

**MINUTE RECORD
VILLAGE OF FIRTH
REGULAR MEETING**

March 6, 2025

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 **6th of March** at the Firth Community Center. Normal notification procedures were observed. (The meeting was originally scheduled and posted for March 4, 2025 but was rescheduled for March 6, 2025 due to inclement weather. The rescheduled time was posted at 5:30pm on March 4th.) The meeting was called to order by the Board Chairman at 7:00pm. The following members were present: Todd Carlson, Samantha Henderson, Jason Cooper, Craig Middle and Tina Booton. 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 Jason Cooper, seconded by Tina Booton to approve the agenda as presented. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas (T. Carlson, J. Cooper, S. Henderson, C. Middle, T. Booten.) No Nays. Motion carried.

It was moved by Samantha Henderson, seconded by Craig Middle, to approve the February 4, 2025, regular meeting minutes. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas (T. Carlson, J. Cooper, S. Henderson, C. Middle, T. Booten.) No Nays. Motion carried.

The Treasurer presented the February financial report. It was moved by Jason Cooper, seconded by Samantha Henderson, to approve the February financial report and authorize the treasurer to transfer the TIF funds from the general account to the Bond A and Bond B accounts. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas (T. Carlson, J. Cooper, S. Henderson, C. Middle, T. Booten.) No Nays. Motion carried.

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

Current Month Claims

Salaries	10,164.05
Payroll Taxes	705.08
Simple IRA Employer Match	300.54
Health Ins and cell phone stipends	600.00
Black Hills Energy	168.98
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Nebraska	553.12
Capital City Refuse – garbage service	4,407.75
Farmers’ Cooperative - fuel	721.45
Firespring – website host	100.00
First National Bank of Omaha – misc supplies	529.92
Lancaster Co Election Commission – Nov Election	100.00
Lancaster County Sheriff’s Office – contract hours and one served letter	1,429.82
McNally Law Office – legal counsel	260.00
Microsoft Office 365 - software	8.70
Mueller Co, LLC – annual software maintenance	1,215.48
Municipal Code Services – ordinance codification	250.00
Nebraska Public Health Environmental Lab -testing	15.00
Norris Public Power - electricity	2,630.97
Olsson - engineering	2,538.24
One Call Concepts, Inc.	5.74
Principal Life Insurance Company – emp benefits	145.81
Schrock Innovations – new laptop	1,354.99
Tina Booton – reimburse Mid-Winter Conference	559.06
Windstream – com ctr and maintenance bldg	423.81
Total	29,188.51

PUBLIC COMMENT Period – The Board Chair stated that no Board dialog or action can be taken. There was no public comment.

There was no monthly maintenance report given – Village Maintenance personnel was not available for the rescheduled meeting date.

The agenda item regarding the Boy Scout Troop 111 and the flagpole project discussion was tabled until the April meeting. The boy scouts were not available for the rescheduled meeting date.

It was moved by Tina Booten, seconded by Samantha Henderson, to allow the Village to cover the registration, hotel and mileage for Kristin Draper to attend the Nebraska Planning and Zoning Conference in Kearney, Nebraska March 5 – 7. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas (T. Carlson, J. Cooper, S. Henderson, C. Middle, T. Booten.) No Nays. Motion carried.

It was moved by Jason Cooper, seconded by Craig Middle, to allow the Village Clerk to print FACET newsletters and include in monthly utility bills 2 times per calendar year. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas (T. Carlson, J. Cooper, S. Henderson, C. Middle, T. Booten.) No Nays. Motion carried.

Todd Carlson read Ordinance #03-2025-1 by Title:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF FIRTH, LANCASTER COUNTY, NEBRASKA, REVISING THE WATER AND SEWER RATES; RAISING THE STATE REVOLVING FUND (srf) RATE; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

It was moved by Jason Cooper, seconded by Samantha Henderson, to waive the customary three readings of Ordinance #03-02025-1. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas (T. Carlson, J. Cooper, S. Henderson, C. Middle, T. Booten.) No Nays. Motion carried.

It was moved by Jason Cooper, seconded by Craig Middle, to adopt Ordinance #03-2025-1 establishing new water, sewer and SRF rates over the next three years. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas (T. Carlson, J. Cooper, S. Henderson, C. Middle, T. Booten.) No Nays. Motion carried.

Todd Carlson read Ordinance #03-2025-2 by Title:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF FIRTH, LANCAST COUNTY, NEBRASKA, AMENDING THE DATES OF SALE AND DISCHARGE OF FIREWORKS TO INCLUDE NEW YEAR'S DAY AND SEVERAL DAYS PRECEDING THE HOLIDY; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CLONFLICT; AND PROJVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The Board discussed the ordinance text and agreed to ask the Village attorney to make a separate discharge time for December 31 into January 1. The Board will consider adoption of the updated ordinance at the April 1 meeting.

The Board discussed the Firth Cleanup Day scheduled for May 10th.

It was stated that the dog owner that received a violation letter is working on the issue.

It was moved by Samantha Henderson, seconded by Jason Cooper to authorize the Maintenance person to serve as the code enforcement officer for nuisance issues. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas (T. Carlson, J. Cooper, S. Henderson, C. Middle, T. Booten.) No Nays. Motion carried.

It was moved by Samantha Henderson, seconded by Tina Booten, to approve the bid from Better Backyards (Paul Ebbers) to mow the the following ditches on an as needed basis for the 2025 mowing season:

West side of Nemaha Street from 4th Street to Firth Road

East side of Nemaha Street from 5th Street to 6th Street

North side of 4th Street from Nemaha to Allen Street

West slope of the triangle at 4th and Main

The bid amount is \$1,075.00 per mowing. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas (T. Carlson, J. Cooper, S. Henderson, C. Middle, T. Booten.) No Nays. Motion carried.

At 7:53pm it was moved by Jason Cooper, seconded by Craig Middle, to move into executive session for the purpose of discussing a potential real estate purchase. The Clerk was asked to stay. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas (T. Carlson, J. Cooper, S. Henderson, C. Middle, T. Booten.) No Nays. Motion carried.

At 7:58pm it was moved by Tina Booten, seconded by Samantha Henderson, to come out of executive session. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas (T. Carlson, J. Cooper, S. Henderson, C. Middle, T. Booten.) No Nays. Motion carried.

It was moved by Jason Cooper and seconded by Tina Booten, to authorize Todd Carlson and Craig Middle to negotiate for the potential real estate purchase on behalf of the Board within the negotiating parameters set in executive session. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas (T. Carlson, J. Cooper, S. Henderson, C. Middle, T. Booten.) No Nays. Motion carried.

Committee Reports were given.

The board discussed the need for seeding of the Allen Street ditches due to the water main replacement project.

It was stated that Papa D's was told that the electrical equipment that serves that business is outdated.

There was a brief discussion about talking with an engineer to come up with a site plan for the playground update.

It was agreed to ask several roofing companies for bids for the repair/replacement of hail damaged roofs for Village structures.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25pm

Todd Carlson – Board Chairman

Jill A. Hoefler, Village Clerk