

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 6:30 p.m., Monday, March 11, 2024. Present were Trustees George R Hefner, Jeremy Bruning, Leroy Cautrell, Chad Frerichs and Brenda Lage. Others present were Dennis Heitman, Alisha Stone, Mandy Bruning and Sharon Anderson.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance by publication in the Laurel Advocate on March 6, 2024. 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 and welcomed those present; 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.

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

There were no comments by the public.

Consent agenda items were reviewed as follows; previous month regular meeting minutes, financial reports, claims, agency reports, Wau-Col RWS report, and nitrate report of 7.98 ppm for well 2000-1. Motion by Bruning seconded by Lage to approve. By roll call vote: Frerichs, Aye; Bruning, Aye; Cautrell, Aye; Lage, Aye; Hefner, Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Repairs are completed on a grinder at the Sewer Plant and a vacuum pump at the lift station has been replaced.

A list of streets needing repairs, along with the type of repairs, was reviewed. The street budget was discussed. A list of street repair companies was provided and contact will be made to determine interest, to arrange on-site inspection and estimates.

Other uses for the baseball field, present condition of the grandstand and the concession stand were briefly discussed. No action was taken. By consensus, approval was given for the Volunteer Firefighters to host a car show on the baseball field during the Community Club Ribfest in August.

Chairman Hefner provided an update on the Park Improvement Project from Annette Sudbeck, president of the Coleridge Area Fund (CAF). The remaining \$12,000.00 of the project was raised, thanks to an anonymous donor; CAF's goal is to have the old playground pieces removed by May 1, 2024; site preparations to begin as soon as the old equipment is gone, with installation of the new playground to begin around June 1, 2024. The \$156,000.00 Land and Water Conservation Fund grant awarded to the Village has provisions for additional funding. Up to 50% of the original grant amount is available, on an as needed basis. Motion by Cautrell second by Bruning to apply for the additional funding as needed. By roll call vote: Cautrell, Aye; Bruning, Aye; Frerichs, Aye; Lage, Aye; Hefner, Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Trustee Bruning contacted Big Iron Auctions regarding sale of the old playground equipment. 14 items will be listed for auction on April 3, 2024. The winning bidder is responsible for removal by May 1, 2024, or equipment will be considered abandoned, resold and removed.

Alisha Stone, President of the Coleridge Ambulance Service, presented information on call volume and the current rates and fees structures. In 2023 there were 102 ambulance calls and the last rate increase was in 2012. Rates from other ambulance services were viewed. Discussion on increased operating costs, liability insurance, credentialing and licensing, schooling, continuing education and training, insurance reimbursement rates, equipment, and cost of consumable items and supplies. Motion by Bruning, seconded by Frerichs, to increase Ambulance rates as discussed: By roll call vote: Cautrell, Aye; Frerichs, Aye; Bruning, Aye; Lage, Aye; Hefner, Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

The \$75,000.00 Nebraska Ambulance and Equipment Grant, towards purchase of an ambulance, has been received. The Village also received \$75,000.00 raised by the EMT's. A down payment on the new ambulance will be sent to the manufacturer.

Motion by Frerichs seconded by Cautrell to extend the construction time deadlines by six months for 407 South Main Street, Lot 2, Corona Addition. By roll call vote; Bruning, Aye; Lage, Aye; Cautrell, Aye; Frerichs, Aye; Hefner, Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Updates or other business matters with no formal action taken; Police Chief and Utility Superintendent positions are still open; Code Enforcement.

At 8:22 p.m. Chairman Hefner made a motion to go into closed session to discuss Park View Haven/The Embers finances and to protect confidentiality as the Board carries out its fiduciary duties. Bruning made a second. By roll call vote: Lage, Aye; Bruning, Aye; Frerichs, Aye; Cautrell, Aye; Hefner, Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Chairman Hefner restated the reason for the closed session is to discuss Park View Haven/The Embers finances and to protect confidentiality as the Board carries out its fiduciary duties.

At 9:50 p.m. Bruning made a motion to come out of closed session, seconded by Lage. By roll call vote: Lage, Aye; Bruning, Aye; Frerichs, Aye; Cautrell, Aye; Hefner, Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Chairman Hefner restated the reason for the closed session was to discuss Park View Haven/The Embers finances and to protect confidentiality as the Board carries out its fiduciary duties. He stated no formal action was taken while in closed session.

Motion by Hefner, second by Bruning to approve an increase in the Line of Credit at Security Bank. By roll call vote: Lage, Aye; Frerichs, Aye; Bruning, Aye; Cautrell, Aye; Hefner, Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Reaching the end of the agenda, Chairman Hefner asked if there was any further business to come before the Board. Hearing none, the Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 9:53 p.m.

ATTEST: Mandy Bruning
Mandy Bruning, Assistant Village Clerk



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