The Village of Sutherland Board of Trustees held a Regular Meeting on June 8, 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: Scott Meyer, Dani Jorgensen, Frank Fleecs, Sam Haworth, and Kimberly Backer. Also, present were: Village Clerk/Treasurer Melissa Wilson and Village Superintendent Casey Kendall. Absent/Available Via Phone: Village Attorney Rory Roundtree. Guest’s present were: Ken & Jackie Main, Steve Gies, Ed & Kensie Walters, Teresa Rotert, Jim Bliss, Tony Johnson, Trenda Seifer, Jason & Shawna Cooper, Kaye Monie, Bob Maline, Gale Hopping, Tory Copeland, and Steve 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 May 25, 2022 Board of Trustees Regular Meeting. Discussion was held. Motion Haworth, second Fleecs to approve the minutes as corrected. Voting: Yes: Jorgensen, Fleecs, Haworth, Backer, and Meyer. Motion carried.

Sheriff’s Report was discussed by Backer. CFS: 51; Total Traffic: 3; Total Village Code Violations: 4; Village Hours: 117.5; To Date: 1171, and Yearly: 1200.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Pool Update/Resurface was discussed by Kendall. He stated the pool resurfacing is done and it looks great. It’s full of water and the lifeguards are getting things ready for opening day. Scheduled to open on Saturday. This can come off the agenda.

Fence on North Walnut was discussed by Kendall. He hasn’t been up there to look. This will stay on the agenda.

Fire Hall/Fire Department/Merger was discussed by Meyer. The merger is still in the process and the rural hasn’t had a meeting yet.

ARPA Funding was discussed by Backer. Wilson stated we’re still on track and we haven’t received our second check yet.

Spring Primary Election/Sales Tax was discussed by Backer. She stated Roundtree wasn’t at the meeting as he’s sick, so this will stay on the agenda. He’s working on what is needed for the committee.

Storm/Sewer Drainage was discussed by Kendall. Nothing new to discuss.

Fee Schedule was discussed by Backer. This will be moved down the agenda.

Dogs/Dog Ordinance 657 2nd Reading was discussed by Backer. Dog Ordinance 657 was discussed by Backer. She asked Wilson to do the second reading of Ordinance 657: AN ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF SUTHERLAND, NEBRASKA, AMENDING THE SUTHERLAND VILLAGE CODE (ORDINANCE NO. 570) BY REVOKING AND REPLACING CHAPTER 6, ARTICLE 1 “ANIMALS”; TO REPEAL ALL OTHER ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS, OR PARTS THEREOF IN CONFLICT; TO PROVIDE THAT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BE MADE A PART OF THE CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF SUTHERLAND; AND TO PROVIDE THE DATE THAT THIS ORDINANCE SHALL TAKE EFFECT. This will stay on the agenda for a third reading.

Bonnie Edwards – Survey of Village Property was discussed by Backer. This will stay on the agenda until the merger is finished.

Gale Hopping 2022 Fire Fighter Jamboree was discussed by Hopping. The Sutherland Fire and Rescue doesn’t have the proper 501C filing non-profit, so the Rodeo Committee is going to file it for us. An e-mail from Janet Mueller stated she has no issues with the Sutherland Fire and Rescue using their name for the 501C filing. Motion Haworth, second by Meyer to approve the Rodeo Committee’s SDL for the Fire Fighter Jamboree July 16, 2022. Voting: Yes: Fleecs, Haworth, Backer, Meyer, and Jorgensen. Motion carried.

Fire and Rescue Resolution 2022-05-02 was discussed by Backer. This is on hold until the merger. This will stay on the agenda.

Shawna Cooper Liquor Ordinance/Alcohol Sales Ordinance 659 was discussed by S. Cooper. She spoke in length on the ordinance and how it will benefit this community. Backer asked Wilson to read Ordinance 659 for the first reading: AN ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF SUTHERLAND, NEBRASKA, AMENDING THE SUTHERLAND VILLAGE CODE (ORDINANCE NO. 570) BY AMENDING CHAPTER 10, ARTICLE 1, “ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES”; SUBSECTION 10-109 “ALCOHOIC BEVERAGES; HOURS OF SALE”, TO REPEAL ALL OTHER ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS, OR PARTS THEREOF IN CONFLICT; TO PROVIDE THAT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BE MADE A PART OF THE CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF SUTHERLAND; AND TO PROVIDE THE DATE THAT THIS ORDINANCE SHALL TAKE EFFECT. Discussion was held. Many community members were in attendance for this. They spoke on how they were in support of this ordinance, and many community members wrote letters in favor of this ordinance as well. Motion Meyer, second Haworth to waive the three readings rule on Ordinance 659. Voting: Yes: Haworth, Backer, Meyer, and Jorgensen. Voting: No: Fleecs. Motion carried. Motion Haworth, second Meyer to amend Ordinance 659 to read the date effective date in Section 3 to June 26, 2022 upon passage. Voting: Yes: Backer, Meyer, Jorgensen, Fleecs, and Haworth. Motion carried. Motion Meyer, second Haworth to approve Ordinance 659 as amended. Voting: Yes: Meyer, Jorgensen, Fleecs, Haworth, and Backer. Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Fence Permits were discussed by Backer. She talked about the fence permit and needing to look into this for updating it and involve the Planning Commission. T. Copeland spoke on this and how it needs to be an alley-by-alley scenario and putting this in detail in the permit. Discussion was held. S. Gies spoke on his fence permit and his proposed plan. He’s been at a Planning Commission meeting to go over the permit that was denied.

Wilson Resignation was discussed by Wilson. She spoke on how she brought this to the board two weeks ago and how she would stay until September 30, and she feels this isn’t necessary with some things that are still going on, so she’s putting in her resignation tonight that states June 24. She will still help if needed or when it works in her schedule. Motion Fleecs, second Meyer to accept Wilson’s resignation with regret. T. Copeland spoke on if the trustees accept this resignation or don’t do what it takes to keep her, you’re doing the community a disservice. He feels Wilson is the best clerk we’ve had in this office in the last ten and a half years. There’s no one to take her place. He’s not heard one complaint about her from the public. He thanked Backer for allowing the public to speak on topics at hand. E. Walters asked the board if they’ve reached out to Wilson to see if there was anything they could do to stay? Meyer and Haworth stated yes and have spoken to her in person. S. Cooper, K. Monie, T. Seifer, C. Kendall, and T. Rotert all spoke on behalf of Wilson on how wonderful she is to have in the office and how they want her to stay. Discussion was held. Backer made a motion to go into Executive Session for reasons of personnel at 7:01 p.m. Haworth asked that we take a recess first and then come back for Executive Session.

Went into recess at 7:01 p.m.

Came out of recess at 7:08 p.m.

**Executive Session:**

Motion Meyer, second Fleecs to enter into Executive Session for reason of discussion of personnel at 7:08 p.m. Voting: Yes: Meyer, Jorgensen, Fleecs, Haworth, and Backer. Motion carried. Executive Session was entered into for the reason of discussion of personnel at 7:08 p.m. No action will be taken.

The Board of Trustees came out of Executive Session at 7:41 p.m. No action was taken.

Wilson Resignation was discussed by Backer. Meyer stated there’s a motion and a second. Backer asked for a role call vote. Voting: No: Haworth, Backer, Meyer, Jorgensen, and Fleecs. Motion failed.

Water Tank Bids was discussed by Kendall. There’s a form in the packet and if it looks good, he’d like direction on moving forward with this. Meyer stated we’re required to bid out anything over $25,000.00 and we’re estimating this is going to be over that? Kendall stated $90,000.00 plus. This will need to be published three consecutive times. The date needs to be changed to July 13 at 6:30 p.m. Trenda will publish, and Wilson will reach out to the Denver Post and Omaha World Herald. Motion Meyer, second Haworth to move forward with publishing the Water Tank Bids and getting them published with corrections on the date of July 13, 2022. Voting: Yes: Backer, Meyer, Jorgensen, Fleecs, and Haworth. Motion carried.

Equipment Fund was discussed by Haworth. The balance as of 4/29/2022 is $32,457.49. We either need to use out of the fund to purchase equipment or dissolve this fund. This needs to stay on the agenda so we can work on it when needed if we leave it open. Meyer stated the fund was opened to use when needed on all equipment. Discussion was held. Fleecs stated budget time would be nice to put the money in that fund.

Free Swimming July 3rd & 4th was discussed by Backer. The board discussed that this was discussed and put in the minutes previously to be a continuous motion. Wilson stated this is just an FYI for the meeting, so everyone knows about it coming up.

Contribution for Merger/Pumper Truck was discussed by Backer. When and if we merge and when and how this takes place on the Ambulance Funds and the Pumper Truck. There needs to be a clear title on the pumper truck when and if the merge takes place. Meyer stated that the pumper truck isn’t just for fires, it is a rescue truck and houses the jaws of life that is used on accidents and incidents. There will still be over half the funds in the Ambulance Funds when this is all said and done.

Payment of Pool Resurfacing was discussed by Backer. This will be taken care of as half coming out of Keno and half coming out of General Accounts. The pool is done with a 25-year warranty on the project.

Pool Bond Accounts was discussed by Haworth. Wilson put the amortization schedules in Section 7 of the binders, for tonight’s meeting and for future use. This is for information only.

WCNDD Property on Locust Street was discussed by Kendall. He reached out to them on Monday. The property on 1251 Locust Street has been abated. T. Rotert spoke on this and how it’s been going on for too long. Everyone in the area has beautiful yards and then there’s that place. Discussion was held. We need to put WCNDD back on the agenda and get things moving forward. Wilson will reach out to C. Fenwick Thursday to see if she can be at the next meeting.

Juneteenth was discussed by Kendall. He asked if it was going to be an official holiday or what was it going to be? The board said “No!”

**OTHER:**

Claims for June 8, 2022 were presented in the amount of $553,857.56. Discussion was held. Motion Jorgensen, second Haworth to approve the claims as presented. Voting: Yes: Meyer, Jorgensen, Fleecs, Haworth, and Backer. Motion carried.

**Reports:**

Superintendent Kendall: Got a flat tire last Friday when he was taking the roll-off to town, he’ll need to replace the other steering tire soon, the old farmstead is burnt and buried, we’re in the process of trapping cats and the rate went up on that, we’ve been out at the well field working on the thistle, the pool looks amazing, street sweeper was out today, and can we put the old pumper truck back on the agenda or put it on the municipal auction, it’s already been declared surplus.

Clerk/Treasurer Wilson: Nothing.

Trenda Seifer: The Lions Club decided to honor Randy Jochum as the Grand Marshall for the parade this year. Regarding water towers, but while she was a recent board meeting in Hershey, they hired someone that did a service that is done yearly. This is an on-going service.

**Trustees Reports:**

Haworth: J. Mraz contacted him and all, but two guards are left to do the backboard training and then everyone is done.

Meyer: Nothing.

Jorgensen: Nothing.

Fleecs: He did a follow-up with the two local banks and if we do need to borrow money for infrastructure, what it would possibly be for a 5-year rate, they’re right at a 3.5% or a 4.3% rate, so pretty reasonable, Rory sent out an email on the Codification Book and using the American Codification, this can be added to the budget or looked at during that time.

Backer: Nothing.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

These minutes are set to be approved at the next regular meeting on June 22, 2022.

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Kimberly Backer, Chairperson

Board of Trustees, Village of Sutherland

[Seal] Melissa Wilson, Village Clerk/Treasurer

Village of Sutherland

