PENDER, NEBRASKA

VILLAGE PROCEEDINGS

September 11, 2023

A regular meeting of the Village Board of Trustees was held in the Village Board Room in said Village on the 11th day of September, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. Notice of the meeting was given in advance by posting said notice in three public places; which are Pender Post Office, Pender Court House and Pender Village Office. Notice to the Chairman and Board of Trustees was given by email and a copy of the acknowledgement of receipt is attached. The agenda was communicated in advance notice to the Chairman and Board of Trustees and available to the public at the Village Office. An agenda for the meeting was kept continuously current and available for public inspection during regular office hours at least three days prior to meeting. No changes may be made 24 hours prior to meeting.

Present on the roll call: Chairman: Chris Reha, Trustees: Dr. David Hoelting, Robbie Welsh, Dave Powley and Glen Gralheer. Staff present: Chris Brader, Utility Superintendent, Nicole Tyrrell-Feltes & Kylee Riggs, Office personal. Public attendance: Scott Darling, Candice Gardea, Amy Volk, Matthew Smith with Olsson, Tim Austin & Jake Vaska with Ironhorse Development, Tara Pfeiffer, Scott Pfeiffer and Ron Klein.

Chairman Reha called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Chairman Reha notified that pursuant to Section 84-1412 (8) of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act, a current copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted in the meeting room and was available to the public.

A motion as made by Hoelting, second by Powley to approve the minutes for the September 5th meeting. Voting AYE: Welsh, Gralheer, Powley and Hoelting. Voting NAY: None. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

A motion was made by Hoelting, second by Powley to approve the suspension of the rule of three for Ordinance 688. Voting AYE: Gralheer, Hoelting, Powley and Welsh. Voting NAY: None. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Hoelting, second by Gralheer to approve Ordinance 688. This ordinance is the new handbook for village employees and replaces Ordinance 648. Changes are new holidays, a new 10 day paid parental leave and that village credit card will not be used to purchases meals while on village business. AN ORDIDANCE TO AMEND THE VILAGE OF PENDER PERSONNEL POLICY MANUAL; REPEALING ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; AND AUTHORIZING PUBLICATION OF SAID ORDINANCE IN PAMPHLET FORM. Voting AYE: Powley, Gralheer and Hoelting. Voting NAY: Welsh. Motion carried.

There was a follow up discussion about the Family Dollar property and Valley Street. The village had the state permit for access off the state highway, with the instructions to contact Matthew Samuelson 48 hours prior to using said access. The board also proposed the best way to pay for the street is to do a paving district. Scott Darling asked who the permit was for, what entity? Darling also asked if local business were contacted to do the work instead of bringing in an outside company, taking money away from Pender? Reha answered that the permit is just for the access to the property from the state highway. Tim Austin stated that most construction for Family Dollar is done by Ironhorse Development. Austin also was open to working together with the village to cut cost when possible, such as where to get dirt to build up area. Matthew Smith from Olsson has been brought in to help evaluate and plan the new sewer drainage and street for that area so that the village’s best interest is in mind. When it comes to the street, Tammy Maul-Bodlak shared that the board will more than likely establish paving districts then letting it out to bid and if Ironhorse’s contractor is the most cost effective, they will win the bid. But that is for a future meeting and vote. Austin offered to take care of the moving the light pole and taking down a tree that is hindering the line of sight. The next step is to contact each owner of the properties to see if at least 60% agree to a paving district and petition the village.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

NEW BUSINESS:  
The building permit for Pender Grain/Scott Darling was tabled because Darling decided to make a few changes and inquire about buying property to move building. If this is done, Darling will need to talk with the Corp of Engineers and resubmit the permit.

The board got an update on the low voltage problem from Chris Brader, Utility Superintendent. Rich from the Municipal Energy Agency of Nebraska (MEAN) will be in Pender on 9/12/2023 to help decide on best fix to eliminate the problem. Brader did get a bid from a previous recommendation to fix 2 blocks of the problem for just the labor of $50,000.00, wire for $14,000.00 and trees will need to be cut back but no bid at this time because the village may be able to do that work. As of now, there is no time line but should be able to predict one after talking with MEAN.

There was a discussion about the recommendations from EMC on the Electric Generating Station. EMC would like to see the east wall of the light plant repaired by a qualified masonry contractor doing tuck-point to damaged blocks. EMC will follow up in 45 days. Brader was told to get some bids.

A vote on changing the employee uniform policy was tabled so other companies could be called to see if there is a better deal.

A motion was made by Powley, second by Hoelting to approve the transfer of money from the general checking and savings accounts to make the two bond payments due the 15th of September. The amount of $20,000.00 will be transferred from the water and sewer savings and the amount of $25,000.00 will be transferred from the general checking. Voting AYE: Welsh, Powley, Hoelting and Gralheer. Voting NAY: None. Motion carried.

The budget was briefly discussed but nothing was decided due to not enough information at this time. Hope to hear from the Ric Ortmeier & Associates, LLC by end of week so the board can make informed decisions on what to budget for in the next fiscal year.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:  
Chris Brader (Utility Superintendent) On October 1st, will pull catalyst out of engines to send to Miratech to clean so will not have generators for a month. Should see a refund in October from Northern Natural Gas via National Public Gas Agency due to the rate miscalculated for price increase.

Dr. Hoelting None

Ron Klein Provided packet of what he has done at plant since last report. Klien also requested some help to clean pond before winter.   
Glen Gralheer Budget

Office 13 CDs coming due, will let roll over for another 6 months. Still working on the audit for 2021-2022 year but have gotten the general account reconciled. The village has opened a ticket with Verizon due to the bad cell reception around town and took it to the FCC. Verizon has 30 days to response so waiting on that. Asked the board for permission to come in after hours to learn more about Power Manager from another town clerk, that was okayed. FYI…Christmas party, the office booked the bowling alley.

Chris Reha Will be attend the community vision meeting that will be held Sunday September 17th and invited the rest of the board to attend. Gralheer, Powley and Welsh expressed interest. Asked if anything could be done about the trees and bushes at Slaughter and Main streets be trimmed back due to blocking line of sight. Mentioned combining the village website with PDCI site and asked what the rest of board felt. Inquired how many AMR meters needed to be installed. Shared that a Demand customer was unhappy with the high bill for July and that the customer will be attending the next meeting so brush up on ordinance.

Dave Powley Briefly gave a summary of how to change the water rate.

Robbie Welsh Reported that the transfers employees don’t want to participate in direct deposit.

A motion was made by Hoelting, second by Gralheer to approve the Financial Report. Voting AYE: Powley, Welsh, Gralheer and Hoelting. Voting NAY: None. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Hoelting, second by Powley to approve the budget, expenditure, claims, transfers and payroll. Voting AYE: Hoelting, Welsh, Gralheer and Powley. Voting NAY: None. Motion carried.

VILLAGE: Salaries, Se 19697.78, EFTPS, taxes 5092.49, John Hancock, Retire 1108.93, Appeara, Se 571.75 Brad Meyer, Cont 1700.00, Charter West Bank, HSA 100.00, Cintas, Se 109.89, Cubby’s, Su 62.14, Credit Management Services, Se 262.96, Eakes/Hometown Leasing, Se 155.14, Ell Consulting, Se 69.00, EMC Insurance, Ins 11907.92, Farabee Mechanical, Se 5045.75, Fastwyre, Se 642.26, Frazey’s, Su 2307.77, Frontier Bank, HSA 305.00, Frontier Bank, Loan 17627.67, Grainer, Su 198.37, Harold K Scholz, Se 5297.45, K&C Grain, Su 5095.04, Lamp Auto, Su 154.42, Mutual of Omaha, Se 184.75, Northeast NE Economic Deve, Se 1742.50, One Call Concepts, Se 20.89, Orkin, Se 86.66, Papio-Missouri River NRD, Se 196.98, Pender Ace, Su 764.85, Pender Community Deve, 5,000.00, Pender Vet Clinic, Se 175.00, Ron Klein, Cont 1337.50, S2 Roll-Offs, Se 2275.65, Schmader Electric, Se 10246.90, Siouxland District Health Dept, Se 30.00, Sturek Media, Adv 200.18, Thurston Co. Sheriff, Se 13587.00, Tri-State Communications, Se 105.10, US Dept of Energy, Se 8267.09, VOP, Utility 24970.97, Wenke Manufacturing, Su 18.50, Wesco, Su 960.70

BOND FUND: Frontier Bank, Bonds 77722.50  
AIRPORT: Northeast Power, Se 143.00, Sturek Media, Adv 75.40  
LIBRARY: EMC Insurance, Ins 184.00  
RESCUE: EFTPS, taxes 351.48, Cubby’s, Su 62.15, EMC Insurance, Ins 351.08, Fastwyre, Se 52.94, Frazey’s, Su 312.42, Matheson Tri-Gas, Su 138.50

A motion was made by Welsh, second by Hoelting to go into executive session at 10:03 P.M. to discuss personal. Voting AYE: Hoelting, Gralheer, Welsh and Powley. Voting NAY: None. Motion carried. A motion was made by Welsh, second by Hoelting to come out of executive session at 11:13 P.M. Voting AYE: Powley, Welsh, Hoelting and Gralheer. Voting NAY: None. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Powley, second by Hoelting to adjourn at 11:14 P.M. Voting AYE: Welsh, Hoelting, Powley and Gralheer. Voting NAY: None. Motion carried.

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Chris Reha, Chairman

Board of Trustees

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Nicole Tyrrell-Feltes

Village Clerk

VILLAGE OF PENDER

THURSTON COUNTY

STATE OF NEBRASKA

CERTIFICATE

I, THE UNDERSIGNED VILLAGE CLERK hereby certifies that the foregoing is a true and current copy of the proceedings had and done by the Chairman and Board of Trustees of this meeting. That all the subjects included in the foregoing proceedings were contained in the said agenda for the meeting and kept continually current and available for public inspection at the office of the Village clerk. Those subjects were contained in said agenda for twenty-four hours and prior to the next convened meeting of the said body. That at least one copy of the reproducible material discussed at the said meeting were available for public inspection at the office of the Village Clerk and within ten working days and prior to the next convened meeting of the said body. That all news media requesting notification of the time and place of said meeting and the subjects to be discussed at the said meeting.

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Nicole Tyrrell-Feltes

Village Clerk