

**MINUTE RECORD
VILLAGE OF FIRTH
REGULAR MEETING**

August 4, 2026

The regular meeting of the Chairman and Village Board of Trustees of the Village of Firth, Nebraska was convened in open and public session on the **4th day of August 2026** at the Firth Community Center. Normal notification procedures were observed. Notice of meeting was posted at the Community Center, Post Office, Papa D's and the Firth website. The meeting was called to order by the Board Chairman at 7:00pm. The following members were present: Board Chair: Todd Carlson, Board Trustees: Tina Booton, Craig Middle, Jason Cooper and Samantha Henderson. The Village Clerk recorded the minutes. The Clerk noted that a copy of the Open Meetings Act was available in the room for review.

It was moved by Samantha Henderson, seconded by Tina Booton, to approve the agenda as presented. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas (T. Carlson, C. Middle, T. Booton, J. Cooper, S. Henderson) No Nays. Motion carried.

It was moved by Tina Booton, seconded by Craig Middle to approve the 7/7 regular meeting minutes and the 7/22 annual budget workshop meeting minutes. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas (T. Carlson, C. Middle, T. Booton, J. Cooper, S. Henderson) No Nays. Motion carried.

The Treasurer presented the July 2026 financial report. It was moved by Jason Cooper, seconded by Samantha Henderson, to approve the July financial report as presented and authorize the treasurer to make TIF funds transfers of \$645.31 to the Bond A account and \$71.70 to the Bond B account. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas (T. Carlson, C. Middle, T. Booton, J. Cooper, S. Henderson) No Nays. Motion carried.

Current claims were read. It was moved by Craig Middle, seconded by Jason Cooper, to approve current claims including the monthly Norris Public Power bill that will come after the meeting. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas (T. Carlson, C. Middle, T. Booton, J. Cooper, S. Henderson) No Nays. Motion carried.

Current Month Claims

Salaries	13,556.51
Payroll Taxes	935.06
Simple IRA Employer Match	315.20
Health Ins and cell phone stipends	600.00
Better Backyards – Ditch mowing	1,125.00
Black Hills Energy	196.08
Blue Cross Blue Shield/- village portion premium	943.43
Capital City Refuse – garbage service	4,840.36
Farmers' Cooperative – fuel & propane	974.55
First National Bank of Omaha – misc. supplies	2,442.77
Gabel Construction – flagpole concrete	467.00
Guardian Life – employee benefits	57.11
Husky Lawn Care – painting parking lines	500.00
League Association of Risk Management	1,145.44
McNally Law Office – monthly fee	260.00
Microsoft Office 365 - software	17.41
Nebraska Public Health Environmental Lab -testing	90.00
Norris Public Power - electricity	1,997.34
Olsson – engineering consulting	1,517.18
One Call Concepts	4.88
Sam's Club – new office printer/supplies	2,173.22
Windstream – com ctr and maintenance bldg	437.40
Total	34,595.94

It was moved by Jason Cooper, seconded by Samantha Henderson, to approve the quote from Schrock Innovations to build a new desktop computer for the Village office in the amount of \$2,011.98. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas (T. Carlson, C. Middle, T. Booton, J. Cooper, S. Henderson) No Nays. Motion carried.

The treasurer was asked to look into getting a firewall for the new computer.

PUBLIC COMMENT Period – The Board will listen but will not dialog or take action.

- Stacy Nelson (104 E 5th) stated that she can no longer maintain the ditch along Nemaha St. (The Board Chair said the board would get back to her on this.) Stacy also asked the Board to consider a community garden spot in Firth.

Dave Hansmeyer gave the monthly maintenance report. Several things of note:

- Water production increased in July. Static water levels have dropped 8’.
- A new water sample station will be installed in August.
- Dave stated the tractor is currently in the shop with what they think is a broken cylinder – it may need a new bucket. Or the tractor may need to be replaced.
- The tractor will need new tires before winter.
- Dave discussed the needed street repair at the southeast corner of Firth Rd. and Nemaha Street. Black Hills Energy dug up the asphalt in that location due to a cut gas line. Black Hills energy will fix the street. In the meantime Dave will do his best to keep the rock from spreading out onto the rest of the intersection. (This is extremely difficult without the tractor.)
- The last water testing showed that nitrates had crept up some.

Todd Carlson thanked Dave Hanameyr and Ty Twarling for the great work they did keeping Firth looking nice all summer. Dave stated that Ty will be on call in the winter months to help with snow plowing if the need arises.

It was moved by Crag Middle, seconded by Tina Booton, to approve the bid from Maguire for cleaning of the water tower interior tank for the amount of \$3,517.50. This will be scheduled after splash pad season concludes. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas (T. Carlson, C. Middle, T. Booton, J. Cooper, S. Henderson) No Nays. Motion carried.

It was moved by Jason Cooper, seconded by Samantha Henderson, to approve the request from NT Softball to use the Firth ballfields for their 2027 season. (A \$1,000 deposit was submitted with their request.) Roll call vote: 5 Yeas (T. Carlson, C. Middle, T. Booton, J. Cooper, S. Henderson) No Nays. Motion carried.

It was moved by Tina Booton, seconded by Samanth Henderson, to approve the 2-year contract renewal with Aging Partners for the use of the community center on Mondays for \$20.00 per day. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas (T. Carlson, C. Middle, T. Booton, J. Cooper, S. Henderson) No Nays. Motion carried.

The Board discussed the property at Nemaha and Firth Road. Village maintenance has mowed the parcel several times this summer. Before placing a lein on the property for mowing charges a notice will be sent...the clerk has not been able to locate a current mailing address for the owners. A registered letter will be sent regarding mowing and the large brush pile on that parcel. Past letters sent have been returned as not deliverable.

It was moved by Jason Cooper, seconded by Craig Middle to approve Resolution \$2026-08-2 to authorize the Board Chair to sign the “Municipal Annual Certification of Program Compliance” required by NDOT. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas (T. Carlson, C. Middle, T. Booton, J. Cooper, S. Henderson) No Nays. Motion carried.

The Board briefly discussed the new email utility billing option that will be available. A short policy statement will be added onto all email bills stating the customer is responsible for the amount due regardless of if they receive an email bill or not.

It was agreed to add a short policy statement to the Village Facebook page stating “all comments containing vulgar or threatening language will be removed. This page is not monitored daily and may not respond.”

The new website was discussed. The “Contact Us” page has already generated several emails to the Village. It was agreed to add the Chairperson email to this.

The Board discussed August needs for the Sheriff to be aware of. Late night hours are what is most needed. With school starting back up it would be best to have some coverage later at night on Fridays, Saturdays, or Sundays. The board agreed that inconsistent hours (not the same days or times each month) are best so no one could determine when or if the sheriff would be in town.

The community watch group discussion was tabled since Karla Houfek was not at the meeting.

There was a brief discussion about moving forward with a vote on a Firth special sales tax and what project that could possible be attached to.

A possible fall clean-up day was discussed. It was agreed that it would be beneficial if leaves and yard waste could be accepted. November 7 and November 14 were listed as possible dates.

It was moved by Jason Cooper, seconded by Tina Booton, to go into executive session for the discussion of employee wages for the 2026-2027 fiscal year. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas (T. Carlson, C. Middle, T. Booton, J. Cooper, S. Henderson) No Nays. Motion carried.

The Board moved to the Village Office for executive session.

The Board came back out to the large room.

It was moved by Jason Cooper, seconded by Samantha Henderson, to come out of executive session and reconvene the regular meeting. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas (T. Carlson, C. Middle, T. Booton, J. Cooper, S. Henderson) No Nays. Motion carried.

Committee Reports were given.

710 Allen Street was discussed. The volunteer trees along Firth Road are blocking vision for drivers wanting to pull onto Firth Road. The Clerk will contact Prairieland regarding trimming or removing the trees.

It was agreed that the Norris Football fundraiser could use the Community Center for the day on 9/16 for \$60 (which is half the rental fee.)

Adjourn 8:40pm.

Todd Carlson – Board Chairman

Jill A. Hoefler, Village Clerk