

Village of Bennet, Nebraska
Board of Trustees Minutes; July 8, 2019

The Bennet Board of Trustees (the "Board") of the Village of Bennet, Nebraska (the "Village") held a regular meeting on Monday, July 8, 2019 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.

Following the conclusion of a capital workshop, Chairman Justin Dorn called the regular business meeting to order at 8:06 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 Ryan Cheney, Brad Ruzicka, Jerris Nider, Justin Dorn and Don Murray. A quorum being present and the meeting duly commenced, the following proceedings were taken while the meeting remained open to attendance by the public.

Motion by Murray, second by Nider to approve minutes for the regular meeting held July 10, 2019. Roll call vote; Cheney, Murray, Dorn, Nider, Ruzicka voted YES. Motion carried.

A list of claims for payment was presented. An additional submission for employee investment was included. Motion by Cheney, second by Ruzicka to approve payment of all claims presented. Roll call vote; Murray, Ruzicka, Nider, Dorn, Cheney voted YES. Motion carried.

The Engineers recommendation to approve payment on the Adams Street Paving project was discussed. Engineer Ryan Brandt noted the retainer was adequate to repair a portion of broken curb and address erosion problems. Motion by Dorn, second by Murray to approve Payment Request #2 for Constructors, Inc in the amount of \$19, 251.91 for the Adams Street Pavement project. Roll call vote; Nider, Dorn, Cheney, Murray, Ruzicka voted YES. Motion carried.

Emily Bausch of Olsson provided a bid tabulation for construction of the Whispering Pines Park Trail project. Motion by Dorn, second by Ruzicka to award the bid for Whispering Pines Park Trail project to Constructors, including the alternate of adding aggregate base, and to authorize the Chairman to execute contracts regarding the same, on behalf of the Village. Roll call vote; Cheney, Murray, Dorn, Nider, Ruzicka voted YES. Motion carried.

A time extension for completion of the Whispering Pines Park Trail project was noted as approved by the Nemaha Natural Resource District. Grant funding of \$25,000.00 would remain available and ¼ updates would be provided by Olsson. Motion by Dorn, second by Cheney approving the Interlocal Cooperative Agreement – Extension with Nemaha Natural Resource District for Urban Special Project Funds. Roll call vote; Nider, Murray, Ruzicka, Dorn, Cheney voted YES. Motion carried.

Resolution 2019-7.1 was introduced; A RESOLUTION DECLARING CONDITIONS AT 235 FIR STREET, BENNET, NEBRASKA TO CONSTITUTE A PUBLIC NUISANCE AND DIRECTING VILLAGE PERSONNEL TO PROCEED TO ABATE AND REMOVE THE NUISANCE.

Comments were received by from the attending public. Motion by Ruzicka, second by Nider approving Resolution 2019-7.1. Roll call vote; Dorn, Nider, Cheney, Murray, Ruzicka voted YES. Motion carried. Trustees expressed commitment to clean up problem areas in the community.

Formulation of a *Transition Team* to develop a strategy for transitioning to a city of the second class was discussed. The Clerk noted that with continued growth expectations of services, and job duties had also increased. An additional employee was needed. Duties could include floodplain administration, subdivision regulation, zoning administration, building and safety, code enforcement and nuisance abatement. Trustees commented on the need for additional oversight and maintenance at the ball parks. The *Transition Team* would also look into changes in code from Village to city. Commissioners Josh Buck and Dina Rathje, and Trustees Don Murray and Justin Dorn agreed to serve on the committee with the Clerk and Village Attorney.

Meeting dates for a Budget Workshop were considered. 6:00 pm on July 29th or August 5th were preferred.

A Treasurer's report was considered. The Clerk noted that bond payments would be due in August. Motion by Dorn, second by Murray to approve the July 2019 Treasury report. Roll call vote; Cheney, Dorn, Nider, Ruzicka, Murray voted YES. Motion carried.

Reports were also received from Village Engineer Ryan Brandt, The Farmers Market Committee, Utility Superintendent, and Sheriff Department. The Planning Commission did not meet in June.

In closing, Jim Penterman addressed the Board regarding a strip of property he owned adjoining Whispering Pines Park. Penterman requested the issue be placed on the September 9th agenda.

Motion by Dorn, second by Murray to enter a closed session to discuss negotiations for land acquisition at 8:45 pm. Roll call vote; Murray, Cheney, Nider, Ruzicka, Dorn voted YES. Motion carried. Chairman Dorn restated the reason for the closed session.

Motion by Dorn, second by Ruzicka to return to open session at 9:22 pm. Roll call vote; Nider, Ruzicka, Cheney, Dorn, Murray voted YES. Motion carried.

Motion by Ruzicka, second by Nider to adjourn at 9:22 p.m. Roll call vote; Nider, Dorn, Murray, Ruzicka, Cheney voted YES. Motion carried.

Patricia Rule, Village Clerk