The Village of Sutherland Board of Trustees held a Regular Meeting on April 27, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. in the Village of Sutherland Meeting Room, located: 1200 First Street, Sutherland, Nebraska. Notice of this meeting was given by posting notice in four public places, the designated method by the Village Board of Trustees. An agenda for this meeting was kept continuously current and available for inspection at the Office of the Village Clerk. Trustee Members present upon roll call were: Sam Haworth, Scott Meyer, Dani Jorgensen, and Kimberly Backer. Via Zoom: Frank Fleecs. Also, present were: Village Clerk/Treasurer Melissa Wilson, Village Superintendent Casey Kendall, and Village Attorney Rory Roundtree. Guest’s present were: Ken & Jackie Main, Tiffany Banks, Muriel Clark, Gene & Linda Tacey, Steve Bristol, Kristi Jochum, Ed & Kensie Walters, Janet Mueller, Roger Lathrop, and Tory Copeland. Guests present via Zoom: Trenda Seifer. If all the names are not included, it is only by error, absence of signature or undecipherable signature in the guest book.

Chairperson Backer called for a roll call, recognized a quorum was present and called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Board of Trustees and guests rose and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Backer gave notice of the open meeting law poster and its location and proper procedure for guests.

Reading and approval of minutes for the April 13, 2022 Board of Trustees Regular Meeting. Discussion was held. Motion Meyer, second Haworth to approve the minutes as corrected. Voting: Yes: Meyer, Jorgensen, Haworth, and Backer. Via Zoom and Not Voting: Fleecs. Motion carried.

Chief’s Report was discussed by Backer. This will be moved down the agenda until Lathrop can be in attendance.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Pool Update/Resurface was discussed by Kendall. This is going as planned and he’ll reach out to Mid-America Pool next week to make sure we’re on schedule.

Fence on North Walnut was discussed by Kendall. This is moving forward.

Fire Hall/Fire Department/Merger was discussed by Meyer. Nothing to report at this time.

ARPA Funding was discussed by Backer. This is still in progress and Wilson is working on getting the reports submitted.

Spring Primary Election/Sales Tax was discussed by Backer. She went to the Chamber meeting. J. Mueller spoke on the Chamber’s behalf supporting the initiative and the Sales Tax within the village limits. There’s a committee set up. M. Clark has played a big part in the posters and postcards.

Storm/Sewer Drainage was discussed by Kendall. He spoke with T. Werblow this week. T. Werblow has tried reaching the landowner to the east without any success, so he’s sending a letter out to them. Kendall spoke on the cornstalks that have blown into the lagoon and along the fence with the high winds. He’s working on estimates to get this resolved and help removing the stalks. The drifts of cornstalks are roughly 4 ft deep. There are concerns on the stalks in the lagoon and keeping the lagoon healthy. The pond is in good condition otherwise.

The agenda was adjusted to the Chief’s Report.

Chief’s Report was discussed by Lathrop. We’ve had 9 fires this month: 4 of them were ours and 5 were mutual aide. 23 ambulance calls in March and so far in April we’ve had 17. Lathrop stated numerous people brought food and water to the department while they fought the fires. The department is very thankful.

Fee Schedule was discussed by Roundtree. He’s going to tie it together with the Dogs/Dog Ordinances.

Lifeguard Certifications was discussed by Backer. Wilson asked if the guards only need the CPR Class, did they need to take the full class with J. Mraz? Backer said, “No, they only need to take the CPR Class.” If the guards can’t take the CPR Class with J. Mraz, they can take it elsewhere, if it’s an accredited CPR Class.

Dogs/Dog Ordinances were discussed by Roundtree. We’ll have a draft before the next meeting to review and he will explain. It should be ready for the next meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Late Fee was discussed by Kendall. He stated with costs, time and sending out the late fee notices, that we need to up our prices. Our surrounding communities are $25.00 and up on the late fees, we’re one of the lowest. Roundtree stated we’ll need to do a Resolution for this. This will stay on the agenda until the next meeting.

Mr. Bristol – School Playground spoke on his own behalf. He brought pictures of the playground when it was under water. The school’s insurance adjuster came out and looked at the playground fall area/rubber mats and it’s in disrepair and something needs to be done about it. A playground architect/project manager will be coming out sometime in July to give the school a better idea of what some of the options are in terms of whether to move the playground or if it can be built up higher. He’s asking the village if they would be willing to help in any way, whether it be with equipment, dirt work, or pull playground equipment to save costs for the school and district. The school will be reaching out to the public for donations, the school has also looked into financing through their own budget for seven years, and a possible street closure to the south. T. Copeland has reached out to the property owners to the south and neither one of them have a problem with it. The homeowners are in favor of a soft or hard close. The school is trying to do their due diligence from the get-go. Discussion was held. The drainage system was discussed and will take a couple work sessions to get moving forward. Backer stated the board will get with the city engineer and get a work session in the planning.

Bonnie Edwards was discussed by Kendall. He stated if we do the merger, they’ll have to come in and get it surveyed to see what we’re going to have to do. He reached out to B. Edwards, and she said anywhere from $800.00-$1200.00 to do the survey. Backer stated we need to move forward on this survey. Kendall said there’s a utility easement to the North and East and if we want to put a road in there, there will be an easement for the road.

Muriel Clark spoke on her own behalf. The Chamber voted this passed Wednesday to have the Maker’s Market, Sunday, August 28th from 10-4. Last year’s show was very successful. They had all the booths on 1st Street last year. They’re proposing also closing Walnut Street from 1st to 2nd Street. She brought her proposed layout of the vendors on the streets. There won’t be electricity available this year. The Village will charge for Peddler Permits this year. They’re wondering if the porta potties and picnic tables would be able to be moved to the other side of the highway. Cleaning of the streets would be very helpful and possibly more trashcans and dumpsters. Kendall said the picnic tables can be moved if the Chamber moves them themselves. Discussion was held. This will stay on the agenda.

**OTHER:**

Claims for April 27, 2022 were presented in the amount of $32,558.92. Discussion was held. Motion Meyer, second Haworth to approve the claims as amended. Voting: Yes: Backer, Meyer, Jorgensen, and Haworth. Via Zoom and Not Voting: Fleecs. Motion carried.

**Reports:**

Superintendent Kendall: We started fertilizing the parks, working on getting the sprinklers going, and were working on a game plan for the cornstalks issue at the lagoon.

Clerk/Treasurer Wilson: Nothing.

Linda Tacey: 10 students from the JH/SH from the school helped with trash pickup and tree planting yesterday and that was apart of Keep Nebraska Beautiful Project. She was very thankful.

Kristi Jochum: Spoke about the Memorial Bench for Randy at the New Fire Hall and a sign at the Golf Course. It should be placed sometime in June.

Tiffany Banks: Wanted to know about the reports and making sure we’re getting them taken care of.

**Trustees Reports:**

Haworth: He rode with Kendall to the ponds and feels structurally look fantastic, the roads are great, but I’m concerned about the stalks and the erosion.

Meyer: Nothing.

Jorgensen: Nothing.

Fleecs: Nothing.

Backer: Nothing.

**Executive Session:**

Motion Meyer, second Haworth to enter into Executive Session for reason of personnel at 7:15 p.m. Voting: Yes: Jorgensen, Haworth, Backer, and Meyer. Via Zoom and Not Voting: Fleecs. Motion carried. Executive Session was entered into for the reason of discussion of personnel at 7:15 p.m. No action will be taken.

The Board of Trustees came out of Executive Session at 7:29 p.m. and no action was taken.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

These minutes are set to be approved at the next regular meeting on May 11, 2022.

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Kimberly Backer, Chairperson

Board of Trustees, Village of Sutherland

[Seal] Melissa Wilson, Village Clerk/Treasurer

Village of Sutherland

