

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

The Regular Meeting of the Village Board of Trustees of Coleridge, Nebraska was held at the Coleridge Community Building in said Village beginning at 7:00 p.m., Monday, March 13, 2023. Present were Trustees George R Hefner, Jeremy Bruning, Leroy Cautrell and Chad Frerichs. Others present were Kelly Hammer, Seth Malcom and Sharon Anderson.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance by publication in the Laurel Advocate on March 8, 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 the 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.

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

There were no comments by the public.

Bruning made a motion seconded by Cautrell to approve the agenda. Hearing no objections, Chairman Hefner declared the agenda approved as printed.

There is a Board vacancy due to the death of Trustee Roger Anderson. Motion by Chairman Hefner to appoint Kelly Hammer to serve out the remainder of Anderson'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 Kelly Hammer.

The Board discussed consent agenda items as follows; previous month regular meeting minutes, financial reports, claims, agency reports, and nitrate report of 4.58 ppm for well 81-1. Motion by Bruning seconded by Frerichs to approve. By roll call vote: Frerichs, Aye; Bruning, Aye; Cautrell, Aye; Hammer, Aye; Hefner, Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Frerichs seconded by Bruning to approve writing off an old, unpaid utility account, as recommended by the Village Auditors. By roll call vote: Bruning, Aye; Frerichs, Aye; Cautrell, Aye; Hammer, Aye; Hefner, Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

A request for water and sewer service was received for the property at 121 East Broadway. Options were reviewed; routing, easements, expenses and more, for the new lines. The Village will gather more information and discuss with the new owners before determining the best solution. Tabled until next month.

Water and sewer connections fees, currently at \$300.00 and \$200.00 respectively, were reviewed. It was determined they were 20 years old, or more. A resolution to change the connection fees to \$500.00 for water and \$300.00 for sewer will be considered at the April Board meeting.

Sealed bids were opened on February 22, 2023 at 2:00 pm, at the Coleridge Community Building, for repairs to the Wastewater Treatment Aeration System, as designed by JEO Consulting Services Senior Project Engineer Roger Protzman. Dale Bohac of JEO and Chairman Hefner were present for the bid opening. Only one bid was received, from Plumbing and Electric Service, Inc. of Hartington NE. JEO will review the bid and report to the Village. JEO found a signature missing from the bid proposal and the Village Attorney should be consulted before awarding the bid. After discussing the opinion from the Village Attorney, a motion was made by Hammer second by Bruning to accept the bid from Plumbing and Electric Service, Inc., pending their signature to secure the bid. By roll call vote: Cautrell, Aye; Hammer, Aye; Frerichs, Aye; Bruning, Aye; Hefner, Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Chairman Hefner reported on the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Nebraska Ambulance and Equipment Grant. The Coleridge Ambulance Service applied for \$150,000.00 towards purchase of an ambulance, \$75,000 was awarded. An Emergency Medical Services Equipment application for \$50,000 was not awarded.

Village Attorney Bruce Curtiss reviewed and made recommendations for a Claims Approval Resolution. Resolution 23-03 was created. Cautrell introduced Resolution 23-03, seconded by Frerichs to approve. By roll call vote: Hammer, Aye; Frerichs, Aye; Cautrell, Aye; Bruning, Aye; Hefner, Aye. Motion carried 5-0. Resolution 23-03 passed 5-0.

Village Attorney Bruce Curtiss reviewed and made a recommendation regarding the lien on property at 210 South Elm. To avoid litigation and recover a reasonable sum of the lien held by the Village, it was moved by Hammer to accept one half of the filed lien as a compromise, to settle the lien on the property. Bruning seconded the motion. By roll call vote: Bruning, Aye; Frerichs, Aye; Hammer, Aye; Cautrell, Aye; Hefner, Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Village Attorney Curtiss provided a draft deed for a downtown project. The Board reviewed and edited the draft; it will be presented once the changes are made.

Updates or other business matters with no formal action taken; Police Chief position is still open; dilapidated housing; Corona Addition; spending authority policy; yearly audit with Dana Cole & Company is done and submitted to the State.

Reaching the end of the agenda, Chairman Hefner asked if there was any further business to come before the Board. Hearing none, the meeting adjourned at 9:09 p.m.

ATTEST: Sharon Anderson Seal
Sharon Anderson, Village Clerk

APPROVED: George R. Hefner
George R. Hefner, Village Board Chairman

