

VILLAGE of SUTHERLAND
BOARD OF TRUSTEES Regular Meeting
April 23, 2025 at 6:00 P.M.

1 The Village of Sutherland Board of Trustees held a Regular Meeting on April 23, 2025,
2 at 6:02 P.M. in the Village of Sutherland Meeting Room, located at 1200 First Street, Sutherland,
3 Nebraska. Notice of these meetings was given by posting notice in four public places, the
4 designated method by the Village Board of Trustees. The agenda for this meeting was kept
5 continuously current and available for inspection at the Office of the Village Clerk.

6 Chairman Meyer called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 6:00
7 p.m. Members present upon roll call were **Scott Meyer, Kimberly Backer, Felicia Patrick, Derek**
8 **Dempcy, and Justin Nelms**. Quorum was established. Also present were Village Superintendent
9 Casey Kendall, Village Clerk Bonnie Ralston, and Village Attorney Rory Roundtree. The guests
10 present were Milan Moore, Jim Dickerson, Kelli Kaps, Trenda Seifer, Matt McConnell, and
11 Dave Morgan. If all the names are not included, it is only by error, absence of signature or
12 undecipherable signature in the guest book.

13 The Board of Trustees and all present rose and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

14 Chairman Meyer gave notice of the open meeting law poster and its location and proper
15 procedure for guests.

16 At this time, the Board opened the floor for comments from the public. Chairman Meyer
17 stated that all comments need to be directed to the Chair and that there was a five-minute time
18 limit. Chairman Meyer also said that there would be no discussion by the Board on comments by
19 the public had addressed items that were not on the agenda. With no comments forthcoming from
20 those in the audience, Chairman Meyer moved on to the agenda items.

21 Chairman Meyer asked for a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Motion Dempcy.
22 Second Nelms. Voting yes: Patrick, Nelms, Backer, Dempcy, Meyer. Voting no: none. Motion
23 carries.

24 The Board read the minutes for the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees April 9, 2025.
25 Motion Patrick to approve the minutes as presented. Second Backer. Voting yes: Dempcy, Backer,
26 Patrick, Meyer, Nelms. Voting no: none. Motion carries.

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28 **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**
29

30 The topic of storm/sewer drainage was addressed, as was the sewer lagoon drainage.
31 Superintendent Kendall stated there was no update at this time.

32 Walnut Street property was addressed. Attorney Roundtree met with Thalken Title to
33 answer some questions they had so they could move forward with this.

34 Choice gas selections were discussed. Clerk Ralston stated she had locked in the lowest
35 cost per therm for 2 years as directed by the Board at the last meeting.

36
37 **NEW BUSINESS:**

38 The library budget request was first on the agenda. Kelli Kaps, Library Board Treasurer,
39 was in attendance to address this. Kaps expressed that there has been some confusion in past
40 years on the procedure for the library to request their budget. Meyer stated that in previous years
41 a letter had been sent to the board when a portion of the monies are needed. Kaps stated that set
42 procedures would be appreciated so everyone was on the same page. Clerk Ralston clarified that

VILLAGE of SUTHERLAND
BOARD OF TRUSTEES Regular Meeting
April 23, 2025 at 6:00 P.M.

43 when it was discussed last year the office had reached out to Attorney Roundtree to find out what
44 needed to be done. At that time, Roundtree said a formal budget request letter would need to be
45 submitted to the Board. Roundtree asked to address this now and offer some clarification. He
46 explained that his recommendation for a formal letter was based on state statutes. Backer stated
47 she would like to have requests that list the specific purpose for the monies. Backer also asked if
48 the Library Board took into account the salaries are being paid by the village. Kaps said that the
49 salary amount was subtracted from the entire budget request, this amount was for the remainder
50 after that was deducted. Roundtree reminded the Board that library statutes are complicated,
51 warrants are to be written out to the Village and then those are paid or money transferred over to
52 the library. Discussion was held on procedures for the library requests, splitting it into portions,
53 reductions in requests based on changing prices or lower spending. Milan Moore asked to
54 address the Board, stating that he recalls this has been an ongoing issue for many years and
55 encourages the Board to set procedures. Moore asked if the library would refund any leftover
56 monies if they don't end up needing the entire budget request. Patrick suggested that the request
57 for the next year could be lowered by the amount of any remaining funds. Patrick also felt the
58 current process was redundant, invoices are voted on at library board meeting, sent to the village,
59 minutes are sent to the village office, and a formal letter requesting budget monies is also sent to
60 the Board. Roundtree addressed the statutory language that discusses procedures for paying
61 library bills. They must be voted on by the Library Board, certified by the president and the
62 treasurer of the board, and submitted to the village. Roundtree also stated that these statutes do
63 not allow much leeway, the statutes say once the vouchers, or requests, are drawn up, the village
64 treasurer shall release the funds, meaning the village is required to release budgeted money to the
65 library on request from the Library Board. Patrick motioned to approve the transfer of funds in
66 the full amount requested of \$51,609.00. Second Dempcy. Voting yes: Backer, Meyer, Nelms,
67 Patrick, Dempcy. Voting no: none. Motion carries.

68 Pool security cameras were next on the agenda. Kendall stated he feels the security
69 cameras would be a good idea. He submitted two estimates, one for 3 cameras in the amount of
70 \$2,168.00, and one for five cameras in the amount of \$3,020.00. The three cameras would cover
71 the entire pool area, and one would be inside covering the front desk area, the five cameras
72 would cover those areas, and have two on the front of the building covering the parking lot.
73 Kendall feels this would help in situations where someone got hurt or an accident happened since
74 it would all be on video. Backer asked if it would be integrated with the current system. Kendall
75 replied that it would be a separate system, monitored at the pool and saved offsite by Hinton's.
76 Nelms questioned if it would be monitored, Meyer replied that it would be recorded and could be
77 reviewed if needed. Milan Moore asked if it would record 24/7. Meyer stated they would be
78 motion activated, and record as needed. Motion Backer to approve the five-camera system for
79 \$3,020.00. Second Nelms. Voting yes: Nelms, Dempcy, Meyer, Backer, Patrick. Voting no:
80 none. Motion carries.

VILLAGE of SUTHERLAND
BOARD OF TRUSTEES Regular Meeting
April 23, 2025 at 6:00 P.M.

Superintendent Kendall reported that he has hired an attendant for the dump. The roll off will be moved up on the hill as of May 17th. The hours will go back to the summer hours on that day.

Devin Ruff submitted a letter of intent for the Planning Commission. Motion Backer to appoint Devin Ruff to the Planning Commission. Second Nelms. Voting yes: Patrick, Nelms, Backer, Dempcy, Meyer. Voting no: none. Motion carries.

HAY GROUND LEASE AUCTION 6:30 P.M.

At 6:30 P.M. Chairman Meyer opened the hay ground lease auction. He then turned it over to Attorney Roundtree. Roundtree stated that the auction was for 64 acres of hay ground. Roundtree stated the auction finalized at \$115 per acre last year and began the auction at that price. With no bidders Roundtree asked for \$100 per acre. There were no bidders, so Roundtree asked for \$75, then \$70, then \$65. Roundtree asked for an opening bid and received \$60 per acre. With several competing bids, Roundtree worked back up to \$105 per acre. With no further bids David Morgan won the auction at \$105.00 per acre. Arrangements were made with Morgan for him to come to the office the next day to sign the contract and make his payment.

OTHER:

- Claims in the amount of \$32,218.18 were presented to the Board. Meyer asked if the claim for Dickinson Land Surveyors was for the sidewalk, Clerk Ralston confirmed it was. Clerk Ralston also pointed out which claims were written off the Keno account and informed the Board that the Miller & Banks claim was for 4 months of service. Motion Backer to approve the claims as presented. Second Patrick. Voting yes: Dempcy, Backer, Patrick, Meyer, Nelms. Voting no: none. Motion carries.
- Payroll Reports were presented to the Board for the April 25, 2025 regular payroll.
- Comp Time Reports were also included in the packet.
- Profit and Loss statement was included in the packet.
- Balance of Accounts was included in the packet.

FYI INFORMATION:

REPORTS:

- Superintendent Kendall reported that the parks have all been fertilized and sprayed, as has the old firehall lot. They are in the process of getting all the sprinklers going. The ruts

VILLAGE of SUTHERLAND
BOARD OF TRUSTEES Regular Meeting
April 23, 2025 at 6:00 P.M.

at Anchor Park have been fixed. He is almost done hiring summer help. Patrick asked how much pool help has been hired, Kendall said that he thought we were just waiting on a couple more applications. He also let the Board know that the patch on the pool had come back up, the company will be out in the next couple of weeks to fix it.

- Clerk Ralston reported that she had spoken with the auditor, they were working on one last issue before finalizing the audit.

Trustees Reports:

- K. Backer had nothing to report.
- D. Dempcy had nothing to report.
- F. Patrick had nothing to report.
- J. Nelms said he had received several comments from people who were unaware of Anchor Park, but said it was a very nice park after having been there.
- S. Meyer had nothing to report.

With no further agenda items to discuss Meyer asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion Patrick to adjourn the meeting. Second Dempcy. Voting yes: Meyer, Patrick, Dempcy, Nelms, Backer. Voting no: none. Motion carries. Meeting is adjourned at 6:33 P.M.

These minutes are set to be approved at the May 14, 2025, regular meeting.

Scott Meyer, Chairman
Board of Trustees, Village of Sutherland

VILLAGE of SUTHERLAND
BOARD OF TRUSTEES Regular Meeting
April 23, 2025 at 6:00 P.M.

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Bonnie Ralston, Clerk
Village of Sutherland