

VILLAGE of SUTHERLAND
BOARD OF TRUSTEES Regular Meeting
July 15, 2026 at 6:00 P.M.

1 The Village of Sutherland Board of Trustees held a Regular Meeting on July 15, 2026, at
2 6:00 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 PM
7 Members present upon roll call were **Scott Meyer, Kim Backer, Derek Dempcy, Felicia Patrick,**
8 **and Justin Nelms.** Quorum was established. Also present were Village Attorney Rory Roundtree,
9 Village Superintendent Casey Kendall, and Village Clerk Bonnie Ralston. The guests present
10 were Trenda Seifer, Village Engineer Tom Werblow, and Jim Dickerson. If all the names are not
11 included, it is only by error, absence of signature or undecipherable signature in the guest book.

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

13 Chairman Meyer gave notice of the open meeting law poster and its location on the west
14 wall of the meeting room. Meyer also stated the proper procedure for guests.

15 At this time, the Board opened the floor for comments from the public. Chairman Meyer
16 stated that all comments need to be directed to the Chair and that there was a five-minute time
17 limit. Chairman Meyer also said that there would be no discussion by the Board on comments by
18 the public that were not on the agenda. Having no comments from the public, Chairman Meyer
19 continued with the meeting.

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

23 The Board read the minutes for the June 24, 2026 Board of Trustees regular meeting.
24 Motion Patrick to approve the minutes as presented. Second Nelms. Voting yes: Patrick, Nelms,
25 Dempcy, Meyer. Approving on content: Backer. Voting no: none. Motion carries.

26 The Board read the minutes of the July 8, 2026 work session. Motion Backer to approve
27 the minutes as presented. Second Meyer. Voting yes: Backer, Meyer. Approving on content:
28 Nelms. Abstaining: Dempcy, Patrick. Voting no: none. Motion carries.

29 .
30
31 **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

32
33 Walnut Street property was addressed. Attorney Roundtree stated this would be held for a
34 couple of weeks and addressed at the August 12, 2026 meeting.

35 Sewer lagoon was on the agenda. Superintendent Kendall had nothing new to report. Clerk
36 Ralston stated she had been in contact with the bonding company and included some preliminary
37 payment numbers in the packet. The bond has not been finalized yet, that is waiting for the project
38 to be significantly completed. Backer asked if the office could send a report of what expenditures
39 are to this point.

40 Park and pool picnic tables were placed on the agenda by Kendall. There was nothing new
41 to report on this. Superintendent Kendall said this item could be removed from the agenda.

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42 Discussion and action on Ordinances to be updated in the crime commission system was
43 discussed next. Attorney Roundtree has prepared an ordinance to create waiverable fines.
44 Ordinance #690 was read by title.

ORDINANCE NO. 690

46
47 AN ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF SUTHERLAND, LINCOLN COUNTY,
48 NEBRASKA, TO AMEND AND REPLACE § 70.99 PENALTY AND TO AMEND AND
49 REPLACE § 72.99 PENALTY OF THE SUTHERLAND CODE OF ORDINANCES; TO
50 REPEAL ALL OTHER ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS, OR PARTS THEREOF IN
51 CONFLICT; TO PROVIDE THAT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BE
52 MADE A PART OF THE CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF SUTHERLAND; AND TO PROVIDE
53 THE DATE THAT THIS ORDINANCE SHALL TAKE EFFECT.

54
55 Attorney Roundtree informed the Board that this creates two categories of violations under
56 Chapter 70 of the Village Codebook. The first, which is Section 1(A), creates traffic regulations
57 and accompanying fines for the waiverable offenses. The second, Section 1(B), creates a parking
58 violations bureau for minor parking issues. Roundtree stated this mirrors, in some ways, North
59 Platte ordinances. This helps reduce the court costs the Village would have to pay to prosecute
60 these offenses. Attorney Roundtree said he would recommend the Board take some time to look
61 over and identify which offenses fall into each category. This will remain on the agenda for a
62 second reading.

63 The large animal permit requirements remained on the agenda and were discussed next.
64 Backer asked if the current permit required proof of 4H enrollment. Clerk Ralston said it does not.
65 Backer asked if the same animal could be held over from year to year for 4H. Roundtree addressed
66 this and stated that a breeding animal, or potentially a horse, could be kept for more than one year.
67 Discussion followed concerning areas of town that animals are currently permitted in. Patrick and
68 Backer both stated they would not like them in residential areas. Backer continued by saying that
69 larger lots, over an acre, on the edge of town are not an issue. Meyer said the ordinance specifies
70 suburban residential areas only. He also told the Board that he had been approached and asked
71 why they are allowed in town at all. Roundtree asked Ralston to print off the planning and zoning
72 regulations. Ralston said the office had found two different sets of requirements and asked
73 Roundtree which is the correct one. While Ralston and Roundtree looked over the regulations, the
74 Board continued the discussion on lot sizes and zoning. Meyer and Kendall outlined the current
75 process of the permit. Currently, the office receives the permit, verifies zoning and lot size, and
76 Kendall inspects the property to make sure there is adequate food, water, and shelter for the animal.
77 The permit then comes to the Board for approval. Kendall used the lots on South Street that have
78 large animal permits as an example, saying there really aren't any complaints for those lots. He
79 continued by telling the Board that it is typically a cycle, the lot owners with a permit for cattle
80 will usually take the ones that are going to slaughter and replace them with new calves. Meyer
81 summed up the comments so far, asking if the general consensus would be to only allow even 4H
82 animals in areas that meet current requirements for a large animal permit, meaning minimum of

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one acre and zoned suburban residential. Roundtree and Ralston looked at the planning and zoning book and determined that the more recent amendment states cattle, horses, pigs, sheep, goats, and donkeys are allowed in suburban residential areas with at least an acre. Meyer asked Roundtree if amending ordinance 604 to remove animals the Board chooses not to allow in town would take care of the issue. Nelms asked what happens to the properties in town that have a large animal permit currently if the Board chooses to amend it. Backer replied that they would be grandfathered in. Roundtree clarified that just the current animals would be grandfathered in, the animals could not be expanded on. Some discussion followed on the process of amending or rescinding the ordinance, including planning and zoning recommendations and public hearings. The Board and Roundtree also discussed the need to also modify 92.02 if the Board chose to make changes to the 4H animal exception to the large animal permit. Backer expressed that her main concern is 4H animals in residential areas. Roundtree told the Board that is not allowed under the current zoning ordinances. Roundtree looked at the allowable and permitted uses in residentially zoned areas and found no mention of animals. Meyer and Backer addressed the current permit, saying that since the property owner stated the animal would be gone after the fair there is no issue. Patrick expressed her concern with not amending the ordinance, stating that the Cherry Hills area, as an example, is suburban residential so large animals would be permitted there providing you have a large enough lot. Lots meeting the size requirement were discussed. Backer stated she feels the ordinance is good fine as is. Meyer stated that the Board was not addressing any specific permit but was attempting to make sure it was done once and to the satisfaction of the Board. He also made the suggestion that the required lot size be changed. This would still allow those with permits to be grandfathered in but would further limit properties based on lot size. Backer said she thinks sending it to the Planning Commission would be the best route. Meyer asked if it would be sent to Planning Commission for consideration or if the Board would like to send suggestions for them to consider concerning lot size and allowed animals. Backer suggested one-and-a-half-acre lot size, Patrick agreed and added that she would like to recommend that pigs, sheep, and goats be removed from the allowed animal list. Nelms agreed with this suggestion. Roundtree did point out that these rules would only apply to suburban residential areas and that lots zoned agricultural have completely different rules. These suggestions will be sent to Planning Commission for their consideration.

The third and final reading of Ordinance 689 was next on the agenda. This ordinance concerns shipping container setbacks and classifications. Clerk Ralston read the ordinance by title.

ORDINANCE NO. 689

AN ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF SUTHERLAND, LINCOLN COUNTY, NEBRASKA, TO AMEND THE REGULATIONS OF “SHIPPING CONTAINER” OF THE PLANNING AND ZONING REGULATIONS AS RECOMMENDED BY THE PLANNING COMMISSION; 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

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THE VILLAGE OF SUTHERLAND; AND TO PROVIDE WHEN THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BE IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT.

Motion Nelms to adopt Ordinance #689. Second Dempcy. Voting yes: Dempcy, Meyer, Nelms. Voting no: Backer, Patrick. Motion carries with a 3 to 2 vote.

Storm drainage was next on the agenda. Tom Werblow was in attendance to address this. Backer asked about building a retention pond, if the village were able to purchase property to do so. She questioned if the village would need to worry about ditch access first or if the retention pond would just do seepage. Werblow said that part of the problem with the drainage is the size of the tubes downstream from the Village and the flatness of the land all the way to the river. Werblow reminded the Board that at one point he had approached the state about putting in bigger culverts but that never happened. He stated he would be willing to reapproach the state on this matter and that from the pictures provided in the packet, it appears the water accumulated in the ditch and got stuck. Werblow feels larger tubes to drain the water out of town would be one solution to the issue. Meyer and Werblow discussed the best course of action, with Meyer asking if starting at the river and working backwards towards town would be best. Werblow responded that they already know the grade of the land there and feels it would be most beneficial for right now to find ways to move the water down the ditch along the highway while he looks at other options. Backer told Werblow she had contacted someone about the ditch and getting it cleaned out, Werblow will reach out to the state and move forward with this.

NEW BUSINESS:

The first new business agenda item was a discussion and update on the NPPD R-Project. The representatives from NPPD were unable to attend this meeting. Werblow told Meyer that he had looked at the map for the R-Project and it looks like it runs across the village land where the sewer lagoon is. Meyer said that he has not seen any shifting of the route either. This will be removed from the agenda until NPPD requests it be placed back on.

At this point Patrick asked Meyer if the discussion could go back to a previous agenda item for a moment. She had a question concerning ordinance 689 regarding shipping containers. Patrick asked how the ability to place a shipping container permanently on a non-contiguous lot avoids conflicting with the ordinance stating that accessory buildings have to have living quarters, including sewer and water hookups. Attorney Roundtree replied that there are different definitions as to what a shipping container is and what is allowed, this ordinance is specific to shipping containers.

Board wages for special meeting were placed on the agenda by Backer. She had questions on which meetings Board members are liaisons for qualify. Roundtree stated that the wage ordinance spells out which meetings the Board gets paid for. Clerk Ralston said her understanding is the meeting must be subject to open meetings act and keep minutes which are submitted to the office. Roundtree said this issue came up several years ago and the Board then adopted a definition of a meeting to determine which ones board members get paid for. Examples given by Backer were the Housing Authority meetings and the Lillies of the Valley meetings. Roundtree clarified

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166 that the housing meeting would qualify, but the Lillies of the Valley would not because they are
167 not subject to the open meetings act. This can come off the agenda.

168 Larm renewal was discussed next. The resolution and the rate increases were presented to
169 the Board for consideration. Clerk Ralston also included the rates from last year for comparison.
170 Ralston told the Board that last year the Village signed the 3-year commitment for the 5% discount.
171 The Board discussed the reasoning behind passing a resolution renewing the commitment yearly.
172 Clerk Ralston will reach out to LARM to get an explanation on this and bring it to the Board at the
173 next meeting.

174 Curb and gutter repair was next on the agenda. Superintendent Kendall told the Board there
175 are some areas needing repair at Anchor Park and some near the school. Rough estimate of the feet
176 needing repair is 50-100. Kendall provided an estimate of \$150.00 per linear foot. Motion Backer
177 to approve 100 feet of curb and gutter repairs by A Nutter Load in the amount of \$150.00 per linear
178 foot to come out of streets. Second Patrick. Voting yes: Patrick, Nelms, Dempcy, Backer, Meyer.
179 Voting no: none. Motion carries.

180 At this point Chairman Meyer adjusted the agenda to accommodate the Borad members
181 who stated they would need to leave early.

182 Food truck night was discussed. Backer stated that the Growth Committee had proposed
183 inviting one or two food trucks up monthly. Backer said that if the trucks are invited they do not
184 need a peddler's permit. The Rodeo Committee invites trucks up if they are hosting an event and
185 it goes over very well. Backer would like the Board to approve, at the discretion of the Growth
186 Committee, a food truck night. This would only be one or possibly two trucks at a time according
187 to Backer, to avoid competition between trucks and allowing the truck invited to make enough to
188 make it worth their while. Backer suggested one food and one drink truck at a time. Motion Backer
189 to approve the Growth Committee to move forward with this at their discretion for one or possibly
190 two nights a month. Patrick asked where they would be located. Backer replied that Railroad Park
191 is the best option at the moment since the restrooms at Anchor Park are not completed yet, the
192 Growth Committee may also contact the Rodeo Committee to see if the rodeo grounds could be
193 used if they are open. Patrick asked about the baseball fields, Backer said that would require the
194 restrooms there to be open later than they usually are also. Second Nelms. Voting yes: Patrick,
195 Nelms, Dempcy, Backer, Meyer. Voting no: none. Motion carries.

196 E-bikes, bikes, and scooters were discussed next. Backer said that Growth Committee had
197 discussed this at their meeting because there are a lot of community members complaining about
198 these. The office had also received complaints about kids who don't pay attention to stop signs or
199 traffic. Backer is not sure how to handle this issue. Clerk Ralston said that the main concern
200 brought to the office is where the sidewalk to the pool comes out on Poplar Street. The office had
201 reached out to Tom Werblow for ideas on how to address this, such as speed bumps or something
202 similar. Patrick asked about a pedestrian crossing. Kendall said that would help at that spot, but
203 they do it all over town. Meyer said that this is an issue all over, Roundtree agreed, saying that
204 statutes and definitions are not keeping up with the issue.

205 At this time Backer and Nelms excused themselves from the meeting as they had another
206 one to get to.

207 Chairman Meyer adjusted the agenda back to the original order. The Board discussed the
208 audit work session from July 8, 2026. Meyer stated that Bob Meyer gave some in-depth

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explanations of the numbers. Meyer told the Board there were no changes or modifications. Patrick asked about monthly reports of account balances for Board packets. She gave an example, saying it would just be beginning balance, income, expenses, and ending balance. Clerk Ralston said she can look for a similar report for the Board.

Budget workshop dates and Board member availability were discussed. These will be set for August 6th, August 13th, and August 27th at 6:00 PM. The office will get legal notices posted and send an email to the Board.

OTHER:

- Claims in the amount of \$78,771.49 were presented to the Board. Clerk Ralston clarified for the Board that the claim from Johnson's Service was paid out of the sewer account. Motion Patrick to approve the claims as presented. Second Dempcy. Voting yes: Patrick, Meyer, Dempcy. Absent and not voting: Backer, Nelms. Voting no: none. Motion carries.
- Payroll Reports were presented to the Board for the July 2, 2026 Board payroll; July 2, 2026 regular payroll; and the July 17, 2026 regular payroll.
- Comp Time Reports and paid time off reports were also included in the packet.

FYI INFORMATION:

REPORTS:

- Superintendent Kendall reported that the shack on the hill is completed and being used. Power poles at the lagoon are set and they are just waiting on NPPD to place power lines and to get the well put back in. The sewer lagoon is waiting on the control panel but is completed otherwise. Painting is almost completed and trees are being trimmed. Paing for the pickleball court striping has been ordered and will get done when it comes in. Is advertising for a part-time year-round helper.
- Clerk Ralston reported that Hayler Fear has turned in her letter of resignation. She will be moving at the end of August. The office will advertise the position. Starting to get prepared for fiscal year end in the office.

Trustees Reports:

- K. Backer was absent.
- D. Dempcy gave kudos to Casey and the crew; the town looked great for the 4th of July.

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- F. Patrick had nothing to report.
- J. Nelms was absent.
- S. Meyer appreciates all the work the employees and Board put in.

Trenda Seifer asked the Board to consider having food truck nights on evenings that Sno-White is not open to avoid competition with a local business. She also said she is very impressed with the courtesy and good attitude of the summer help. The 4th of July celebration was fantastic.

With no further agenda items to discuss, Meyer asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion Dempcy to adjourn the meeting. Second Patrick. Voting yes: Meyer, Dempcy, Patrick. Having left the meeting at 6:54 PM neither Nelms nor Backer were present to vote. Voting no: none. Motion carries. Meeting is adjourned at 7:17 P.M.

These minutes are set to be approved at the regular meeting on July 22, 2026.

Scott Meyer, Chairman
Board of Trustees, Village of Sutherland

[Seal]

Bonnie Ralston, Clerk
Village of Sutherland