

## BUDGET & TAX REQUEST HEARING-REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Budget Hearing and Tax Request Hearing, of the Village Board of Trustees of Coleridge, Nebraska was held at the Coleridge Community Building in said Village. Budget Hearing scheduled at 6:30 p.m. Monday, September 11, 2023. Present were Chairman George R. Hefner and Trustees, Leroy Cautrell, Chad Frerichs, Jeremy Bruning. Also present were Brenda Lage, Seth Malcom, Mandy Bruning and Sharon Anderson.

Hearing notice was given in advance by publication in the Laurel Advocate on September 6, 2023. Chairman Hefner called the hearing to order; he stated a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was available for review and indicated the location of the copy posted in the meeting room. Motion by Cautrell, seconded by Frerichs to approve agenda. Hearing no objections, the Chairman declared the hearings agenda approved as printed.

There is a Board vacancy due to the resignation of Trustee Kelly Hammer. Motion by Chairman Hefner to appoint Brenda Lage to serve out the remainder of Hammer's term. Trustee Bruning seconded. By roll call vote: Cautrell, Aye; Frerichs, Aye; Bruning, Aye; Hefner, Aye. Motion carried 4-0. Village Clerk Sharon Anderson administered the Oath of Office to newly appointed Trustee Brenda Lage.

At 6:35 p.m. the Chairman opened the budget hearing for fiscal year 2023-2024. Budget items and figures as compiled in part by Dana F. Cole and Company, Certified Public Accountants, were open for public discussion. There were no comments. Motion by Bruning, seconded by Cautrell to close the budget hearing. By roll call vote: Frerichs, Aye; Lage, Aye; Bruning, Aye; Cautrell, Aye; Hefner, Aye. Motion carried 5-0. The budget hearing was closed at 6:54 p.m.

A hearing to set the final tax request for fiscal year 2023-2024 at an amount different than last year was opened at 6:54 p.m. There were no comments; the hearing was closed at 6:56 p.m. Motion by Cautrell, seconded by Bruning to close the hearing. By roll call vote: Lage, Aye; Frerichs, Aye; Bruning, Aye; Cautrell, Aye; Hefner, Aye. Motion carried 5-0. The hearing was closed at 6:56 p.m.

The Regular Meeting of the Village Board of Trustees of Coleridge, Nebraska was held at the Coleridge Community Building in said Village beginning at 6:58 p.m., Monday, September 11, 2023. Present were Trustees George Hefner, Jeremy Bruning, Leroy Cautrell, Chad Frerichs. and Brenda Lage. Others present were Annette Sudbeck, Warren Siecke, Seth Malcom, Mandy Bruning and Sharon Anderson.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance by publication in the Laurel Advocate on September 6, 2023. Notice of the meeting was simultaneously given to all trustees and a copy of their acknowledgment of receipt of notice is in permanent record. Availability of the agenda was communicated in advance notice, a copy of which is on file in the Office of the Village Clerk and a copy was given to each member of the Board prior to the meeting. All proceedings thereafter were taken while the convened meeting was open to the public.

The Chairman called the meeting to order and welcomed those present; he stated a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was available for review and indicated the location of the copy posted in the meeting room.

The Chairman stated if there are no additions or corrections, the agenda will stand as printed. Hearing none, the agenda stands as printed.

Annette Sudbeck, Coleridge Area Fund (CAF) president, reported on progress of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant through Nebraska Game & Parks. Sudbeck also told of other grants the CAF has applied for. The most recent grant received was from the Cedar County Tourism Board in the amount of \$2,500.00 for signage at the park.

Consent agenda items were reviewed as follows; previous month regular meeting minutes, financial reports, claims, agency reports, Wau-Col RWS report. Motion by Bruning, seconded by Cautrell, to approve. By roll call vote: Frerichs, Aye; Bruning, Aye; Cautrell, Aye; Lage, Aye; Hefner, Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion made by Cautrell, second by Frerichs, to approve the budget for fiscal year 2023-2024 as presented. By roll call vote: Bruning, Aye; Frerichs, Aye; Cautrell, Aye; Lage, Aye; Hefner, Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Resolution 23-08 was introduced by Hefner and seconded by Cautrell to set property tax request and tax levies for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2023 at an amount different than the tax request of the previous year. By roll call vote: Cautrell, Aye; Bruning, Aye; Lage, Aye; Frerichs, Aye; Hefner, Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Bruning made a motion to exceed the budget limit by an additional 1% for fiscal year 2023-2024. Cautrell seconded the motion. By roll call vote: Frerichs, Aye; Bruning, Aye; Lage, Aye; Cautrell, Aye; Hefner, Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Cautrell, seconded by Lage to approve budget transfers as recommended by Dana Cole & Company. By roll call vote: Lage, Aye; Frerichs, Aye; Bruning, Aye; Cautrell, Aye; Hefner, Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Seth Malcom reported aeration tank repairs are completed; the blower for the aeration tank needs repair; concrete at sewer plant; street and manhole repairs needed due to sewer line repairs at 105 East Fulton.

A quote was received from Hefner Electronics for a new computer system for Fire and EMS. Motion by Cautrell to approve. Frerichs seconded the motion. By roll call vote: Lage, Aye; Frerichs, Aye; Bruning, Aye; Cautrell, Aye; Hefner, Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Bruning second by Frerichs to approve paying the League of Municipalities membership dues and Utility Section membership dues. By roll call vote: Cautrell, Aye; Lage, Aye; Frerichs, Aye; Bruning, Aye; Hefner, Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

At 8:45 p.m. Trustee Bruning made a motion to go into closed session to discuss employee performance and wages for the upcoming fiscal year and for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of any individuals. Cautrell made a second. By roll call vote: Lage, Aye; Bruning, Aye; Frerichs, Aye; Cautrell, Aye; Hefner, Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

The Chairman restated the reason for the closed session is to discuss employee performance and wages for the upcoming fiscal year, and for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of any individuals.

At 9:22 p.m. Cautrell made a motion to come out of closed session. Lage seconded the motion. By roll call vote: Frerichs, Aye; Lage, Aye; Bruning, Aye; Cautrell, Aye; Hefner, Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

The Chairman restated the reason for the closed session was to discuss employee performance and wages for the upcoming fiscal year, and for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of any individuals. He also stated no formal action was taken while in closed session.

The Board offered the following wages to Village employees for FY 2023-2024: Sharon Anderson, Clerk/Treasurer, \$21.00 per hour; Mandy Bruning, Assistant Clerk/Economic Development, \$21.00 per hour; Seth Malcom Maintenance Supervisor, \$22.50 per hour; Dennis Naslund, Maintenance, \$23.50 per hour; Mallorie Steinhoff, Housekeeping, \$14.00 per hour; Don Schultz, Mowing, \$14.00 per hour.

Village Attorney Bruce Curtiss submitted a copy of a letter and quit claim deed mailed out to recover a lot in the Corona Addition due to noncompliance of the agreement as stated in resolution 22-10.

Updates or other business matters with no formal action taken; Police Chief position is still open; Code enforcement; WW1 Monument and insurance; Coleridge Area Memorial Plaza; Dilapidated housing; Park View Haven/The Embers.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Hefner, seconded by Frerichs to adjourn the meeting at 9:42 p.m. By roll call vote: Frerichs, Aye; Lage, Aye; Bruning, Aye; Cautrell, Aye; Hefner, Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

ATTEST:   
Sharon Anderson, Village Clerk

APPROVED:   
George R. Hefner, Village Board Chairman

