

Village of Cortland Board Meeting

June 14, 2023

The meeting of the Village of Cortland, Nebraska was held the 14th day of June, 2023 at 100 S. Sherman Ave at 7:00 p.m.

Present at the meeting: Douglass, Birkett, German; Attorney Mahin, Utility Superintendent Argo, Regina Engelhard (taking minutes in absence of Clerk Moormeier) and public. Absent: Kohout, Goforth and Clerk Moormeier.

Motion by Douglass and seconded by German to appoint Birkett Chairperson pro tempore in the absence of Chairperson Kohout. Roll-call Yes: German, Douglass; No: None. Abstain: Birkett. Motion carried.

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

Motion by Douglass and seconded by German to approve the minutes of the last meeting as printed in the Voice. Roll-call Yes: German, Birkett, Douglass; No: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Douglass and seconded by German to approve the Treasurer's report. Roll-call Yes: German, Birkett, Douglass; No: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Douglass and seconded by German to approve Pavers Pay App #3 for Street Improvements. Roll- call Yes: German, Birkett, Douglass; No: None. Motion Carried.

Motion by Douglass and seconded by German to approve payment of claims from Arbor-Tech Tree Service for tree removal at 6th & Washington and from American Legal for internet renewal period 6/17/23-6/17/24. Roll-Call Yes: German, Birkett, Douglass; No: None. Motion carried.

The following bills were presented for payment: American Legal Publishing \$450.00, Arbor-Tech \$420.00, Black Hills Energy \$321.38, Blobaum & Busboom PC \$4,390.00, BOK Financial \$25, 912.50, Concrete Doctor Inc. \$892.00, Cortland Improvement Association \$6,000.00, Donald R. Prentice \$85.00, Get The Job Done, LLC \$296.52, John's Plumbing Inc \$722.00, Michelle German \$216.00, Mueller Systems 1,271.23, Nebraska Public Health Environmental Lab \$15.00, Nebraska Department of Revenue \$352.80, Nebraska Landscape Solutions \$503.06, Norris Public Power \$2,286.82, Olsson \$13,308.42, One Call Concepts, Inc. \$15.08, Pavers Inc. \$428,858.06, Salaries \$6,325.19, Solheim Law Firm \$772.50, U.S. Bank \$1,225.45, Verla Busboom \$40.00, Voice News \$125.82, Waste Connections of Nebraska Inc. \$4,168.46, Windstream \$177.81.

Motion by Douglass and seconded by German to approve the monthly payment of bills. Roll-call Yes: German, Birkett, Douglass; No: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Douglass and seconded by German to suspend the three readings of Ordinance #2023-02 AN ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF CORTLAND, GAGE COUNTY, NEBRASKA, TO AMEND ARTICLE 5 OF THE PLANNING AND ZONING REGULATIONS FOR THE

VILLAGE OF CORTLAND; TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 2019-6; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO PROVIDE FOR PUBLICATION; AND TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Roll-Call Yes: German, Birkett, Douglass; No: None. Motion Carried.

Motion by Douglass and seconded by German to approve Ordinance #2023-02 AN ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF CORTLAND, GAGE COUNTY, NEBRASKA, TO AMEND ARTICLE 5 OF THE PLANNING AND ZONING REGULATIONS FOR THE VILLAGE OF CORTLAND; TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 2019-6; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO PROVIDE FOR PUBLICATION; AND TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Roll-Call Yes: German, Birkett, Douglass; No: None. Motion Carried.

Motion by Douglass and seconded by German to approve Ordinance No. 2021-03, New code is NOT to be codified with the S-1 Supplement to the Cortland, Nebraska, Code of Ordinances by American Legal Publishing. Roll-Call Yes: German, Birkett, Douglass; No: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Douglass and seconded by German to approve the S-1 Supplement to the Cortland, Nebraska, Code of Ordinances by American Legal Publishing including Ordinance No. 2021-01 through 2021-03, 2022-1 through 2022-06 and result in updating both the print and online versions of the Cortland Code of Ordinances. Roll Call Yes: German, Birkett, Douglass; No: None. Motion Carried.

Building Permits – Mike Hanau – 250 E 4th St – No additional information was provided by homeowner. Motion made by German and seconded by Douglass to table this building permit until next month. Roll-Call Yes: German, Birkett, Douglass; No: None. Motion carried.

John Engelhard – 220 S Sherman Ave – 480 sq foot cement patio. Motion by Douglass and seconded by German to approve Engelhard building permit. Roll-Call yes: German, Birkett, Douglass; No: None. Motion carried.

Attorney Mahin presented information on Comprehensive Development Plan Amendment Procedure and also steps required to Amend Zoning Ordinance. Discussion continued regarding types of zoning and setback rules. Board members present would like this discussion to continue at July Village Board meeting when other Village Board members and Barb Tegley from Planning and Zoning Committee can be present.

Motion by Douglass and seconded by German to approve appointment of Chadd Ziemann to the Planning and Zoning committee. Roll-Call Yes: German, Birkett, Douglass; No: None. Motion Carried.

Discussion concerning Resident on Sherman and 3rd St complaint about the depth of the grader ditch and unable to mow it. Resident would like a tube placed in bottom and ditch filled in more to aid in mowing. Board members agreed this is homeowner responsibility for cost of tube and homeowner would need to get NRD approval for a modification. Board members request homeowner come to July Village Board meeting and discuss options.

Kathy Peterson presented a question regarding Code 90.30 Dogs Running at Large – What is the distance of effective voice control? Board members discussed the code as written. A dog “within the real property limits of the owner AND in his or her presence AND under his or her direct and effective voice control” means effective voice control distance is restricted to the dog owner’s property limits. Any dog that leaves the property limits of the owner must be on a leash or is considered Running at Large. Gage County Sheriff can be notified for Dogs Running at Large. Board members asked Attorney Mahin to review Code 90.30 for clarification.

Resident complaint regarding water line/hose on Vermont Ave as being unsightly. Homeowner said he would continue to plant grass and improve the appearance of lawn.

Resident complaint regarding Speed Bump sign on 5th St and Vermont. There is no speed bump and sign in their yard is hard to mow around. Utility Superintendent Argo will remove the sign.

Douglass and Argo will work on the dirt piles by the Community Center for improved drainage and weed control.

Update on Nuisance Properties: Ihlandfelt at 217 E 3rd have been working on property clean up. German requested they be taken off the Nuisance Property list. Board members agreed. The strip of land in front of Polaris along Hwy 77 continues to have weeds that need to be mowed. Letters have been sent to the property owner. The next step is a formal Nuisance Action letter sent by the Attorney. Birkett suggested the Village offer to purchase the property, so Village could take over the mowing. Attorney will send a letter to property owner about purchase possibility and possible maintenance fees of property by Village.

Attorney Mahin reported on development fees other communities around Cortland currently have. The examples will be given to Village Clerk, so Board can review at the July meeting.

Fee schedule update was tabled until July meeting.

German requested a sewer/water rate study by NERWA be added to the July Village Board meeting.

Miscellaneous Items/Committee Reports:

Museum raised \$3300.00 during Cortland garage sales.

Birkett provided an update for the NRD Urban Conservation Assistance Program. The program is asking the Village to receive \$15,000 instead of the application request of \$25,000. This would mean the Village lower the project cost to \$30,000 for the half payment or keep the \$40,000 ditch cleaning project, but the Village would have to pay the extra cost.

Utility company permits for high-speed internet underneath the street: Birkett asked if a building permit would be required and what are the rules for digging. Utility superintendent is in charge of streets and equipment. Attorney Mahin will work with Argo to write up a permit form.

Maintenance Report: 150 keys will be purchased for dump/reclamation site access. Keys will say “Do Not Duplicate” on them. Argo will cement in the new poles at dump/reclamation site. Board members reviewed the Reclamation Site Agreement of Rules and Regulations Form.

Motion by German and seconded by Douglass to approve the Rules and Regulations Form with the following amendment, "Site is for Village of Cortland residents who are on Cortland water and sewer at a \$20.00/year fee and for residents living in the 68331-zip code, but are not on Cortland water and sewer at \$45.00/year fee." Roll-call Yes: German, Birkett, Douglass; No – None. Motion carried. Village clerk will have the keys and rule agreement form.

Board members discussed the Recycling bins always being full, lids not on and items blowing out of the containers. There may be a SENDD grant for a recycling building, covers, lights and fence. This is tabled until July when more information about a grant can be discussed.

German will contact plumbers for estimate on fixing the toilet in Village meeting room.

No Ball Park report.

CIA report: Douglass reported 31 kids are registered for the summer recreation program. Tetherball is now available at the park. There will be games and fireworks at the ballpark on June 24th.

Motion by Douglass and seconded by German to approve the 25% Highway Allocation Match of \$1812.00. Roll Call Yes: German, Birkett, Douglass; No: None. Motion carried.

Correspondence: The Grounded NE bicycle event will be June 24th, so riders may stop in Cortland.

Motion by Douglass and seconded by German to adjourn the meeting at 8:59 p.m. Roll-Call Yes: German, Birkett, Douglass; No: None. Motion carried.

I, Regina Engelhard, 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.

