

Village of Petersburg
July 7th, 2026

The Chairman and Village Board of Trustees met for a regular meeting and a safety meeting on Tuesday July 7th, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. in the Village office. Notice of the meeting was published in the Petersburg Press on July 1st, and posted at the Village Office, Post Office and Leifeld's on June 26th. Board members were given prior notice of the meeting. Chairman Stokes called the meeting to order stating the Open Meetings Act is posted.

Board members present: Corey Stokes, Annette Devall, Mitch Koch and Ashley Thieman; staff: Nick Prothman and Sundae Provencher. Guests: Nick Schwager, Ross Knott, Helen Baumgartner of Petersburg Press, Officer Buck, and Jennifer Whited.

Thieman moved to approve June's minutes, seconded by Devall, votes in favor: Stokes, Devall, Thieman and Koch; opposed: none.

The treasurer's report was approved with a motion by Koch seconded by Devall; votes in favor: Thieman, Stokes, Koch and Devall; opposed: none.

Bills presented for payment:

Wages: 8,282.27

EFTPs, payroll taxes: 1,986.04

Boone County Treasurer, zoning: 100.00

Boone County Treasurer, police protection: 1,375.00

Petersburg Community Foundation, rent: 350.00

Neil Baumgartner, service fire equipment: 120.00

Esther Steensnes, cleaning: 221.54

Great Plains Communications, telephone & internet service: 300.38

Loup Power District, electricity service: 2,703.88

Village Regular Account, transfer motor vehicle sales tax: 1,182.92

NE Department of Revenue, state payroll taxes: 823.29

Bud's Sanitary, trash service: 3,931.00

Applied Connective, Microsoft & antivirus software: 78.22

Applied Connective, security camera system: 85.00

Midwest Labs, lab fees: 260.00

Code 3 Fire & Rescue, life insurance: 2,138.40

NE Public Health Env. Lab, lab fees: 15.00

One Call Concepts, service: 1.64

Appeara, laundry costs: 80.15

Yosten Law, attorney fees: 203.00

Kayton International, bobcat lease: 4,926.00

Casidy Baumgartner, water deposit return: 100.00

Carrie Petsche, water deposit return: 100.00

Radene Temme, water deposit return: 100.00

Seth Schumacher, water deposit return: 100.00

Petersburg Building & Supply, supplies: 486.72

Reigle Implement, supplies: 182.78

Capital Business Systems, copier lease: 113.45

Charles Schwab, retirement: 200.04

Charels Schwab, retirement: 295.42

NE Department of Revenue, sales tax: 249.13
Black Hills Energy, natural gas: 404.61
Leifeld's, supplies: 251.78
First National Bank of Omaha, supplies: 753.85
First National Bank of Omaha, supplies: 207.73
Albion News/Boone County Tribune, advertising: 260.21
Verizon, cellphone: 98.16

Stokes made a motion to pay the bills and those not in yet, seconded by Thieman; votes in favor: Koch, Devall, Thieman and Stokes; opposed: none.

Sales tax from April: \$5,087.93 with \$1,182.92 motor vehicle sales tax.

Police reported 67.62 hours of patrol time.

BCDA sent a monthly update flyer.

Community Improvement: there have been some potholes filled, new banners have been put up and the park light improvements were made. Ross Knott was present to talk about the Splash Pad and installing a soda machine in the park. It was the intention to install a soda machine to get some revenue to assist with maintaining the splash pad. A meeting was held with some park board members last week and an individual is interested in installing a soda machine and stocking it up, not sure how profitable it would be. Perhaps they could work out a deal with the Village, maybe giving 25% of the profits to the Village. Knott mentioned since electricity at The Gathering Place is covered by the Village, maybe the Village could cover electricity for the soda machine. Knott asked how the board would like to proceed in getting a soda machine in the park. Stokes stated he likes the idea of having a soda machine in the park but not someone getting 100% profit off it, the Village has expenses at the park with water and electricity. The Village Campus has a soda machine however the Village doesn't own the Campus just rents office space. Knott stated the individual who wants to install the machine could do a trial run this year with expenses and income and see what percentage could be given back to the Village. Summer is almost over already, and the kids go back to school next month, not sure if that is enough time to see how it would go.

The board doesn't want the responsibility of having to keep the machine stocked. It has worked out the Petersburg Community Foundation having an individual being solely responsible for the machine and keeping it stocked. Having the added convenience is nice. Vandalism could be a risk for the machine in the park, might want to discuss that with Travis. Stokes and Koch will speak with Travis about the soda machine in the park.

Knott stated there were other final improvements to the splash pad that were discussed. He is not sure how much money is left for the splash pad. They talked about installing a few handicap spots on the south side, but that would cut into the road. The north side could use more sidewalk, the east side has some sidewalk, but they were thinking about doing a little loop and connecting all of the sidewalks together. When you enter from the south there is a patch of grass there, they would like to put in a concrete pad for a bike rack to keep bikes off the splash pad. Last fall Knott got a bid for two stalls and about 8 feet of sidewalk and it was \$5,000. We could get some bids again and put these improvements on the Big Give. Thieman stated we were looking into some grants for park improvements. There has been a lot of out of county vehicles in the park using the splash pad and shelter. Knott stated there is now two banks in town, if the Village is opening any CD's or new accounts, Cedar Rapids State Bank would love an opportunity at the Village's funds.

Jennifer Whited was present to discuss the letters she has received for vacant property and a nuisance letter for a trailer sitting on the premise for so long. Jennifer stated a letter was sent in October, she didn't receive it until December. Her husband recently filed for divorce, and she

couldn't do anything during that period. Jennifer also stated she is an overnight caregiver. She would like to fix the house up and sell it and to get the vacancy dropped. The board stated the ordinance requires her to submit a plan for the house which would be registering it as a vacant property. Jennifer stated she doesn't want to register it as vacant as that would make selling it harder. She doesn't want to sell the house it is her home, but now she has to fix it up and sell it due to the circumstances. She also stated she can't afford to pay the fees that come with the vacant property. Jennifer stated this being a small village it should be more personal. Someone should have talked to her before sending all the letters. The board explained the purpose of the vacant property ordinance and the Village's goal of enforcing it is to keep houses maintained and to have traction to proceed. Stokes stated we could stop sending the letters as long as the house stays maintained.

The trailer was previously parked between the sidewalk and street. The Village has an ordinance against that. Jennifer then moved the trailer to the back of the house stating she was using it to clean out the house. The board sent another letter in June regarding the trailer because they have seen no activity at the house or trailer. Jennifer stated she has been moving stuff from the trailer to the house and from the house to the trailer. The board asked how long she needed to keep that trailer there to clean out the house. It was agreed that the trailer can stay there until November to give her time to get the house cleaned out. Jennifer requested a phone call when that date approaches instead of a letter.

A letter of engagement from Mueller and Honcik for doing the budget was reviewed. Thieman made a motion to approve the letter of engagement, seconded by Devall; votes in favor: Stokes, Koch, Devall and Thieman; opposed: none.

Resolution 2026-4 declaring the Village of Petersburg a municipal corporation without articles of incorporation was reviewed. Clerk Provencher explained ever since moving office locations there has been difficulty registering in SAM, which is an annual requirement. This resolution was passed for the same reason last year, but there was an error of having the 200 E Main St. address on it not the current address. They request different documentation to prove identity; this year they requested a bank statement with the whole business name and physical address. This resolution may help in future years. Thieman moved to approve Resolution 2026-4, seconded by Koch, votes in favor: Stokes, Devall, Thieman, and Koch; opposed: none.

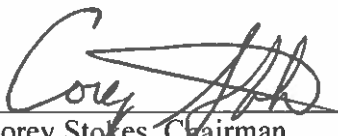
Prothman reported armor coating will be done at the end of the month. Gravel has been ordered and will be here by the end of the week. The new alley behind Elaine Paulson's is a muddy pit. Prothman asked if he could grate it and put down rock as a base. The board agreed it should get a good base before people start using it. New boards were put on the bleacher used during the carnival.

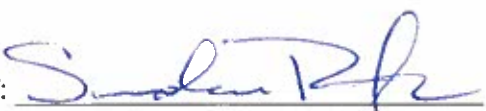
Provencher reported she is still in contact with Mike Bacon and working on getting the TIF account figured out. The auditors sent an email stating last year Petersburg's expenditures were below the \$500,000 threshold that requires an audit. This year we may be under the threshold and can waive the audit, Provencher ran a report and this year's current expenditures is \$464,691.78 and there is still 3 months left of the budget. Skipping the audit would save money but they really go through all our accounts and make sure they are good and offer good advice to keep funds running efficiently. It is nice getting that audit report every year. Provencher will run a report after this month and see where we sit.

The State Historical Society did their final inspection and released the restrictive covenant for the office building at 200 E Main Street. Chairman Stokes requested to go into executive session to discuss the covenant, and the building. Thieman made a motion to go into executive session to

protect the public interest to discuss the office building, seconded by Koch. Board went into executive session at 8:14 p.m.

Board adjourned at 8:28 p.m.


Corey Stokes, Chairman

ATTEST: 
Sundae Provencher, Clerk/Treasurer

