

Village of Cortland  
Minutes of April 10, 2024 Meeting

The meeting of the Village of Cortland, Nebraska was held on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of April 2024 at 100 S. Sherman Ave at 7:00 p.m.

Present at the meeting: Kohout, German, Goforth, Douglass, Attorney Mahin, Clerk Moormeier, Utility Superintendent Argo and public. Absent: Birkett

Motion by Douglass and seconded by Goforth to receive and place on file all notices and material having any bearing on the meeting. Roll Call Yes: German, Goforth, Kohout, Douglass No: None Motion carried.

Motion by German and seconded by Douglass to approve the minutes of the last meeting with correction on date of ribbon cutting to 25th. Roll Call Yes: German, Goforth, Kohout, Douglass No: None Motion carried.

Motion by Goforth and seconded by Douglass to approve the Treasurer's report. Roll Call Yes: German, Goforth, Kohout, Douglass No: None Motion carried.

The following bills were presented for payment: American Legal Publishing \$399.00; Arbor Tech \$3,480.00; Barco Municipal Products Inc. \$1194.00; Black Hills Energy \$812.93; Blobaum & Busboom PC \$4,440.00; Brian Argo \$168.84; Cheryl Goforth \$911.60; Commonwealth Electric Co \$2,640.30; Donald R Prentice \$118.00; EZ Stop \$338.10; Five Rule, LLC \$5,900.00; Intuit Software \$850.00; Michelle German \$126.00; Midwest Lab \$267.97; Mueller Systems \$2,202.50; Nebraska Public Health Environmental Lab \$306.00; Nebraska Department of Revenue \$327.27; Nebraska Landscape Solutions \$664.18; Noakes \$527.49; Norris Public Power \$2,498.24; One Call Concepts, Inc. \$12.68; Pavers Inc. \$3,000.00; Salaries \$4992.81; Solheim Law Firm \$750.00; Summit Fire Protection \$245.00; U.S. Bank \$2,271.70; Utility Service Co., Inc. \$25,515.00; Verla Busboom \$40.00; Voice News \$151.22; Waste Connections \$4,121.29. Motion by Douglass and seconded by German to pay all the bills presented. Roll Call Yes: German, Goforth, Kohout, Douglass No: None Motion carried.

Bobbi Pettit joined us via Google Meet to review the work completed with the Planning & Zoning Committee from January – March 2024. The C2 Highway District zoning was worked on during the first quarter and is ready to have a public hearing in May for the updates. The next Planning & Zoning meeting and hearing will be on May 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. The plan is to have a hearing for Preston commercial property south of town in June. The P&Z will move onto the Industrial district update followed by the Residential districts.

Cindy Chapman reported the Cat Trap and Release program has 8 volunteers in town to help with the program. Deedra Zabokrtsky has personally taken about 30 cats to be spayed or neutered. Funds have been raised and a variety of things will be done to raise awareness and money for the Cortland Community Cats program. The committee asked the Village if they would be willing to cover 10 cats (cost \$50/cat) to help with the program. This is what Beatrice does for their program. The donations will be kept in the safe at the Village Office and will be distributed as needed. Motion by Douglass and seconded by Goforth to support the Cortland

Community Cats trap and release program for the spayed or neutering of 10 cats. Roll Call Yes: German, Goforth, Kohout, Douglass No: None Motion carried.

The audit done by Blobaum and Busboom was reviewed. Motion by Douglass and seconded by German to make the cash transfer that were suggested retroactive to September 30, 2023. Roll Call Yes: German, Goforth, Kohout, Douglass No: None Motion carried. Motion by German and seconded by Douglass to approve the Auditors report for Fiscal year ending September 30, 2023. Roll Call Yes: German, Goforth, Kohout, Douglass No: None Motion carried.

Motion by Douglass and seconded by Goforth to suspend the three readings on Ordinance 2024-02. Roll Call Yes: German, Goforth, Kohout, Douglass No: None Motion carried. Kohout read ORDINANCE 2024-01 AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO TRAFFIC REGULATIONS AND GENERAL AUTHORITY; TO HARMONIZE WITH STATE LAW; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES AND SECTIONS; AND TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Motion by German and seconded by Douglass to approve ORDINANCE 2024-01. Roll Call Yes: German, Goforth, Kohout, Douglass No: None Motion carried.

Motion by Douglass and seconded by German to suspend the three readings on Ordinance 2024-03. Roll Call Yes: German, Goforth, Kohout, Douglass No: None Motion carried. Kohout read ORDINANCE 2024-02 AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO PROPERTY TAX REQUEST AN THE PROCEDURE FOR SETTING A HEARING; TO HARMONIZE WITH STATE LAW; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES AND SECTIONS; AND TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Motion by Douglass and seconded by Goforth to approve ORDINANCE 2024-02. Roll Call Yes: German, Goforth, Kohout, Douglass No: None Motion carried.

Motion by Douglass and seconded by German to suspend the three readings on Ordinance 2024-04. Roll Call Yes: German, Goforth, Kohout, Douglass No: None Motion carried. Kohout read ORDINANCE 2024-03 AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO READING AND PASSAGE OF ORDINANCES; RESOLUTIONS; ORDERS AND BYLAWS; TO HARMONIZE WITH STATE LAW; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES AND SECIONTS; AND TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Motion by Douglass and seconded by Goforth to approve ORDINANCE 2024-03. Roll Call Yes: German, Goforth, Kohout, Douglass No: None Motion carried.

Motion by Douglass and seconded by German to suspend the three readings on Ordinance 2024-05. Roll Call Yes: German, Goforth, Kohout, Douglass No: None Motion carried. Kohout read ORDINANCE 2024-04 AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO PROPERTY TAX REQUEST FOR INCREASE BY MORE THAN ALLOWABLE GROWTH PERCENTAGE AND THE PROCEDURE FOR SETTING A HEARING; TO HARMONIZE WITH STATE LAW; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES AND SECIONTS; AND TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Motion by Douglass and seconded by Goforth to approve ORDINANCE 2024-04. Roll Call Yes: German, Goforth, Kohout, Douglass No: None Motion carried.

Motion by Douglass and seconded by German to approve the building permit for a 20 ft x 40 ft concrete pad for a dryer/air system for 763 E Apple Road, Randall Deunk. Discussion regarding the fee as that is not listed on fee schedule. The minimum \$25.00 building permit fee would be applied. Roll Call Yes: German, Goforth, Kohout, Douglass No: None Motion carried.

Barb Tegley wanted the Village to know that since last fall's ditch work that the ditch in front of 100 N Sherman does not drain properly as the culvert is higher than the ditch. This will be reviewed and repaired when Midwest Dirt is doing work this year.

Regina & John Engelhard had complaint about their driveway at 220 S Sherman not being returned to its original cement condition after culvert project. Adam and Brian will get a hold of LeWayne Jurgens and have him look at this driveway along with the other 4 or 5 driveways that have not been fixed to get these repaired appropriately.

Attorney Jena reported on the nuisance property at 100 E 4<sup>th</sup> Street. The next step is a declaration of nuisance and order to abate. This letter will be personally served. Motion by Goforth and seconded by German to send a letter of Declaration of Nuisance and Order to Abate for 100 E. 4<sup>th</sup> Street to Michael Gates. Roll Call Yes: German, Goforth, Kohout No: None Abstain: Douglass Motion carried.

Attorney Jena has had no communication with the Barta property. Useless vegetation should not be any higher than 12" and Brian has mowed the strip one time already this summer. The owner will be billed for the Village maintenance.

The NRD Urban Conservation Assistance Program 2024-2025 is open for applications that need to be submitted by May 10, 2024. The maximum contribution is \$25,000 per fiscal year. Midwest Dirt has given us an estimate for \$51,856.37 for 2024-2025 ditch cleaning and culvert replacement. Motion by Goforth and seconded by Douglass to approve the NRD application. The clerk will work to get the grant submitted by May 10, 2024. Roll Call Yes: German, Goforth, Kohout, Douglass No: None Motion carried.

Moormeier updated that the Museum has submitted a grant to Monolith for the ceiling repairs in the kitchen, hallway, and research room. The garage is being cleaned up and repairs done for events later in the summer and they will be participating in the garage sales in June. They are getting estimates for air conditioning and heating to submit a grant. Will continue to have Museum open on the First Saturday of each month.

Goforth has yet to hear anything from SENND regarding grants and suggests that we do renew the membership for their services. Goforth has spoken with Mala DeBerg and she has helped with ideas for grants. Some grants will require the signature of a "grant administrator". Motion by Douglass and seconded by German to authorize Goforth as the Village Grant Administrator and allow for her signature on all grants. Roll Call Yes: German, Kohout, Douglass No: None Abstain: Goforth Motion carried.

Dawn Hill needs new estimates regarding the ADA for the Community Center. Goforth was working on a grant for the Fire Department doors. Chief Briggs was in attendance and said that since the remotes don't work sometimes the doors are open for several hours. The bid from Blue Valley door to replace them was \$4335.00. Briggs also indicated that a donation was

received to replace the ice machine and that the Village would not need to help cover that cost. Motion by Douglass and seconded by Goforth to have the Fire Department get doors and remotes replaced at the cost of \$4335.00. Roll Call Yes: German, Goforth, Kohout, Douglass No: None Motion carried.

Douglass has spoken with Jeff DeBoer and will speak with Brad Hogan about painting the lines on the tennis court for pickle ball. Douglass asked about painting hopscotch lines on the sidewalk at the park. The village would like to know where that would happen. Douglass will report back at the May meeting.

Birkett was not in attendance at the meeting so no update on Community Center sign. Briggs indicated they were happy with the Fire Department sign that was proposed.

Dump keys will need to be renewed by August 1<sup>st</sup>. Brian will check to see if the lock can be rekeyed or if we need to purchase a new lock.

Cleanup day is April 27<sup>th</sup> and will be located at the Maintenance shop.

Pavers sent a proposal for asphalt overlay; this discussion will be postponed until May meeting.

Another bid from Midwest Dirtworks was received for rock. However, it does not have as many ton and not itemized like Sohoneweis & Sons bid. Motion by German and seconded by Goforth to accept Sohoneweis & Sons bid for rock for 192 ton for 5/8" weeping water rock at \$52.75 a ton. Roll Call Yes: German, Goforth, Kohout, Douglass No: None Motion carried.

HOA Solutions submitted a bid of \$79,057.00 for the Control System Upgrade Proposal. This appears to be a complete rebuild. Brian had asked Atlas to bid, and Village will wait for their bid.

NRD measured our water and out of 32 wells tested Cortland was the only one that was slightly above this year. Sargent serviced all the wells.

Brian stated he will be resigning so that he can help with the care of his parents. The clerk asked for a written resignation. He will be available to help with mowing, and other things through the summer. An hourly salary will be given. The clerk was asked to put ad in the Voice and to post it at the Village Office, EZ Stop, and the Cortland Post Office. Goforth will have it posted to the website. German and Goforth will be on the interview committee as German knows the position from his experience. The Village is sorry to see Brian leave as he is a real asset to the community. German asked that possible 401K for Utility Superintendent put on the agenda for May.

Kohout reported that the ballpark concession stand and bathrooms were cleaned by Cody Behrends and are ready to go for the first game tomorrow evening. Practicing has started along with Friday night games, there are a lot of games scheduled for May. The net has been purchased for the 1<sup>st</sup> base line on the smaller field, just need to get installed. Three wooden poles will need to be installed to mount a cable to hold the netting. Dustin McGee will finish work on the concession stand. Cody Behrends has contacted someone regarding the score board. It will cost around \$800 to fix the score board. The clerk asked Kohout should be taken out of the Ball Park checking account, the netting, the control panel for score board, and the repair work by

McGee should be transferred from the Ball Park checking account to the Village account. Painting still needs to be completed.

Argo reported that there was another light at the concession stand that had blown off, along with more at the Community Center. Argo will contact the people who installed it and ask about resolving the problem with the lights blowing out and the cable not working to catch them.

Douglass reported that the spring cleanup for flowers around gazebo is being done, plants are lined up to be purchased for the flowerpots on Main Street and at the Community Center. A letter was presented from the Cortland Improvement Association reflecting on their accomplishments this last year and asking for the Village support for the fireworks and other functions for 2024 in the amount of \$6,000. Motion by Douglass and seconded by Goforth to support the CIA with a donation of \$6,000. Roll Call Yes: German, Goforth, Kohout, Douglass No: None Motion carried.

Motion by Douglass and seconded by Goforth to approve the 25% highway allocation match of \$2087.00. Roll Call Yes: German, Goforth, Kohout, Douglass No: None Motion carried.

Clerk was asked to send Olsson contract to Attorney Jena to review to see when we need to ask for bids for Engineers.

Motion by German and seconded by Goforth to adjourn the meeting at 8:53 p.m.

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