

**MINUTE RECORD
VILLAGE OF FIRTH
REGULAR MEETING**

March 7, 2023

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 **7th day of March 2023** at the Firth Community Center. Normal notification procedures were observed. The meeting was called to order by the Chairperson at 7:00pm. The following members were present: Kami Beaty, Jason Cooper, Eric Mercier, Craig Middle and Todd Carlson. The Chairperson presided, and the Village Clerk recorded the minutes. The Clerk noted that a copy of the Open Meetings Act was available in the room for review.

A motion was made by Eric Mercier, seconded by Jason Cooper, to approve the meeting agenda. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas, no Nays. Motion carried.

It was moved by Eric Mercier, seconded by Todd Carlson to approve the minutes of the February 7, 2023, regular meeting, and the minutes of the February 20, 2023 special meeting. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas, no Nays. Motion carried.

The Treasurer presented the financial report for the previous month. It was moved by Jason Cooper, seconded by Eric Mercier, to approve the **February** financial report as presented and authorize the Treasurer to close the two remaining \$50,000 CD's at Farmers and Merchants Bank when they come due on April 6 and April 8 respectively, and deposit the funds into the NPAIT investment account. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas, no Nays. Motion carried.

It was moved by Craig Middle, seconded by Todd Carlson, to approve the transfer of TIF funds from the general account to the Bond A and Bond B accounts. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas, no Nays. Motion carried.

It was moved by Eric Mercier, seconded by Jason Cooper, to approve pay request #5 from Sargent Drilling, in the amount of \$135,735.30, for the well project. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas, no Nays. Motion carried.

It was moved by Todd Carlson, seconded by Jason Cooper, to approve presented bills to be paid, (including the regular Norris Public Power that will come later in the month.) Roll call vote: 5 Yeas, no Nays. Motion carried.

It was moved by Todd Carlson, seconded by Craig Middle to pay Dave Hansmeyer 6 hours of overtime at time and ½ for the extra hours he worked on 2/16 plowing snow. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas, no Nays. Motion carried.

Current Month Claims

Payroll	9,643.69
Payroll Taxes	689.86
Simple IRA Employer Match	280.45
Black Hills Energy	192.20
Blue Cross Blue Shield	484.67
Capital City Refuse	4,389.00
Commercial Recreation Specialists	111.80
Farmers' Cooperative	239.71
Firespring	100.00
First Concord Benefits Group LLC	200.00
First National Bank	357.99
Lancaster Co Sheriff's Office	1,242.74
McNally Law Office	2,618.50
Microsoft Office 365	8.70
Midwest Fireworks Wholesalers	3,500.00
Nebraska Public Health Environmental Lab	15.00
Norris Public Power	6,062.68
Olsson	3,156.52
Principal Financial Life Insurance Co	95.74
Rembolt Ludtke, LLP	8,322.10
Sargent Drilling	135,735.30
Tennis Courts Unlimited Inc	2,280.00
Tredz Central	6,500.00
Voice News	80.37
Windstream	328.89
Total	186,635.91

David Avery from Windstream, gave an explanation of the proposed broadband project for the Firth exchange, which will expand broadband in the surrounding area. Funds for this project will come from the Capital Projects Fund and the American Rescue Act. He asked for the Boards written support of this project to include with Windstream's application.

Gary and Peg Hartgerink requested a permit to sell fireworks again for the 2023 season. Since Firth Fun Day is June 24 they asked to

be able to sell on that day (Firth code states fireworks may be sold June 25 – July 4.) It was moved by Todd Carlson, seconded by Jason Cooper, to approve the permit for Gary and Peg Hartgerink to sell fireworks at 8340 Firth Road from June 24 – July 4, 2023. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas, no Nays. Motion carried.

Dave Hansmeyer gave the monthly maintenance report. He stated that the new and repaired lift station pumps have not been received yet. The loaner pump is working sufficiently. Dave noted that there is a grease build up in the lift station and he plans to schedule Southwick to come vacuum out the grease. It may be necessary for the Village to inspect several business grease traps.

Well project update: The east well is now online. The well house construction issues have been fixed. The Scada system has not been installed yet. It is hoped that the new ball park well will be online by the end of March. In addition to the Scada system, final grading and fencing need to be completed.

It was moved by Craig Middle, seconded by Todd Carlson, to accept the \$6,500.00 bid from Tredz Central for a flatbed for the Village pickup. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas, no Nays. Motion carried.

It was moved by Eric Mercier, seconded by Jason Cooper, to accept the bid from Better Backyards to mow the Nemaha ditches for the 2023 mowing season. The bid is for \$975 per mowing. Better Backyards will get authorization from the Village prior to each mowing. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas, no Nays. Motion carried.

There was continued discussion regarding the Village brush dump. The brush dump cannot be opened until it can be cleaned out. Different options were discussed including closing the brush dump except in the case of emergencies and using a curbside brush service provided by Capital City Refuse for a monthly fee.

Nuisance properties were discussed. It was agreed to contact the sheriff to see if they are willing to give citations for properties to enforce the Village nuisance code. Properties will be discussed at the April 7th meeting.

It was agreed to change the Firth clean up day to May 13th to accommodate the Goodwill pick up.

It was moved by Eric Mercier, seconded by Craig Middle, to accept the quote from Tennis Courts Unlimited, Inc. for painting and coating the current basketball court to be a dual basketball/pickleball court. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas, no Nays. Motion carried.

It was moved by Eric Mercier, seconded by Todd Carlson, to purchase a retractable pickleball net and post system from Bison, Inc. not to exceed \$2,000. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas, no Nays. Motion carried.

There was a brief discussion regarding a Welcome to Firth sign – it should be double sided, with lighting, landscaping, rock, possible flagpole.

There was a brief discussion regarding village Right of Way.

It was moved by Jason Cooper, seconded by Eric Mercier, to approve the Midwest Fireworks contract for the annual fireworks show scheduled for June 24, after the Firth Fun Day festivities. The contract amount is \$3,500.00. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas, no Nays. Motion carried.

It was moved by Jason Cooper, seconded by Todd Carlson, to approve the following FACET events:

4/2 - Easter Egg Hunt 3:30pm

6/3 – Firth Garage Sales – all day

6/3 – Splash Pad Grand Reopening 3:00-5:00pm

6/24 – Firth Fun Day – afternoon, evening

Roll call vote: 5 Yeas, no Nays. Motion carried.

It was moved by Craig Middle, seconded by Todd Carlson, to accept Eric Mercier's resignation letter effective at the end of the meeting. Eric is moving out of state. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas, no Nays. Motion carried.

John Mardock, Firth liaison to Nebraska Emergency Management, gave a quarterly report. There was no activity in the last quarter. He stated the National Weather Service has a new website.

At 9:05pm it was moved by Jason Cooper, seconded by Todd Carlson, to move into executive session to discuss current litigation. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas, no Nays. Motion carried.

At 9:14pm it was moved by Craig Middle, seconded by Todd Carlson, to come out of executive session. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas, no Nays. Motion carried.

The board discussed street crack sealing for 2023. Dave Hansmeyer explained the village crack sealing map which is divided into 4 quadrants. Over the last four years the whole town has been crack sealed. It was agreed to start over with the quadrant crack sealing plan. Dave Hansmeyer will schedule 2023 crack sealing for late spring or early summer.

OPEN FORUM

Meeting adjourned. 9:22pm

Kamilla Beaty, Village Board Chair

Jill A. Hoefler, Village Clerk