

Village of Cortland
August 13, 2025 Minutes

The meeting of the Village of Cortland, Nebraska was held on the 13th day of August 2025 at 100 S. Sherman Ave at 7:00 p.m.

Present at the meeting: Kohout, German, (previously Goforth) C. Moormeier, Burkey, Meints, Clerk: D. Moormeier, Utility Superintendent Briggs, Attorney Jena Mahin, and members of the public.

Chairperson Kohout called the meeting to order stating the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was available in the meeting room as required by Nebraska State Law.

No Board members were absent.

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

Motion by Burkey and seconded by German to approve the minutes of the July 9th, 2025, meeting. Roll Call: Yes: German, C. Moormeier, Kohout, Meints, Burkey No: None Motion carried.

Motion by German and seconded by Burkey to approve the Treasurer's report. Roll Call: Yes: German, C. Moormeier, Kohout, Meints, Burkey No: None Motion carried.

The following bills were presented for approval: -

Black Hills Energy- \$210.66, Blue Rivers Area Agency on Aging- \$264.00, Conner King- \$33.81, CTS Concrete- \$8,715.00, Diode Communications- \$139.00, Donald R. Prentice- \$94.00, Donelle Moormeier- \$25.90, Landmark Implement- \$149.64, League of NE Municipalities - \$1,908.00, League of NE Municipalities Utilities Section- \$443.00, Lincoln Winwater Works- \$2,171.12, Lovell Excavating- \$2,100.00, Michelle German- \$432.00, Midwest Lab- \$28.28, Nebraska Department of Revenue- \$427.42, Nebraska Landscape Solutions- \$238.00, Nebraska Striping LLC- \$225.00, Noakes- \$163.00, Norris Public Power- \$2,211.64, One Call Concepts, Inc.- \$9.41, Salaries- \$5,737.78, Sign Pro of Lincoln- \$3,868.50, Solheim Law Firm- \$1,460.00, U.S. Bank- \$639.30, USA BlueBook- \$89.52, Verla Busboom- \$40.00, Voice News- \$223.08, Waste Connections LLC- \$4,781.04, Westlake Hardware- \$59.98, XL Contracting Inc. Blain Johnson- \$1,840.00. Motion by C. Moormeier and seconded by Meints to pay the bills. Roll Call: Yes: German, C. Moormeier, Kohout, Meints, Burkey No: None Motion carried.

Building Permits – 7a. Vacating 4th Street – Mahin indicated that under State Statute, one-half of the vacated street would go to each property owner. Under the replat the Village would maintain any easement for utility lines. This replat will need to be certified and filed with Gage County. Ron Price pointed out the Subdivision regulations on street extension which explains why 4th Street is there. Our future land use map shows growth on the north and east of town but none to the west because of drainage and that property owner indicated they would not give up irrigated farm ground. Motion by German and seconded by C. Moormeier to suspend the three readings of Ordinance 2025-02. Roll Call: Yes: German, C. Moormeier, Kohout, Meints, Burkey No: None Motion carried. 7a. Chairperson, Kohout, read Ordinance 2025-02: AN ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF CORTLAND, GAGE COUNTY, NEBRASKA, CLOSING AND VACATING WEST 4TH STREET FROM SOUTH WASHINGTON STREET TO THE WEST CORPORATE VILLAGE BOUNDARY, VILLAGE OF CORTLAND, GAGE COUNTY, NEBRASKA, WITH TITLE REVERTING TO THE ABUTTING PROPERTY OWNERS, MAKING FINDINGS; RESERVING RIGHTS; TO REPEAL ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HERewith; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Motion by Meints and seconded by Burkey to approve Ordinance 2025-02. Motion by German and seconded by C. Moormeier to suspend the three readings of Ordinance 2025-02. Roll Call: Yes: German, C. Moormeier, Kohout, Meints, Burkey No: None Motion carried. The new plat was presented in a drawing. There will be a new plat printed on mylar by the Register of Deeds in Gage County if approved. Motion by Burkey and seconded by German to approve the replat as presented by the Kings. Roll Call: Yes: German, C. Moormeier, Kohout, Meints, Burkey No: None Motion carried 7b. 18x18 sunroom/covered deck at 355 Washington Street by Geoff & Christy King. Motion by Meints and seconded by Burkey to approve the 18x18 sunroom/covered deck at 355 Washington Street. Roll Call: Yes: German, C. Moormeier, Kohout, Meints, Burkey No: None Motion carried

7c. 16'x 30' garage at 355 Washington Street by Geoff & Christy King. Motion by Burkey and seconded by Meints to approve the 16'x 30'x garage at 355 Washington Street. Roll Call: Yes: German, C. Moormeier, Kohout, Meints, Burkey No: None Motion carried 7d. 36'x30' garage and retaining wall at 350 W 8th by Cheryl Goforth (Moormeier). Motion by German and seconded by Meints to approve the 36' x 30' garage and retaining wall at 350 W 8th. Roll Call: Yes: German, Kohout, Meints, Burkey No: None Abstain: C. Moormeier. Motion carried 7e. Wireless cell tower microwave addition at 271 South 12th Rd by T-Mobile. Motion by Burkey and seconded by C. Moormeier to approve the cell tower addition at 271 South 12th Rd. Roll Call: Yes: German, C. Moormeier, Kohout, Meints, Burkey No: None Motion carried. 7f. Replace front steps and walkway at 640 S. Sherman by John Kohout. Motion by C. Moormeier and seconded by German to approve the replacement of front steps and walkway at 640 S. Sherman. Roll Call: Yes: German, C. Moormeier, Meints, Burkey No: None Abstain: Kohout. Motion carried.

Chelsea Schaaf, Executive Director of Renewed Valor which is a non-profit empowering Veterans and First Responders through the Healing Power of Horses. The program supports those suffering with trauma, helps build self-confidence, and reintegrates them into their communities. The facilities are located at 4550 103rd Ln, Adams, Nebraska. If interested, they can be contacted at 402-416-5010 or learn more at www.renewedvalor.org.

SDL submitted by Schroeder Operations LLC for Once in A Blue Moon Festival scheduled for September 27, 2025. Motion by C. Moormeier and seconded by Meints to approve the SDL for Schroeder Operations LLC on September 27, 2025. Roll Call: Yes: German, C. Moormeier, Kohout, Meints, Burkey No: None Motion carried.

No written complaints.

Update on Nuisance Properties – 11a. The Barta property will need mowing again and Chris will continue to document the weeds and the mowing. They will continue to get billed from the Village for the maintaining of this strip of property. Mahin has not heard from them regarding the purchase of the property. 11b. Mahin spoke with Erik Carlson regarding the property parcels 0007257000 and 0007258000 and he indicated he would be at the meeting. He did not attend meeting. Motion by Burkey and seconded by German to approve Mahin to send a letter of Declaration of Nuisance Property and Order for Abatement on August 14th, giving 14 days for clean up of property and repair all structures identified as violating Cortland Code; and remove all overgrown vegetation with continued maintenance. Roll Call: Yes: German, C. Moormeier, Kohout, Meints, Burkey No: None Motion carried.

12. Chickens – Dissmeyer did not appear at the bench trial on August 4th. Another status update court date is set for Monday, August 18th. The chickens have been removed, however that did not negate the court appearance.

Consideration of Chicken Ordinance on May 2006. The clerk presented proposed options for a chicken ordinance. Because of the cost of putting the actual ordinance on the ballot the “question” of whether or not chickens should be allowed in Cortland could be put on the ballot, with a reasonable time frame to put together the actual ordinance after the May 2006 if the question was approved. The question must be provided to the Gage County Clerk within 90 days prior to the ballot. Mahin will work on the wording of the question.

Chairperson, Kohout, read Ordinance 2025-03 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 90.25 LICENSES TO CHANGE ANNUAL DATE FOR LICENSING AND LICENSE FEES; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; AND TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE THEREOF. Motion by C. Moormeier and seconded by Burkey to approve the change for the annual date for licensing dogs to January 1 of each year. Roll Call: Yes: German, C. Moormeier, Kohout, Meints, Burkey No: None Motion carried

Chairperson, Kohout, read **Resolution #2025-03 SIGNING OF THE MUNICIPAL ANNUAL CERTIFICATION OF PROGRAM COMPLIANCE 2025.**

Whereas: State of Nebraska Statutes, sections 39-12115, 39-2119, 39-2120, 39-2121, and 39-2520(2), requires an annual certification of program compliance to the Nebraska Board of Public Roads Classifications and standards; and

Whereas: State of Nebraska Statute, section 39-2120 also requires that the annual certification of program compliance by each municipality shall be signed by the Mayor or Village Board Chairperson and shall include the resolution for the governing body of the municipality authorizing the signing of the certification.

Be it resolved that the Village Board Chairperson of Cortland is hereby authorized to sign the Municipal Annual Certification of Program Compliance. Adopted this 13th day of August 2025 at Cortland Nebraska.

Motion by German and seconded by Meints to approve Resolution 2025-03. Roll Call: Yes: German, C. Moormeier, Kohout, Meints, Burkey No: None Motion carried

Chairperson, Kohout, read **Resolution #2025-04 A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF CORTLAND, GAGE COUNTY, NEBRASKA.**

Whereas, The Village of Cortland Board of Trustees wishes to set deadlines for property owners to submit building permits for consideration of approval by the Village Planning and Zoning Committee and the Village Board of Trustees;

Whereas, the Village of Cortland Board of Trustees believes that specific deadlines will allow for better property research and considerations by the Village Planning and Zoning Committee and the Village Board of Trustees; and

Whereas, the Village of Cortland Board of Trustees believes that the deadline will allow the permit to be addressed in a more efficient manner.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF CORTLAND, NEBRASKA:

1. All Zoning and/or Building Permits must be submitted to the Village Clerk no later than three (3) weeks prior to the regularly scheduled meeting of the Village Board of Trustees that the property owner wishes to present the permit for a decision.
2. If the permit is not submitted three (3) weeks prior to the regularly scheduled meeting the permit will be heard at the regularly scheduled Board Meeting the following month.
3. This Resolution shall be effective after its approval, passage, and publication according to law.

Dated this 13th day of August 2025.

Motion by C. Moormeier and seconded by Burkey to approve Resolution 2025-04. Roll Call: Yes: German, C. Moormeier, Kohout, Meints, Burkey No: None Motion carried

Special meeting for purpose of setting levy for 2025-2026 scheduled for Wednesday, August 27th at 6:30 p.m.

Miscellaneous: Clerk indicated that Bishop Business will give a storing records digitally presentation to her on August 27th. She will report on the cost of digitizing the Village records at the next meeting. Clerk indicated the 20 extra garbage bins for September 27th would cost Village \$200. Motion by German and seconded by Burkey for the Village to take care of the cost of the extra garbage bins for the Once In A Blue Moon Fall Festival. Roll Call: Yes: German, C. Moormeier, Kohout, Meints, Burkey No: None Motion carried. Clerk reported that the Cortland Museum will be raising money to complete the funds for siding through Big Give Gage. Donations can be made at biggivegage.com and search for Cortland Museum, Early giving starts September 4th, final day is September 11th. If checks are sent to the Museum, you must write them out to Big Give Gage and in the memo indicated Cortland Museum. The CIA will have Spookfest on October 18th with the approval of the board will have a maze in the park again, businesses asked to do a Trunk or Treat. Because of Community feedback a "Cortland Summer Kick-Off 2026" will be held on May 30, 2026. Events tentatively planned are 5k run or 1 mile walk; street dance, beer garden, bake sale, food, cornhole tournament, scavenger hunt, talent show, music by the Opry, raffles, fireworks, and other fun and games! Any and all ideas are welcome along with volunteers! No updates on grants. Community Center Sign is up and electrician will be here next week to finish up the lighting. The \$2500 grant money check was received from CIA. The Fire Department sign will most likely be installed at the end of September. Power will also be needed for this sign. Burkey is working on the Village of Cortland sign. Discussion about a rock, with Welcome to Cortland, and a digital sign that can be changed with advertising or events. Possibility of grants to help with the cost. Speed signs will cost anywhere from \$7500-\$10,000 for either end of town. Burkey will investigate the regulations and forms that would need to be for speed signs through town. Possibly get grant money for these signs. C. Moormeier will reach out to Miller and Associates regarding grants. No update on ball park.

Maintenance – All the trees have been pulled out of the lagoon fence line. Pictures and cover letter needed to be sent to the State. Briggs praised the "townkid" Connor for putting this in the acceptable format. Handicapped parking lines and signs have been put up at the Community Center. Still waiting on two quotes for the doors. Also waiting on another quote for the Curb Stop poles at the Community Center. Motion by

Burkey and seconded by Meints to allow Briggs to accept bids less than \$4,000 to include 14 poles and 4” concrete covered with black plastic covers. Roll Call: Yes: German, C. Moormeier, Kohout, Meints, Burkey No: None Motion carried. The weeds along highway 77 are maintained by the State and have been mowed. Connor fixed the sprinkler heads on the big field in the ballpark. Lights in the concession stand need to be replaced with LED lights. Board approved the request to have Connor remain on the payroll for another month or two to help with mowing. Board commended Connor for doing a good job! Need to identify the streets that need overlay and those that need crack and seal. The One & Six Year plan needs to be updated with Miller and Associates. The last storm created a large brush pile; Briggs helped some residents by hauling limbs with the tractor to the dump. Board approved blink cameras to be purchased for the maintenance shop.

Fall clean up is Saturday, October 4th.

We may need an upgrade to pickup and snowplow. This should be discussed in the special meeting regarding budget expenditure.

Motion by Burkey and seconded by German to approve the 25% highway allocation match of \$1791.00. Roll Call: Yes: German, C. Moormeier, Kohout, Meints, Burkey No: None Motion carried.

Correspondence: Garbage increase of 3% annually in July to the Village as per the contract. Insurance renewal is 10% higher than last year. If up the deductible it would be less. Ron Price brought a map of the Village owned abandoned Union Pacific railroad per quitclaim deed in 2004. He suggested that the Village might want to record utility easements while this is in the Village name.

Motion by C. Moormeier and seconded by Burkey to adjourn the meeting at: 9:07 pm. Roll Call: Yes: German, C, Moormeier, Kohout, Burkey No: None Motion carried.

Respectively submitted: Donelle Moormeier Clerk/Treasurer – Village of Cortland