

Village of Elwood regular meeting minutes, March 13, 2024

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Elwood, Nebraska was held at the Elwood Village Office, 304 Calvert Avenue on Wednesday, March 13, 2024. Said meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Board Chair Martin who acknowledged the Open Meetings Act posted on the south wall of the meeting room. Present were Trustees Fong, Tilson, Townsend and Kleine. Clerk Jauken was present to record the minutes. Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the Valley Voice Newspaper on February 29, 2024 and by posted notices at Security First Bank, Pinnacle Bank, Elwood Post Office and the Village Office on March 6, 2024. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

A motion was made by Tilson, seconded by Fong, to approve the February 13, 2024 minutes of the joint meeting with the CRA (Community Redevelopment Authority), and the February 15, 2024 regular meeting minutes as presented. There being no discussion, the roll call vote was: ayes: Kleine, Townsend, Fong, Tilson, Martin; nays: none; motion carried 5-0.

After reviewing claims, a motion was made by Fong, seconded by Townsend, to approve and pay the Village and Library claims as presented. The roll call vote was: ayes: Kleine, Tilson, Fong, Townsend, Martin; nays: none; motion carried 5-0. Claims are as follows:

Aflac	256.40	Emp. pd ins.
ATC Communications	14.90	email, website
Aurora Cooperative	130.91	supplies
Black Hills Energy	347.73	utilities
Blue Cross Blue Shield of NE	4,966.26	health insurance
Bob's True Value	19.53	keys
CAMAS Publishing	20.48	publications
Community Redevelopment Authority	6,250.00	budget pymt
Corder, Kirk	49.00	cell phone
Dawson Public Power District	4,220.69	utilities
Eakes - Copier	124.65	copier payment
Eakes Office Plus	335.11	service agreement
Elan Financial Services - credit card	188.97	water postage, office
supplies		
Elwood Hometown Coop Market	25.19	supplies
Elwood Public School	220.00	tobacco and liquor license
fee income		
Gerken, Lisa	88.00	pre-stamped envelopes for
mailing		
Gosper Co. Treasurer. (Taxes)	387.20	dump land lease taxes
Great Plains Communications	173.71	phones, internet at dump
Hart, Huyser & Miller P.C., L.L.O.	800.00	atty fees
Michael Todd & Company, Inc	2,167.08	snow blades
MTL, Inc.	107.00	cleaning
NE Dept. of Revenue	338.15	sales tax
One Call Concepts, Inc.	5.98	811 locate fees

Pinnacle Bank	1,037.52	HSA contributions
Schaben Sanitation - Roll-off	366.42	large dumpster at dump
Schaben Sanitation Inc.	6,610.69	trash fees
Schutz, Shane	20.00	cell phone
Security First Insurance	978.00	work comp. ins.
Starmark	39.60	emp. life ins.
TOTAL	30,289.17	
PREAPPROVED/PREPAID CLAIMS:		
EFTPS	2,930.26	Feb. federal payroll taxes
Payroll	8,292.18	Feb. net payroll
Schwab	324.16	Feb. 401K company match
TOTAL PREPAID	11,546.60	
TOTAL CLAIMS	41,835.77	
LIBRARY CLAIMS:		
Black Hills Energy	236.61	utilities
Dawson Public Power District	112.31	utilities
MTL Inc	214.00	janitor
Village of Elwood	2,145.30	wages, ss/mc, utilities
Elwood Hometown Coop Mkt	87.79	supplies
Moonlight Electric	75.00	labor, parts
Pinnacle Bank CC	69.10	supplies
TOTAL LIBRARY CLAIMS	2,978.07	

A motion was made by Fong, seconded by Kleine, to approve the Treasurer's report as presented. There being no further discussion, the roll call vote was: ayes: Tilson, Townsend, Kleine, Fong, Martin; nays: none; motion carried 5-0.

There was no report from the CRA to review.

Sheriff's Deputy Richie was present to report on the hiring of a new deputy and that the Department is working on switching to an electronic ticketing system. Deputy Richie reports that they have been stopping one or two vehicles per night for engine braking violations.

Utility Superintendent Corder reported work will begin on the flume north of the school after school is out for the summer. Street repairs scheduled for this summer were discussed as well as the alley behind the fire hall. Monitoring water use and payment from the water fill station at the old well site was discussed. Trustee Townsend stated that ball practices should be starting in the first or second week of April. Corder will continue working on a plan for making repairs at the lagoon. Corder found pool ladders for \$209.92 each. A motion was made by Fong, seconded by Tilson, to order two of said ladders provided they meet commercial pool requirements. There being no further discussion, the roll call vote was: ayes: Kleine, Townsend, Tilson, Fong, Martin; nays: none; motion carried: 5-0.

Schaben Sanitation site manager, Gwen Jensen, was present to introduce herself to the Board and discuss equipment repairs while offering assistance for any other needs the Village may have for trash service. She reported that Schaben is actively working to make repairs and to continue to let them know when repairs are needed.

Nicole Hueftle and Kenny Townsend, of the Summer Ball Committee were present to discuss this summer's ball activities. The committee has created a calf league for pre-K and K. This league will be local. The committee will meet with coaches before the season. League fees were discussed and payments may need mailed before the next meeting. It is anticipated that Eustis will reimburse Elwood for one-half of the league fees. A motion was made by Fong, seconded by Tilson, to pay summer ball League fees, not to exceed 10 teams, after teams are determined. There being no further discussion, the roll call vote was: ayes: Kleine, Townsend, Tilson, Fong, Martin; nays: none; motion carried 5-0.

The Board reviewed one assistant manager and five lifeguard applications for the swimming pool. A motion was made by Tilson, seconded by Fong, to hire all applicants. There being no discussion, the roll call vote was: ayes: Kleine, Townsend, Fong, Tilson, Martin; motion carried 5-0.

UT Supt. Corder will contact companies to get bids for lawn chemical applications for the summer.

The Board reviewed health insurance options from the League Insurance Government Health Team (LIGHT). After studying the plans with Option 3 showing a savings of just over \$2,000.00 and the ability to carry over the employees' current claims, a motion was made by Fong, seconded by Tilson, to select the HSA Option 3 insurance plan. After discussion of any potential fees, which there were found to be none, the roll call vote was: ayes: Kleine, Townsend, Tilson, Fong, Martin; nays: none; motion carried 5-0.

The Trustees reviewed and discussed an ordinance to consider a bond which will assist with paying for water meters and provide guaranteed matching funds for all grants that will be applied for to assist with the water meter project. Ordinance 2024-01, authorizing the issuance of the Village's General Obligation Water Bonds, Series 2024 (the "Ordinance"), was introduced by Board Chair Martin by title as follows:

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-01

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CHAIRPERSON AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF ELWOOD, NEBRASKA AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE, SALE, AND DELIVERY OF THE VILLAGE'S GENERAL OBLIGATION WATER BONDS, SERIES 2024, IN ONE OR MORE SERIES IN AN AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$1,950,000 TO PAY THE COSTS OF CONSTRUCTING IMPROVEMENTS TO THE WATER SYSTEM OF THE VILLAGE; PRESCRIBING THE FORM AND CERTAIN DETAILS OF THE BONDS AND PROVIDING FOR THE FIXING AND ESTABLISHING OF OTHER DETAILS OF THE BONDS; PROVIDING FOR THE LEVY AND COLLECTION OF AN ANNUAL TAX FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAYING THE PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON THE BONDS AS THEY BECOME DUE; DESIGNATING THE BONDS AS QUALIFIED TAX EXEMPT OBLIGATIONS; ADOPTING CERTAIN POST-ISSUANCE TAX COMPLIANCE AND DISCLOSURE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES WITH RESPECT TO THE BONDS; AUTHORIZING CERTAIN OTHER DOCUMENTS AND ACTIONS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH; AND PROVIDING FOR THE PUBLICATION OF THE ORDINANCE IN PAMPHLET FORM.

Said Ordinance was designated as Ordinance No. 2024-01, and the title thereof was approved.

Board Member Tilson moved that the statutory rule requiring that ordinances be read by title on three different days be suspended so that the Ordinance might be introduced, read by title and then moved for final passage on the same day, without the same being read in full, which motion was seconded by Board Member Kleine. On roll call vote, the following Board Members voted in favor of the motion to suspend the statutory rule: Townsend, Fong, Kleine, Tilson, Martin; the following Board Members voted against such motion: none; the following Board Members were absent or did not vote: none. The motion to suspend the statutory rule having been agreed upon by at least three-fourths of all of the Board Members elected to the Board, the Chairperson declared the motion passed and the statutory rule suspended.

Board Member Tilson then read the Ordinance by title and moved the same for final passage. Board Member Kleine seconded the motion to pass the Ordinance. On roll call vote, the following Board Members voted in favor of the passage of the Ordinance: Townsend, Fong, Kleine, Tilson, Martin; the following Board Members voted against the passage of the Ordinance: none; the following Board Members were absent or did not vote: none. The passage of the Ordinance having been agreed upon by a majority of the Board, the Chairperson declared the Ordinance passed and signed the Ordinance in the presence of the Board, and the Village Clerk attested to its passage and approval by affixing her signature thereto. A true and complete copy of this Ordinance is available for inspection and distribution in pamphlet form at the office of the Village Clerk at the Village Office. The bond will be funded as needed to complete the water meter installation project.

A nuisance complaint was reviewed. The Board discussed giving the new owners time to resolve the issue as the property will be changing hands in the near future.

Resolution 2024-01 appointing West Central Nebraska Development District (WCNDD) as Elwood's Nuisance Officer was reviewed. A motion was made by Fong, seconded by Townsend, to pass said resolution. Discussion was held and it was agreed by the Trustees that Section One of the nuisance map will be the focus this year. The roll call vote was: ayes: Kleine, Tilson, Townsend, Fong, Martin; nays: none; motion carried 5-0.

A proposal for services was received from WCNDD for a Comprehensive Plan Update and a Blight and Substandard Study Update. Some questions were presented; therefore, this proposal will be considered at the next meeting.

An estimate for new billing and accounting software that will coordinate with meter software was reviewed. It was discussed to include this in the next budget year.

Clerk Jauken informed the Trustees that the Village cellular phone will need replaced soon. She will get prices for the consideration at the next meeting.

There were no building permits to review.

The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 10, 2024.

Board Chair Martin adjourned the meeting at 9:21 p.m.

Laurie Jauken, Clerk/Treasurer