

Village of Cortland
January 12, 2022 Regular Meeting

The Meeting of Village of Cortland was held the 12th day of January 2022, at 100 S. Sherman Avenue at 7:00 p.m. Present at the meeting: Chairperson Kohout, Birkett, Douglass, Engelhard, Goforth, Clerk; Moormeier.

Motion by Kohout and seconded by Goforth to receive and place on file all notices and material having any bearing on the meeting. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

Kohout invited any public comment on the agenda at this time.

Motion by Engelhard and seconded by Douglass to approve the minutes of the last meeting. 5 Ayes, 0 Nay. Motion carried.

Motion by Engelhard and seconded by Birkett approve the treasurers report. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

The following bills were presented for payment:

Black Hills Energy \$1064.7; CJ's Diesel Repair \$250; Cornerstone Bank \$1342.95; Donald R. Prentice \$78; EZ Stop \$434.30; Hoffschneider Law ,P.C., LLO \$1070.21; Landmark Implement \$177.14; Menards \$198.51; Michelle German \$180; NDEE \$115; Nebraska Department of Revenue \$1051.19; Nebraska Public Health Environmental Lab \$15; Nebraska Rural Water Association \$125; Norris Public Power \$1985.21; Olsson \$439.66; One Call Concepts, Inc. \$14.24; Ray's Used Cars \$48; Salaries \$4569.64; Verla Busboom \$40; Voice News \$121.19; Waste Connections of Nebraska Inc \$3899.64.

Motion by Douglass and seconded by Engelhard to pay the bills as presented. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

No Building Permits presented.

Clerk indicated that Homestead Convenience liquor license hearing will be posted January 27th and hearing will be during the February 9th, 2022 meeting.

Brian Schuele from Olsson was in attendance to explain the Master Agreement Work Order No. 5. The board requested that Olsson's itemize the billing because of drainage projects included in the agreement. This will allow the Village to take advantage of the NRD 50% match on drainage projects up to \$50,000. Motion by Douglass and seconded by Birkett to approve the Master Agreement Work Order No. 5 with the request that drainage cost versus street project costs be itemized at the time of billing. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

Brian Schuele addressed the water analysis for the proposed new development. Brian indicated there is an 8" water loop that goes around the perimeter of town, the water tower will support any additional homes. The 8" mains would need to be extended north on Sheridan and Lincoln and extended into the development. The cost of such would be negotiated between developer and Village. Any pipes within the development would full cost of the developments.

There was a letter from Ron Price regarding the development plans. Brian asked for a copy of the letter as there was information regarding the sewer that would be helpful for Olsson's analysis. Brian will pass information onto Olsson's Water/Waste Water team so that they can prepare a report. The developers engineers will need to make sure that the sewer system works with the Village.

There was discussion regarding the traffic flow with the new development. That should be addressed by the developer. At this time they are doing a redesign to include commercial property along the highway.

Brian did not feel that the development would go against the comprehensive plan, as indicated in Price's letter, but this would be something for our attorney to review.

The Village Attorney, insurance company, and engineers determined that the tree in the Village right-of-way near the McGee property root system had been damaged with the installation of the new drainage. The tree should be removed and stump ground and cleaned up at the Village's expense. A motion by Douglass and seconded by Engelhard to have the tree removed by Tri-Point Tree & Landscape in the amount of \$1370. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried. In the spring the Village will work with McGee's to pick out a tree to replace the damaged tree.

Karen Ostland reported that the Community Center kitchen had been inspected on December 22nd by the State. A new state regulation requires that there be an air gap in the sink drainage so that if waste water backed up it would not contaminate the sink. There are 6 traps that need to be corrected. Motion by Douglass and seconded by Goforth to install the air gaps. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried. Goforth will contact a plumber to get it done as soon as possible.

Written complaint regarding an unlicensed vehicle at 255 Sheridan Street. Clerk asked to send a letter and a copy of the ordinance to the residents.

Clerk explained that the DHHS Low Income Household Water Assistance Program needed the Vendor Agreement to be signed for anyone from the Village to be able to apply for the assistance. Motion by Douglass and seconded by Engelhard to approve the signing of the DHHS Water Assistance Vendor Agreement. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

Clerk asked for input for the survey request for Sewer Overflow and Stormwater reuse municipal grants.

Birkett will give a couple names of building inspectors to Sindelar's to have their residents living in a business inspected.

Discussion on pay increase for the Utility Superintendent, Topp, as he has completed his water and wastewater licenses was taken into closed session at 8:13 pm. Board returned from closed session at 8:44 pm.

Motion by Douglass seconded by Goforth that Topp receive a \$1.00 increase for completion of Water license, and \$1.00 increase for completion of Waste Water license, for a total of a \$2.00 increase. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

Clerk presented a spreadsheet that showed the rentals at the Community Center were not covering the everyday expenses or electric, gas, and cleaning. Also indicated that the teams reserving have always paid after they use the gym, however this year it was reserved and not used and was not released for availability to other teams or rentals. It was determined that the teams should now pay a month in advanced and let the Clerk know if they are not using so she can release it for other rentals.

Clerk has also been asked about who uses the Community Center for free. Motion by Engelhard seconded by Birkett that Cortland non-profit organization will not be charged for rental of the Community Center. This will include Blue River Agency who sponsors Senior Diners. 5 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

Discussion regarding getting another Christmas decoration for the one pole on main street. It was discussed that smaller decorations along the highway might be of more impact. Tabled for a future meeting.

Ball park no report.

Maintenance report via email as Topp was ill. The VDF was burnt out at the new well house again. This happens when there is a power outage. Topp needs to talk with insurance and

submit, also needs to talk to who fixed it the last time and to see if there is any warranty. Suggestion of a backup generator be purchased. Discussion on why this is happening, what is the underlying problem.

Topp asked if wanted the Christmas lights removed, board asked to be left up until the end of January because they are snowflakes which are more winter oriented than Christmas.

Motion by Douglass and seconded by Birkett to approve the 25% highway allocation match in the amount of \$1748.00 5 Ayes, 0 Nays – Motion carried

CIA report – Christmas lighting contest went well, the lights at the gazebo and the tree have been turned off, lights attached to the top of the gazebo can stay up all year round. The large tree lights will be taken off up as far as the reaching pole can take them down. Calendar of events for 2022 will be going out in letters to businesses and to residents. Possible ribbon cutting for new business on the third Thursday in March.

Motion by Goforth and seconded by Birkett to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 p.m.
5 Ayes, 0 Nays – Motion carried

I, Donelle Moormeier, Village Clerk do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the proceedings of the Village Board of Cortland, NE to the best of my knowledge. Village Clerk/Treasurer/Donelle Moormeier