

**Village of Bennet, Nebraska**  
**Board of Trustees**  
**Budget Workshop Minutes**  
**July 30, 2018**

The Bennet Board of Trustees (the "Board") of the Village of Bennet, Nebraska (the "Village") held a budget workshop on Monday, July 30, 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 an agenda for the meeting, kept continuously current, was available for public inspection at the offices of the Village Clerk.

Chairman Don Murray called the workshop to order at 8:02 p.m. and announced the location of the Open Meetings Act posted near the entrance of the room for access by the public. The Clerk conducted roll call and recorded the minutes. Trustees responding as present were Justin Dorn, Ryan Cheney, Jerris Nider, Don Murray and Brad Ruzicka.

A quorum present, and the meeting duly commenced, the following proceedings were taken while the meetings remained open to attendance by the public.

Motion by Cheney, second by Nider to approve minutes for the July 9<sup>th</sup> regular business meeting. Roll call vote; Ruzicka, Nider, Murray, Dorn, Cheney voted YES. Motion carried.

Village accountant Michael Hoback detailed budget versus actual expenditures to date, and remaining cost of unfinished projects for the current year. Hoback also outlined balances and cash revenues.

Projects proposed for the new fiscal year were discussed. Deficit revenue in the sewer fund was discussed at length. A capital project adding a sludge press and disposal site was considered. Funding projects and sewer rates were discussed. Hoback advised that to secure bond funding for a project in a proprietary *fund*, such as water, sewer or garbage, the *fund* needs to operate efficiently. Trustees agreed a minimal annual increase in sewer rates could help with long term revenue needs. An ordinance would be considered to increase rates 5% a year for the next 5 years.

Street projects were also considered. Trustees agreed the sludge press project and paving Tyler from Cottonwood north should be designed in the 2018/19 fiscal year and constructed in the 2019/20 fiscal year. Engineering would be bid on projects to expedite their completion.

The Whispering Pines Park projects was discussed. While additional grant funding would be applied for, it is not guaranteed. Trustees expressed opinions about the project, understanding a commitment was made with the Nebraska Natural Resource District to move forward. It was noted as a known cost with many years of planning. Hoback noted the general fund would maintain a cash reserve following the park project cost.

Hoback commended Trustees on an excellent job of planning for future capital expenditures.

Motion by Cheney, second by Dorn to adjourn at 9:36 p.m. Roll call vote; Nider, Murray, Cheney, Dorn, Ruzicka voted YES. Motion carried.

Recorded by:

Patricia Rule, Village Clerk