

Village of Petersburg
May 7th, 2024

The Village Chairman and Board of Trustees of the Village of Petersburg, Nebraska met for a regular meeting on Tuesday May 7th, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. in the Village Office. Notice of the meeting was published in the Petersburg Press on May 1st, 2024, and posted at the Village Office, Post Office and Leifeld's on April 30th, 2024. Board members were given prior notice of the meeting. Chairman Stokes called the meeting to order stating the Open Meetings Act was posted.

Board members present: Corey Stokes, Tina Henn, Steve Werner, Ashley Thieman and Mitch Koch arrived at 7:08 p.m. Staff: Nick Prothman and Sundae Provencher. Guests: Helen Baumgartner from Petersburg Press, Officer Beekman, Nathan Thieman and Hank Thieman.

Thieman made a motion to approve the minutes, Werner seconded the motion with two corrections to the minutes, a spelling error and a missing dollar amount in the bills, roll call votes in favor: Stokes, Henn, Werner and Thieman, absent: Koch; opposed: none; motion carried.

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

Bills presented for payment:

Wages: 5,803.82

EFTPs, payroll taxes: 1,612.62

Boone County Treasurer, zoning: 100.00

Boone County Treasurer, police: 1,375.00

Neil Baumgartner, service fire equipment: 120.00

Esther Steensnes, cleaning buildings and park restrooms: 210.25

Northeast NE Ec. Development Dist., membership dues: 670.00

Tinsley Grain, 14.67 tons of red rock for camper spots: 528.12

Bullseye Fire Sprinkler, sprinkler inspection: 410.00

BCDA, semi-annual membership dues: 2,459.13

Power & Packaging, tree donation plaque: 350.00

NE Public Health Env. Lab, lab fees: 47.00

USA Blue Book, supplies: 62.86

Yosten Law, attorney fees: 564.00

Rae Valley Market, supplies: 131.68

La Quinta Inn & Suites, Nick's hotel room for conference: 229.90

Loup Power Dist., electricity: 1,906.99

Applied Connective, upgrading QuickBooks: 262.50

Petersburg Bldg. Supply, supplies: 15.25

Reigle Implement: mower blades: 78.45

Island Supply, cylinder rental and caps for delivery: 64.71

Zabka, fuel: 520.06

Applied Connective, Microsoft office: 12.70
Power Manager, utility bills postcards and late notices: 239.92
Appear, laundry costs: 74.06
Pelster Sand & Gravel, hauled 1 load of red rock: 90.00
Midwest Labs, lab fees: 263.97
Leifeld's, supplies: 182.73
Albion News/Boone County Tribune, advertising and supplies: 206.05
Bud's Sanitary, trash service: 3,521.75
Cedar Valley Insurance Agency, worker's comp. insurance audit: 351.00
Great Plains State Bank, bond interest and wiring fee: 1,236.25
Rae Valley Market, TIF Reimbursement: 1,327.31
Rae Valley Market, TIF Reimbursement: 279.41
Albion News/Boone County Tribune, advertising and supplies: 161.58
Yosten Law, attorney costs: 208.00
NE Dept. of Revenue, sales tax: 41.23
First National Bank of Omaha, supplies: 165.85
First National Bank of Omaha, supplies: 203.16
Black Hills Energy, natural gas: 757.62
Verizon, cell phone: 79.83
Charles Schwab, retirement fees: 298.41
Charles Schwab, retirement fees: 156.00
Schmader Electric, ballfield light repairs: 2,846.77

Stokes made a motion to pay the bills except the one from Schmader Electric, and those bills not in yet, seconded by Henn; roll call votes in favor: Thieman, Werner, Henn and Stokes; opposed: none; absent: Koch. The Schmader bill will be discussed later in the meeting.

Police reported 61.43 hours with 1 warning and 1 paper service. The board reminded the Officer of the upcoming BRAN and Firemen's Dance & Cruise Night. Werner asked about mopeds/scooters below 50cc's. Currently the Village doesn't have an Ordinance on these types of motor vehicles but could pass something if interested.

Nothing to report on BCDA or Zoning.

Discussion was held on the bill from Schmader Electric for repairing the Ball Field light. The Village was first quoted 3 to 4 grand, but the bill received was nearly \$8,500. Stokes called and spoke with someone at Schmader's, and they would like to get their money back from the parts and labor and are willing to let the Village make payments. The agreement was never signed, and it states signature required for work to commence. It also states that any additional work that may need to be done will be communicated prior. The light is required for player safety. There is a large variance between the quote and the bill, communication would have been nice. Werner made a motion to make 3 monthly payments and ad a note about communication in the future, seconded by Stokes; roll call votes in favor: Thieman, Koch, Werner, Henn and Stokes; opposed: none, motion carried.

Community Improvement: The Community Club is planning on cleaning up the parks on Friday May 17th. They asked if they could use the skid loader that evening. The board is fine with them using the skid loader for park clean up.

The golf committee donated \$500 to the Village. Hank Thieman presented the board with the donation check. Hank Thieman and Nathan Thieman stated the golf league would like to add sprinklers for new trees and some voids near the #1 hole with either an electric or solar panel for a control panel for automatic watering to make it more efficient. Prothman was concerned about the grass being wet when mowing. The golf league was thinking about watering nightly at 10 p.m. for anywhere between an hour to 3 hours, adjusting accordingly. Prothman stated he watered last year about twice a week for 5 hours after mowing. Watering during the night is more beneficial due to the high temps and evaporation during the daytime. Discussion was held on the power boxes and watering schedule. The golf committee plans on paying for the sprinkler installation and power box, they were just asking the board permission to proceed. They have 50 to 55 golfers registered for the season.

Koch made a motion to move forward with the sprinklers and the electrical set-ups, Thieman seconded the motion; roll call vote was held, Stokes abstained due to the not agreeing with the water scheduling, further discussion was held on water scheduling. The golf league stated they are willing to rediscuss or change anything that isn't working with the automatic watering. Roll call vote was taken again, votes in favor: Henn, Stokes, Werner, Koch and Thieman; opposed: none; motion carried. Werner stated 4 hours of watering at night was not necessary, Hank Thieman stated they won't water that long, and they are willing to rediscuss if issues arise.

The list of firefighters was reviewed. Werner and Fire Chief Baumgartner went over the list and there are changes that need to be made. 4 people were removed from the list due to not attending meetings, and one person was listed as a firefighter instead of rescue. The changes will be reported to the insurance company and the updated list will be signed and returned. Koch made a motion to approve the updated list of firefighters, seconded by Thieman; roll call votes in favor: Stokes, Henn, Werner, Koch and Thieman; opposed: none; motion carried.

Resolution 2024-3 establishing water rates was reviewed. The board agreed to a 3% increase last month. Thieman made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-3 establishing water rates, seconded by Henn; roll call votes in favor: Koch, Werner, Stokes, Thieman and Henn; opposed: none; motion carried.

Resolution 2024-4 establishing parade route for Firemen's Cruise night was reviewed. It is the same resolution that was passed for last year's cruise night. Stokes made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-4 establishing parade route for cruise night, seconded by Henn; votes in favor: Thieman, Koch, Werner, Henn and Stokes; opposed: none; motion carried.

Discussion was held on increasing trash rates. There is no longer a twice-a-week pick-up option so that will be removed from the resolution. Home business rate will be removed. The current trash rates are based on people living in the home. If we average those rates, it comes out to \$18 a month. Bud's charges the Village 17.75 per pick-up per

month with a 25 cent increase every January. It was decided to have a flat rate for homes of \$17.75 plus \$5 per additional totes and increase in December to align with Bud's increase. Business rates will remain as they are currently. The resolution will be rewritten and approved at the next meeting.

Discussion was held on the dog ordinance for licensing purposes. Provencher stated after the last meeting a few more people have registered their dogs. Currently there are 11 dogs unregistered. Clerk Provencher sent out letters today, hopefully will get the rest registered after that letter. The current ordinance considers unregistered dogs a nuisance and can be classified as a misdemeanor and get fined up to \$500. Provencher will speak with Brandi Yosten and see if there is anything else we can do to help get dogs registered or rewrite to Ordinance.

Prothman stated the pick-up is having issues with the cam-phase. It drives fine in town but shakes intensely when on the highway. He no longer feels comfortable driving to Albion. When cam-phases go out they can quickly damage the whole engine. Prothman had got a quote of \$1,985 to repair it. Thieman made a motion to get the repairs done on the pick-up, Stokes seconded; votes in favor: Henn, Werner, Koch, Thieman and Stokes; opposed: none; motion carried.

Prothman said a hydrant located at the corner of Highway 14 and Main Street needs to be replaced. When he exercises the hydrants, that one is hard to turn and gets stuck. It needs to be scheduled for replacement. It will be put in the next budget for replacement. Discussion was held on replacing a few hydrants in a year as there are a few leaky ones.

Prothman received one quote for armor coating from TopKote for \$22,300 for 8 blocks. Zwingman was here a few weeks back and stated we need to start getting 9th street done. It will be put on the budget list. Discussion was held on armor coating or saving for a few years and lay concrete. Thieman made a motion to hire TopKote for armor coating 8 blocks, Werner seconded the motion; votes in favor: Henn, Werner, Koch and Thieman; opposed: none; abstained: Stokes; motion carried.

Discussion was held on getting gravel for the road through the park, there are some blank spaces, it gets really muddy. They plan to use the area behind the crow's nest during BRAN and it could use some gravel to help with mud prevention. Stokes made a motion to get a load of gravel from Pelster Sand & Gravel, seconded by Werner; votes in favor: Henn, Koch, Thieman, Stokes and Werner; opposed: none; motion carried. Armor coating will have to be scheduled after BRAN and the Firemen's Cruise night.

Johnson's Service Company will be in the area at the end of next week or at the end of the summer. It was decided to wait till the end of the summer to jet sewer lines so Prothman can determine the worst ones to do. A culvert behind Knotty Pine caved in. At some point it will need to be replaced. Rutjen's and Speed Services will be contacted to fix that culvert and extend the one on 8th Street.

Prothman said he ordered a bunch of new signs. The Fire department wanted new no parking signs for in front of their doors. Prothman ordered 4 new stop signs and a new no entry sign for the boulevard. The company that calibrates the mosquito fogger will be coming next week.

Thieman reported the west wing of the Village Campus has occupancy now. The Village Office can move in whenever ready now. The contract still needs to be signed; the library needs to be included as well. Stuhr asked Prothman to bring benches for the Memorial Program, and the benches could stay there until after BRAN.

Discussion was held on summer help. There have been no applicants so far. It was questioned if the Village could hire 14- and 15-year-olds for summer help. Provencher found information stating that 14- and 15-year-olds are not allowed to operate any of the lawn mowers. They could paint and do clean up though. The ad will be changed to remove the 16-year-old portion in hopes to get someone hired. Jerry Thieman will have to be utilized more often. Hess Claar a retired county worker said he was interested in mowing for the summer.

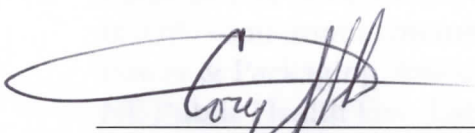
There has been a complaint on the compost pile. It is getting big and starting to smell. It used to be \$100 per load to get it hauled out, that might have increased now. The board agreed to haul out 15 loads from the compost pile. The gazebo on main street is in poor condition. Thieman noticed the board on the right side is no longer attached and is worried a child might get injured. The wood is too rotten to repair it. The shingles need to be replaced. It would be a good job for the boy scouts to repair.

Stokes has received complaints on the cellphone tower northwest of town. It whistles when it is windy. They put new equipment on it recently. There is a number on the fence. Thieman will call them.

The curb stop in front of the post office has been repaired. The pipe was galvanized and that usually means it was connected to the main with a lead piece. They were both removed and the main was capped off.

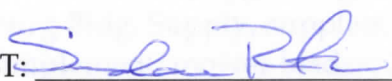
The lawsuit for the Splash Pad is being filed. It is springtime right now and Prothman has been busy. He will need to get some help for the summer soon.

Thieman made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Henn. Meeting adjourned at 8:54 p.m.



Corey Stokes, Chairman



ATTEST: 

Sundae Provencher, Clerk/Treasurer