

Village of Cortland Board Meeting

February 8, 2023

The meeting of the Village of Cortland Nebraska was held the 8th day of February, 2023, at 100 S. Sherman Avenue at 7:02 pm.

Present at the meeting: Douglass, Birkett, Goforth, German; Clerk Moormeier; Attorney Mahin. Absent: Kohout, Argo

Motion by Goforth seconded by Birkett for Douglass to chair the meeting in the absence of Chairperson Kohout. 3 Ayes, 1 Abstain, 0 Nays Motion carried.

Motion by Douglass and seconded by Birkett to receive and place on file all notices and material having any bearing on the meeting. 4 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

Motion by Goforth and seconded by Birkett to approve the minutes of the last meeting. 4 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report was presented. Motion by Birkett and seconded by German to approve the Treasurer's report with the correction that the Verizon bill is now Brian's phone. 4 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried

The following bills were presented for payment: Black Hills Energy \$2,386.30, Blue Rivers Area Agency on Aging \$240.00, Commercial Lighting Company \$725.12, Commonwealth Electric Company \$809.51, Cornerstone Bank \$302.97, Donald R. Prentice \$80.00, EZ Stop \$296.00, Farmers Cooperative \$40.04, First State Insurance Agency \$93.00, Michelle German \$144.00, Municipal Supply, Inc. of Ne. \$176.34, NDEE \$260.00, NDEQ \$150.00, Nebraska Public Health Environmental Lab \$178.00, Nebraska Department of Revenue \$228.72, Nebraska Landscape Solutions \$59.40, Olsson \$97.69, One Call Concepts, Inc. \$3.58, Salaries \$4,564.75, Sargent Drilling \$1,540.00, Solheim Law Firm \$750.00, TCA Outdoor Power \$78.25, Verla Busboom \$40.00, Waste Connections of Nebraska Inc. \$4,112.96, Wilber Plumbing, Heating & Air \$119.99. Bill that was late and not on the report Ray's Used Cars \$340.70. Motion by Goforth and seconded by Birkett to approve the monthly payment of bills, along with additional bill from Ray's Used Cars. 4 Ayes 0 Nays, Motion carried.

No Building permits.

Written complaint by Sandy Forsgren, 120 E. 4th, concerning the waterway and culverts on 300 South Sherman Street. The waterway and culvert are a danger to the resident that reside there and the culvert is a danger to everyone. Forsgren commented that the ditch/waterway is approximately 3 feet deep and it will be difficult to mow the property. Also the culvert has jagged edges which is a danger if someone should run off the road. Birkett replied that because Cortland is so flat we have worked with the engineers and the NRD to fix the culverts so water will run freely. The Village will review and see what can be done to resolve the problem.

No one appeared regarding chicks in town. Village code has no chickens in town.

Shane McIntyre represented Nextlink. The renewal of access and lease agreement on the water tower is due. There is an annual payment of \$2400 for the life of the lease agreement and an annual \$600 reimbursement for power. Free internet connections will be provided for the Fire Hall, Community Center, and Ball Park. Motion by Birkett and seconded by Goforth to approve the NextLink Access and Lease Agreement. 4 Aye, 0 Nay Motion carried.

Emily Haxby brought the Public Entities Memorandum of Understanding for Broadband Infrastructure Development regarding potential deployment of Broadband infrastructure. Pickrell, Filley, Clatonia, DeWitt and Cortland will all sign this agreement. Capital projects grant is due on February 24th, 2023 and we are eligible for this grant. Motion by Goforth and seconded by Birkett to approve the signing of the Public Entities Memorandum of Understanding for Broadband Infrastructure Development. 4 Aye, 0 Nay Motion carried.

Chairperson Douglass read Ordinance 2023-01 AN ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF CORTLAND, GAGE COUNTY, NEBRASKA, TO AMEND THE CORTLAND VILLAGE CODE TO REMOVE THE FEE SCHEDULE FOR SERVICES AND TO INCORPORATE A SEPARATE MASTER FEE SCHEDULE BY REFERENCE; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCE; TO PROVIDE FOR PUBLICATION; AND TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Motion by Birkett and seconded by Goforth to suspend the 3 readings of Ordinance 2023-01. 4 Aye, 0 Nay Motion carried.

Motion by Goforth and seconded by Birkett to approve Ordinance 2023-01 as presented. 4 Aye, 0 Nay Motion carried.

Abandoned property and unsafe buildings. Pictures were brought to the board for abandoned property. Clerk will get the pictures and the property owner information to Jena at Solheim office so that she can send out a courtesy letter to appear at the next board meeting. Omega Machine and the strip of vacant land to the east of ET's Lawn. Clerk asked to put nuisance property and vehicles/licensing on March agenda.

Discussion regarding the alley maintenance between the EZ Stop and Ray's Used Cars. Most of the traffic that is in that alley is from EZ Stop or Security First. Motion by Goforth and seconded by Birkett for Solheim to write a letter to EZ Stop regarding maintaining the alley or possible vacating the alley. 4 Aye, 0 Nay Motion carried.

Review of the Fee Schedule: The Community Center fees have just been updated so they are okay. Planning & Zoning fees update: Administrative subdivision application fee update to \$200; Subdivision final plat fee change to \$150 plus cost of Engineer review if required; Subdivision preliminary plat fee \$150 plus cost of Engineer review if required; Annexation request (requires public hearing) \$200. Motion by Goforth and seconded by Birkett to add/change fees as stated above. 4 Aye, 0 Nay Motion carried.

Clerk was asked to put Building Inspector on March's agenda. The building permit fees will be reviewed after we have determined what inspections are needed for construction.

The Fire Department has asked the Village to support the Awards banquet which has catered food in March. Motion by Goforth and seconded by Birkett to approve up to \$2500 in food purchase for the banquet which **excludes** alcoholic beverages. 4 Aye, 0 Nay Motion carried.

The clerk reported that the museum made \$8,500 at the Silent Auction. Previously the water bill for the museum was \$14.00, when the clerk transferred it over to the Museum's name she charged the normal \$39.00 rate. After getting into the museum the water pipes have all been cut out and there is no water or sewer into the museum at this time. Clerk asked if the Village could remove the monthly water charge for the museum until pipes were replaced. Motion by Birkett and seconded by German to waive current water charge for museum and to waive the \$75 reconnect fee once pipes are replaced and water is hooked up. 4 Aye, 0 Nay Motion carried.

German wanted to remind the board about the new Lead and Copper ruling that will require communities to know what kind of pipes are being used by every household in the Village. If there is galvanized or copper pipe it will need to be replaced. German suggested that we have a town meeting to explain the process. The process is due to be done by October 2024.

There is a T mobile grant that will provide \$50,000 to a town for projects. Village needs to complete the ADA compliance for the Community Center. Goforth asked that the Main Street email be sent to the whole board as it has grants available. The ball park lighting could be updated.

Clerk reminded the board that the Village office will be closed on Monday February 27th as she will be attending Mid-Winter Conference to obtain her 8 hour Treasurer annual training. Office will also be closed on Monday February 20th for President Day holiday.

Goforth commented that the Community Center needs a new vacuum. Motion by Birkett and seconded by German to provide \$500 for a new vacuum and miscellaneous supplies for the Community center. 4 Aye, 0 Nay Motion carried.

Maintenance Report – Brian was at training, he has attended water classes in Firth and Wahoo. Applications for summer mowing help will be taken. Discussion again regarding the dump and other communities using. Research on residents having a key card will be done and it will be on the March agenda. Clerk was asked to check into the cost of individual recycle bins as other communities are filling up our recycle bins. Recycling bins will be on March agenda. Commonwealth is installing a surge protector at well house, a heater will be installed for the tower by the end of February.

CIA report – June 24th plan on having Fireworks. Will not have traditional CortlandFest. Possible games for kids in the ball park, a baseball or dodge ball game, concessions. If organizations are interested in helping or have ideas they should contact the Cortland Improvement Association.

Douglass has been working on a list of businesses in the community, asked for input, additions, changes so we can get them all on the website. Goforth needs to speak with webmaster as there are items that cannot be pulled up on a phone. Send updates to Goforth.

Motion by Goforth and seconded by Birkett to approve the 25% highway allocation match in the amount of \$1756.00. 4 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

Motion by Goforth and seconded by Birkett to adjourn meeting at 9:24 pm. 4Ayes, 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.