VILLAGE OF LODGEPOLE

BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING

MARCH 7TH, 2023

The village of Lodgepole Board of Trustees convened in regular and open session on March 7th, 2023, at 7:00 pm at the Village Office/Panther Activity Center 630 Orchard Street, Lodgepole, Nebraska. Vice Chairman Gwen Devie presided, Trustees present at the meeting were Ron Shellhorn, Brenda Parsons, and Abbie Brott. Absent R.J. Savely Others; Matt Lofton and Kathrin Barker

On February 28, 2023, notice of the meeting was given by posting in the three designated places: The Village Office, Lodgepole Post Office, and The Nancy Fawcett Library as shown by the Certificate of Posting Notice on record at the office of the Village Clerk.

Devie informed the public of the location of the open meetings act poster.

Parsons moved; Brott seconded approving the March 2023 consent agenda with the following corrections: Black Hills Energy claim changed from $79.12 to $79.21; The Chappell Register claim changed from $98.44 to 94.88; and changing vendor name on claims report from Diamondback Engineering and Surveying to BSB Construction. Shellhorn, Brott, Devie & Parsons voting yes. None voting no. Moved and accepted.

Parson motioned; Shellhorn seconded to approve items extracted from the March 2023 Consent agenda. Brott, Parsons, & Shellhorn voting yes. Devie abstained. None voting no. Motioned passed.

**General:** Black Hills Energy 79.21; The Chappell Register 94.88; Sidney Sun-Telegraph, Inc 98.96; Payroll Tax: State Tax Withholding 1677.83; Payroll Tax: Federal Tax Withholding 1569.23; KC Tech Support 495.63; J Leef 70.00; IRA- Matt Lofton 50.00; Ideal Linen & Uniform 112.90; Hometown Leasing 83.14; gWorks 831.25; Eakes 276.16; Dalton Telephone Company 204.22; Chappell Lumber 26.23 **Lottery Fund:** 0.00 **Library Fund:**Payroll Diana Bruns 1060.94; **Sewer Fund:** gWorks 831.25; J Leef 70.00; Payroll/ Kathrin Barker 589.49; Payroll Keil Velasco 388.50 **Water Fund:**Dalton Telephone Company 75.00; BSB Construction 77,757.04; Ethan Kraus 433.80; gWorks 831.25; J Leef 70.00; KC Tech Support 495.64; Matt Lofton Reimbursement 65.65; Miller & Associates Consulting Engineers, P.C. 3860.00; Nebraska Public Health Environmental Lab 15.00; Northwest Pipe Fittings, Inc. 302.65; Payroll Kathrin Barker 842.14; Payroll/ Keil Velasco 2201.50; Payroll Matt Lofton 786.60; Utility Service Co., Inc 2508.63 **Electric Fund:** Black Hills Energy 365.50; Dutton-Lainson Company 8939.97; Eakes 276.16; Ethan Kraus 433.80; gWorks 831.25; Hometown Leasing 83.14; J Leef 70.00; KC Tech Support 495.63; NKC Services 185.00; Nebraska Public Power District 21617.12; Payroll Kathrin Barker 1936.91; Payroll Keil Velasco 388.50; Payroll Matt Lofton 2086.68; R & T Excavating LLC 2605.35; Wheat Belt Public Power District 5118.53; Western Area Power Administration 2124.50 **Park & Rec**: E&S Auto Supply 31.50; Ethan Kraus 433.80; **Sanitation:** City of Sidney 520.80; E & S Auto Supply 25.78; Ethan Kraus 433.80; KC Tech Support 495.64; Payroll Keil Velasco 388.50; Payroll Matt Lofton 535.33 **Road and Street Fund** Black Hills Energy 328.03; Chappell Lumber 26.23; E & S Auto Supply 62.05 Ethan Kraus 559.80; J Leef 70.00; Payroll Keil Velasco 444.00; Payroll Matt Lofton 1311.00; PowerPlan 169.63; Premier Auto Parts 286.50; Spic & Span Cleaners 2933.50 **Community Hall:** Black Hills Energy 286.28; Dalton Telephone Company 51.83; Ideal Linen & Uniform 73.12 **Fire Hall:** Black Hills Energy 386.13; Dalton Telephone Company 51.83 **Cemetery:** 0.00 **Total:** $155,018.13

Motioned by Parsons; seconded by Brott to move all Village of Lodgepole Employees to Simply City Time Clock starting May 1, 2023. Devie, Brott, Parsons, & Shellhorn voting yes. None voting no. Motion approved.

Brott motioned; Parsons seconded to approve Clerk Kathrin Barker to seek Credit Card options to replace current Debit Card. Devie, Shellhorn, Brott, & Parsons voting yes. None Voting No. Motion approved.

Parsons motioned; Shellhorn seconded to clarify Ethan Krause’s position as independent contract that was voted on, on February 7th, 2023, Regular Board meeting with the requirements of labor law. The change will be from independent contractor to employee. Devie, Parsons, Shellhorn, & Brott voting Yes. None Voting No. Motion approved.

Parsons motioned; Brott seconded to go into executive session to discuss the Hiring of Ethan Kraus as Village of Lodgepole employee in accordance with Section 84-1410 @ 8:42 pm. Shellhorn, Brott, Devie, & Parsons voting yes. None voting no. Motioned approved.

Brott motioned; Shellhorn seconded to come out of executive session at 9:01 pm. Devie, Brott, Shellhorn, & Parsons voting yes. None voting no. Motion approved.

Brott moved; Parsons seconded to hire Ethan Kraus as Village Maintenance Utility Assistant at $18/hr for 40 hours a week. As a condition that Ethan Kraus is required to obtain his Class B CDL within 6 months of employment, with Ethan Kraus responsible for paying half of the CDL expense and the Village of Lodgepole paying the other half of the CDL expense. After six months of Kraus obtaining his Class B CDL, the Village of Lodgepole will reimburse Kraus the cost he paid to obtain the Class B CDL. Shellhorn, Brott, Devie, & Parsons voting yes. None voting no. Motion accepted.

Discussion:

* Jarad Falk with Charter Communications addressed the board on Charter’s Proposed Broadband project. Charter is seeking community feedback for a grant opportunity for broadband services provided by Charter in the Village of Lodgepole. Community Feedback forms will be available at the clerk’s office. Topic will be placed on April 4, 2023 agenda.
* Mike Trbovich with diamondback engineering addressed the board with the latest updates on Lodgepole’s water tower.
* Jim Jackson with Municipal Water Advance Solutions addressed the board with contract options with Utility Service Co, Inc Water Tank Maintenance. Spoke on options to keep water tower insured.
* Connie Swick resident of Lodgepole addressed the board with concerns she had regarding snow removal in her alley way behind Bates Blvd. The board addressed the maintenance department to give feedback and Matt Lofton stated that alley gets plowed and will ensure it does go forward.
* Matthew Moore with Dalton Telephone addressed the board on Dalton Telephones Proposed Broadband project. Dalton Telephone is seeking community feedback for a grant opportunity for broadband services provided by Dalton telephone in the Village of Lodgepole. Community Feedback forms will be available at the Clerk’s office. Topic will be placed on April 4, 2023 agenda.
* Discussion tabled by the board regarding communication with Lodgepole residents. Clerk is working with NPPD to get Lodgepole’s government website redesigned and updated to be more user friendly for community use.
* Discussion had and tabled by the board on how to pay Glenda Shellhorn. Ron Shellhorn is to fill out a conflict-of-interest form and return to the Village Clerk to have on file.
* Rita Bartling addressed the board about the Visions treasurers report being done by the Village Clerk. The Clerk will do the Visions treasurer report going forward.
* Mitchell Spray Foam Insulation services address the board on the bid for insulation at the wellhouse. The board tabled the bid until May so Mitchell Spray Foam Insulation Services could provide a new bid as the current bid was out of date.
* Discussion on moving all files and office material from downtown location to PAC. The office material will be moved to the PAC and the Maintenance office will be located in the PAC

The meeting was adjourned at 10:04 PM. Copies of the meeting minutes are available for viewing at the Village Office.

These minutes will be approved at the next regular monthly board meeting on April 4, 2023.

Attest:

Kathrin Barker

Village Clerk