rick of Sea Spray refuses to work with the State Inspector any further. The letter from Yosten states what is wrong with the splash pad and what is expected of the company to remedy the issues. The letter requests a confirmation of intention for remediation, if confirmation is not received the Village will take further action to correct the defective splash pad. Henn made a motion to send the letter after updating the dates, Koch seconded the motion; votes in favor: Thieman, Koch, Werner, Henn and Stokes.

The 2023 Big Give is about to start. There are 5 organizations from Petersburg on the Big Give this year. A fundraising event for the Big Give will be held on December 2nd, in the Village Campus. The Village is on the Big Give for the tree project in the Highway 14 park. It was asked if someone from the Park Board would be present at the event. There will be food at the event consisting of heavy appetizers such as dips, and a deli tray, supplies will be purchased from Rae Valley Market. Each organization involved is asked to share the cost of food and advertising with each group chipping in \$50-\$75. Members of the park board will be asked if they can be present at the event.

Prothman stated that he had injected 45 trees so far at the park. Names are being collected from people donating to the trees and they will be put on a plaque at the end of the project.

Discussion was held on collecting emails as another avenue to pass along information about the town versus the paper and Facebook. When the water main broke and the Village put out a voluntary boil water notice there were complaints from residents who never heard about it. The email list will help ensure all residents receive updates. Wording has to be careful as this would be used for water/sewer related issues and not a newsletter type of thing. Thieman will word the request for gathering emails to be put on the January bills, residents can then right their email address on the bill stub when paying utilities.

Shipping containers were discussed, this topic was forwarded from the previous meeting so all board members could give input. The Village Board passed regulations for shipping containers in residentially zoned areas. It was asked if they wanted to add anything to the business and industrial areas. Anything the board wants to pass involving zoning regulations has to go through the county first. Currently they have to get a conditional use permit for a shipping container. Nothing in the zoning regulations clearly states shipping containers are or are not allowed. The Wind Farm had to get a conditional use permit which required covering three sides and being on a concrete slab. Currently the ordinance states they can be used temporarily for construction only. Discussion was had on whether or not they should include requirements or leave it as a conditional use. If it is left as a conditional use permit any acting board will have final say on what is allowed. It could be a conditional use permit with a list of minimum requirements. The board will discuss shipping containers again at the next meeting.

Stokes was approached by an individual asking if the Village would cost share a tree and stump removal for the Petersburg Industrial Development Corporation. The tree removal cost is \$1,800. Trees in the right of way are the owner's responsibility. PIDC gets sales tax money from the Village, the funds are used to clean up, buy and sell lots which results in more property tax money for the Village. Removing the tree and stumps would help make that lot more saleable.

Werner mentioned that letters were just sent to property owners to trim their trees, which are also in the right of way. Cost sharing a tree removal is not a good idea. Discussion was held. Stokes stated his uncertainty of whether the request was official or not. It was decided that it should be discussed with PIDC first. No action was taken on the cost share.

Henn made a motion to approve Ted Bode as a new member of the Petersburg Volunteer Fire Department, seconded by Thieman, votes in favor: Stokes, Henn, Werner, Koch and Thieman.

Prothman reported the generator at the wastewater treatment plant is up and running. A walkthrough will be held when the weather warms back up. Last Monday (Nov. 6th) the '00 well was pulled out to replace the bearings. They looked at the well with a camera and it looks good, the well will be put back together tomorrow (Nov. 8th). Prothman has to take 2 samples 24 hours apart before it can go back online. The well should be good for another 15 years.

Provencher reported that Bud's Sanitary sent over some information which was distributed to the board. Bud's currently takes the trash to the Northeast Nebraska Solid Waste Coalition which is now requiring any municipality whose trash gets taken there to become a member of the coalition. A letter requesting membership gets sent, then after receiving acceptance from the NNSWC the Village has to pass a Resolution. They have a January 1st deadline, but as long as our letter is received by then and they know we are in the process of becoming a member they will accept that. Koch made a motion to send a letter to apply for membership with the NNSWC, seconded by Thieman; votes in favor: Stokes, Henn, Werner, Koch and Thieman.

Provencher reported that the Municipal Clerks Institute is in Columbus next year, March 18-22. Thieman made a motion for Sundae to book a hotel room for that week, seconded by Werner, votes in favor: Stokes, Henn, Werner, Koch and Thieman.

Provencher sent vacant property letters to the properties that were added to the vacant property list last December. Next month marks a year since they received the registration notice, if they don't register by then they risk a \$250 fine. Vacant properties will be added to the December agenda.

Henn reported that there have been several complaints of 2 dogs barking all night by her house. Werner will deliver them a dog ordinance. A thank you card was received from the Temme family. The Village sent a floral arrangement to Larry Temme's funeral. The Village expresses deep condolences to the family. Larry Temme has come to several meetings and has done a lot for the community. He was heavily involved throughout Boone County; he will be greatly missed.

Thieman made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Koch seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Corey Stokes, Chairman

ATTEST: _____

Sundae Provencher, Clerk