

Village of Bennet, Nebraska
Board of Trustees
Minutes October 11, 2021
Regular Meeting

The Bennet Board of Trustees (the "Board") of the Village of Bennet, Nebraska (the "Village") held a regular business meeting on Monday October 11, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., at the Bennet Village Hall, 685 Monroe Street in the Village, the same being open to the public and preceded by advance publicized notice duly given in strict compliance with the provisions of the Open Meetings Act, Chapter 84, Article 14, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, as amended, and having set forth (a) the time, date and place of the meeting; (b) that the meeting would be open to the attendance of the public; and (c) that the agenda for the meeting, kept continuously current, was available for public inspection at the office of the Village Clerk and posted at the Village Office, Post Office and First Nebraska Bank.

Chairperson Ryan Cheney called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and announced the location of the Open Meetings Act. Village Clerk Michele Lincoln conducted roll call. Trustees in attendance were Ryan Cheney, Pete Simmons, Don Murray, Brad Ruzicka, Justin Dorn. Absent: None. A quorum being present, and the meeting duly commenced, the following proceedings were taken while the meeting remained open to attendance by the public. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Dorn moved and Murray seconded a motion to approve minutes for the September 13, 2021 special meeting for the budget hearings and regular meeting. Roll call vote: Cheney, Simmons, Murray, Ruzicka, Dorn voted YES. Motion carried.

Dorn moved and Ruzicka seconded a motion to approve the claims for payment. Roll call vote: Cheney, Simmons, Murray, Ruzicka, Dorn voted YES. Motion carried.

Boyd Batterman presented the amended Cochrane Corner Addition Preliminary Plat & Special Use Permit. The amended plat has an additional private roadway connecting to Cottonwood Street. Simmons moved and Ruzicka seconded a motion to approve Resolution 2021-9.7, a resolution approving an application for a Special Use Permit to authorize the construction of townhouses served by private roadways in the R-3 Residential District at Cottonwood Street and Tyler Street and approving the Preliminary Plat of Cochrane Corner Addition. Roll call vote: Cheney, Simmons, Ruzicka, Dorn voted YES. Murray voted No. Motion carried.

The Board discussed replacing the fire hydrant at 100 Monroe with a new hydrant on the 8" water main to provide adequate fire protection for Zermatt Tool. During previous discussions it was questioned as to whether this was needed since Zermatt Tool had a sprinkler system. Engineer Brian Schuele reported that the Fire Chief still felt that it was needed. Murray moved and Cheney seconded a motion to install a new fire hydrant on the 8" water main at 100 Monroe Street. Roll call vote: Cheney, Simmons, Murray, Ruzicka, Dorn voted YES. Motion carried.

Chairperson Cheney introduced Ordinance 2021-9.1, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING § 53.46 OF THE CODE OF BENNET RELATING TO SEWER RATES BY INCREASING THE BASE FEE AND USAGE FEE FOR RESIDENTIAL, NON-RESIDENTIAL, AND NON-RESIDENT CONTRIBUTORS; AND REPEALING § 53.46 OF THE CODE OF BENNET AS HITHERTO EXISTING. Ruzicka moved and Murray seconded a motion to approve the second reading of Ordinance 2021-9.1. Roll call vote: Cheney, Simmons, Murray, Ruzicka, Dorn voted YES. Motion carried.

Cheney moved and Ruzicka seconded a motion to amend Resolution 2021-10.1, a resolution appointing Planning Commission members, by inserting Amber Bogle to fill the alternate position. Roll call vote: Cheney, Simmons, Murray, Ruzicka, Dorn voted YES. Motion carried. Cheney moved and Ruzicka seconded a motion to approve Resolution 2021-10.1, a resolution appointing Planning Commission members. Roll call vote: Cheney, Simmons, Murray, Ruzicka, Dorn voted YES. Motion carried.

Cheney moved and Simmons seconded a motion to approve the Application and Certificate for Payment #3 to Constructors, Inc. in the amount of \$217,764.18 for the 2021 Bennet Street Improvement Project. Roll call vote: Cheney, Simmons, Murray, Ruzicka, Dorn voted YES. Motion carried.

Cheney moved and Murray seconded a motion to approve the Notice to Bidders for the Lagoon Cleaning project. Roll call vote: Cheney, Simmons, Murray, Ruzicka, Dorn voted YES. Motion carried. Engineer Brian Schuele stated that the sludge will be able to be spread on the Village owned property and that there will need to be a soil test prior to spreading.

The Board discussed installing additional electrical outlets at Bennet Park as a result of the request from the Bennet Community Fund (BCF) at the previous meeting. A couple estimates were received. Murray moved and Cheney seconded a motion to approve a portion of the proposal from Empire Electric, Inc. which included line item #2- install GFCI protected double duplex receptacle on the existing pole light in the park (change existing box to 2 gang), item #3 – install new GFCI protected receptacles on the north and south side of the concession stand near the soffit with each receptacle having its own circuit, and item #5 – provide and install new 20 amp CFCI protected double duplex below the electrical panel on the SE corner of the park; not to exceed \$1,400.00. Roll call vote: Cheney, Simmons, Murray, Ruzicka, Dorn voted YES. Motion carried.

The Board discussed the Annual Halloween Hotdog Feed sponsored by the Board of Trustees. The Trustees agreed to donate the remaining funds needed. The Annual Hotdog Feed will be on Halloween, October 31, 2021 from 5 – 7 p.m. in Bennet Park.

Submitted reports included the Sheriff's Office, Maintenance Report, and Farmers' Market.

Cheney moved and Murray seconded a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Roll call vote: Cheney, Simmons, Murray, Ruzicka, Dorn voted YES. Motion carried.

The Clerk reported the following:

- Lancaster County's One-and-Six -Year Road and Bridge Construction Program Public Hearing will be October 12th
- The Clerk has been in contact with Network Consulting Services, Inc. (NCS) to get a bid for IT Support.
- The RFP for the Village Attorney position is posted with a deadline of November 8th. The Personnel Committee will open bids on that date and make a recommendation to the Board during the regular meeting.
- The RFP for the Zoning Code and Subdivision Regulations Update is posted with a deadline of November 3rd. The Planning Commission has delayed their regular meeting a week and will open the bids at that meeting

Village Engineer Brian Schuele from Olsson reported that there was a freshly repaired concrete driveway on Tyler that got cracked during the asphalt patch and they would like to be reimbursed for that broken panel which would be \$568.00. The Board agreed that they did not believe it was their responsibility to reimburse them for the repair. Schuele is looking into getting finance options for paving Tyler Street and Cottonwood Street. Johnson Service Company will be on site on October 21st to evaluate sealing the manholes along Hackberry Street. During the street resurfacing at Hackberry Street and Harrison Street they discovered a void under the rock surface that looked like it angles towards the sanitary sewer main. Schuele will schedule a camera inspection of that spot. He reported that there is a fence

encroaching in the Village right-of-way on southeast portion of Switchgrass Lane which will need to be moved so that the sidewalk connection from the Cedar Brook Addition can be made.

Larry Kramer, the Farmers' Market Manager, reported on the 2021 Farmers' Market Season. There has been a decline in both vendors and customers in 2021. Larry asked the Board if they had any ideas on what they could do to increase business for the following year. Dorn suggested more advertising on social media.

Cheney moved and Murray seconded a motion to adjourn at 8:04 p.m. Roll call vote: Cheney, Simmons, Murray, Ruzicka, Dorn voted YES. Motion carried.

Michele Lincoln, CMC
Village Clerk