

Village of Bennet, Nebraska
Board of Trustees Minutes; June 11, 2018

The Bennet Board of Trustees (the "Board") of the Village of Bennet, Nebraska (the "Village") held a regular meeting and public hearings on Monday, June 11, 2018 at 8:00 p.m., at the regular meeting place of the Board, the 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 to public inspection at the office of the Village Clerk.

Chairman Don Murray called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m. and announced the location of the Open Meetings Act posted near the entrance of the room for access by the public. Village Clerk Patricia Rule conducted roll call and recorded the minutes. Trustees in attendance were Justin Dorn, Jerris Nider, Don Murray and Ryan Cheney. Brad Ruzicka was absent. A quorum being present and the meeting duly commenced, the following proceedings were taken while the session remained open for attendance by the public.

Motion by Nider, second by Cheney to approve minutes for the May 2018 regular meeting and public hearings. Roll call vote; Cheney, Nider, Dorn, Murray voted YES. Motion carried.

A list of claims for payment was considered. Rule reported an additional claim from Cannon for copies and maintenance, \$137.51. Motion by Dorn, second by Nider to approve payment of claims. Roll call vote; Dorn, Nider, Murray voted YES. Cheney ABSTAINED Motion carried.

Motion by Cheney, second by Dorn approving the Treasurers Report. Roll call vote; Nider, Cheney, Murray, Dorn voted YES. Motion carried.

Written reports were received from the Planning Commission, Lancaster County Sheriff's Department, Village Engineer and Utility Superintendent.

Ordinance 2018-5.1 was introduced on second reading approving a Change of Zone from I-1 Industrial and A-2 Agricultural to I-2 Industrial on various properties generally located on or adjacent to the OPPD Railroad Right of Way from Jackson Street to Madison Street (request of Midwest Farmers Cooperative).

Motion by Murray, second by Cheney to waive the *Three Reading Rule* for Ordinance 2018-5.1. Roll call vote; Dorn, Cheney, Murray voted YES. Nider voted NO. Ruzicka absent. Motion failed 4/5 vote.

Motion by Murray, second by Cheney to advance Ordinance 2018-5.1 on second reading. Roll call vote; Dorn, Cheney, Murray voted YES. Nider voted NO. Motion carried.

A resolution on Midwest Farmers Cooperative application for a Special Use Permit for the storage of portable anhydrous ammonia tanks and permanent anhydrous and propane tanks on various properties listed in the COZ request was tabled pending final passage of the zone change.

Resolution 2018-6.1 was introduced: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CLOSURE OF A PORTION OF TYLER STREET, HARRISON STREET, VAN BUREN STREET, QUINCY STREET, ELM STREET, FIR STREET AND HARRISON CIRCLE ON JULY 4, 2018, FOR THE CONDUCT OF A PARADE AND COMMUNITY CELEBRATION ACTIVITIES.

Motion by Murray, second by Dorn approving Resolution 2018-6.1. Roll call vote; Nider, Cheney, Murray, Dorn voted YES. Motion carried.

Motion by Murray, second by Cheney approving a fireworks display to be conducted at the Bennet South Ballfield on July 3rd, 2018. Roll call vote; Nider, Cheney, Murray, Dorn voted YES. Motion carried.

Resolution 2018-6.2 was introduced by title: A RESOLUTION PROHIBITING THE PARKING OF ANY VEHICLE ALONG A PORTION OF THE NORTH SIDE OF HACKBERRY STREET. Discussion identified the restriction was for parking on the north side of the street from the 700 block to the 1100 block. Motion by Murray, second by Dorn approving Resolution 2018-6.2. Roll call vote; Murray, Nider, Cheney, Dorn voted YES. Motion carried.

Consideration for vacating a portion of Juniper Street was tabled pending research of the street dedication.

Consideration of a street maintenance agreement for the 700 block of Madison Street was tabled pending receipt of any proposal.

A \$25,000.00 grant award from the Nemaha Natural Resource District was announced. The award was in response to an application for funds for development of trails and native species plantings at Whispering Pines Park. Trustees expressed support for the project.

Resolution 2018-6.3 was introduced: A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING AN AWARD OF URBAN SPECIAL PROJECT FUNDS FROM THE NEMAHA NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT, APPROVING THE REQUIRED INTERLOCAL COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT, AND AUTHORIZING THE CHAIRMAN TO EXECUTE THE SAME ON BEHALF OF THE VILLAGE. Motion by Murray, second by Cheney approving Resolution 2018-6.3. Roll call vote; Cheney, Dorn, Nider, Murray voted YES. Motion carried.

Emily Bausch of Olsson and Associates addressed the Board regarding additional opportunities for grant funding. Bausch outlined two specific federal grants, and the process of a narrative application and interview. Timeline and percent of success was considered. Bausch noted that a procurement process was needed for a project engineer to comply with federal requirements, Davis Bacon was no longer a requirement, and some environmental requirements may apply. Motion by Murray, second by Dorn approving a letter agreement with Olsson and Associates for grant writing assistance. Roll call vote; Cheney, Nider, Murray, Dorn voted YES. Motion carried.

In continued business, Tim Keelan addressed the Board referencing his firm's 40 years of community planning experience. Resolution 2018-6.4 was introduced: A RESOLUTION APPROVING A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE VILLAGE OF BENNET PLANNING COMMISSION AND HANNA:KEELAN ASSOCIATES, P.C. FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW COMPREHENSIVE PLAN WITH HOUSING STUDY. Motion by Murray, second by Nider approving Resolution 2018-6.4. Roll call vote; Nider, Cheney, Murray, Dorn voted YES. Motion carried.

Bathroom accessibility and new bathroom construction at Bennet Park was discussed. A suggestion was considered for opening the shelter bathrooms for daily use and keeping the block facility as a storage building. Opinions varied with some preferring construction of a new building. Following discussion, Trustees agreed to open the shelter bathroom facility for daily use with some alterations for security. The block building could be painted and doors updated.

Construction of sidewalks along Apple Street in the Bennet Ridge Addition was discussed. Developer Jeff Colson addressed the Board, stated he had agreements with property owners and equipment to build the sidewalk. Escrow funds are retained until the work is completed. Chairman Murray questioned the grading of the ditches and culvert installation from a recent paving project.

The Village open storm sewer drainage system was discussed. Complaints were received from several residents, in the 500 block of Jefferson Street, of difficulty maintaining steep ditches. Chairman Murray asked Trustees to look at problem areas and consider possible remedies, including extended culverts or curb and gutter. He encouraged development of an extended year plan. A previous drainage study was noted.

Authorizing an additional signer for Village checking accounts was discussed. The process would provide ease of accounting in the event of an absent authorized person. Trustees agreed a member of the Finance Committee should be added as authorized signer to bank accounts. The Village Attorney would provide a resolution for the next meeting.

Property condition at 605 Monroe and procedures for blighting or condemning properties was discussed. The Clerk agreed to contact the owner to request weeds and overgrowth are removed.

In closing, Larry Kramer informed the Board the new canopy shades over the Splash Pad at Bennet Park would be installed soon.

Motion by Cheney, second by Nider to adjourn at 9:42 pm. Roll call vote; Cheney, Nider, Murray, Dorn voted YES. Motion carried.

Patricia Rule, Village Clerk