

**MINUTE RECORD
VILLAGE OF FIRTH
REGULAR MEETING
September 6, 2022**

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 day of September 2022** at the Firth Community Center. Normal notification procedures were observed. The meeting was called to order by the Chairman immediately following the conclusion of the Annual Budget Hearing at 6:52pm. The following members were present: Dave Hobelman, Kami Beaty, Jason Cooper, Craig Middle, and Eric Mercier. 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 Jason Cooper, seconded by Kami Beaty, to approve the meeting agenda. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas, no Nays. Motion carried.

The minutes of the August 2, 2022, regular meeting minutes were declared approved as presented.

The Treasurer presented the financial report for the previous month. It was moved by Kami Beaty, seconded by Craig Middle, to approve the **August** financial report as presented. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas, no Nays. Motion carried.

It was moved by Jason Cooper, seconded by Kami Beaty, to approve presented bills to be paid, (including the Norris Public Power Bill that comes later in the month) and account transfers (Transfer \$35.00 from the general fund to reimburse the FACET account for cashier's check fees for closing the account at First State Bank and opening the new account at Farmers & Merchants Bank. Transfer \$12.63 from the General Fund to the new Farmers & Merchants FACET account, new Farmers & Merchants Bond A account and new Farmers & Merchants Bond B account to reimburse for new check fees. Transfer \$1,875.00 from the General Checking account to the Ballpark Maintenance account. The \$1,875.00 is the 2022 NT softball field usage fee payment plus a \$1,000 deposit for usage of the Firth ball fields for the 2023 ball season. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas, no Nays. Motion carried.

Current Month Claims

Better Backyards	925.00
Black Hills Energy	83.52
Capital City Refuse	4,369.75
Cather & Sons Construction	60,024.25
Farmers' Cooperative	585.27
Firespring	100.00
First National Bank	2,047.54
Gana Trucking & Excavating	5,619.46
Greg Edwards – plan review/inspections	40.00
Lancaster County Sheriff's Office	1,240.97
League Association of Risk Management LARM	24,048.00
League of Nebraska Municipalities	1,681.00
M&E Plastic Repair	950.00
McNally Law Office	150.00
Microsoft Office 365	8.70
Mueller Co., LLC	1,029.00
Nebraska Rural Water Association	150.00
Nebraska Public Health Environmental Lab	15.00
Norris School District #160 (liquor license fees)	300.00
Norris Public Power	1,758.92
Olsson	14,246.65
One Call Concepts, Inc.	15.20
Sargent Drilling	238,583.72
Southwick Liquid Waste	200.00
Windstream	283.16
Net Utility Deposit refunds	75.31
Total	\$358,530.42

It was moved by Jason Cooper, seconded by Eric Mercier to approve an additional 1% in total 2022-2023 funds, subject to limitations. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas, no Nays. Motion carried.

The treasurer read Resolution #09-2022-1 setting the final 2022-2023 property tax request at \$85,162.19 with a levy of 0.210595.

It was moved by Craig Middle, seconded by Kami Beaty to approve resolution #09-2022-1 setting the 2022-2023 property tax request at \$85,162.00 with a levy of 0.210595. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas, no Nays. Motion carried.

The treasurer read Ordinance # 2022-09-1, to adopt the 2022-2023 budget as presented at the public budget hearing.

ORDINANCE NO. 09-2022-1

AN ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF FIRTH, LANCASTER COUNTY, NEBRASKA, TO ADOPT THE BUDGET STATEMENT TO BE NAMED "THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION BILL"; TO APPROPRIATE SUMS FOR NECESSARY EXPENSES AND LIABILITIES FOR THE 2022-2023 FISCAL YEAR; TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE VILLAGE BOARD OF THE VILLAGE OF FIRTH, NEBRASKA:

SECTION 1. *The budget presented and set forth in the budget statement for 2022-2023 is hereby approved as the Annual Appropriation Bill for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2022, through September 30, 2023. All sums of money contained in the budget statement are hereby appropriated for the necessary expenses and liabilities of the Village of Firth.*

SECTION 2. *A copy of the budget document shall be forwarded as provided by law to the Auditor of Public Accounts, State Capitol, Lincoln, Nebraska, for use by the levying authority.*

SECTION 3. *This ordinance shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage, approval and publication or posting as required by law.*

Passed and adopted this 6th day of September, 2022

VILLAGE OF FIRTH

It was moved by David Hobelman, seconded by Kami Beaty, to waive the customary three separate readings of the Ordinance. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas, no Nays. Motion carried.

It was moved by Jason Cooper, seconded by Eric Mercier, to adopt Ordinance # 2022-09-1, adopting the 2022-2023 budget as presented in the public budget hearing. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas, no Nays. Motion carried.

The 2022-2023 Firth budget is available for review at the Village Office.

Dave Hansmeyer gave the monthly maintenance report. The well is progressing as quickly as parts are available. Water usage has been very high with how dry it has been. Possible water restriction may need to be established if the dry pattern continues. The lift station was cleaned. The perimeter park sidewalk should be completed this week.

It was moved by Jason Cooper, seconded by Kami Beaty to approve Resolution #09-2022-2 authorizing the Board Chair to sign the Municipal Certification of Program Compliance form – Street Reports. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas, no Nays. Motion carried.

It was moved by Jason Cooper, seconded by Kami Beaty, to allow NT Softball to use the Firth ball fields as the home field for their league teams in 2023. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas, no Nays. Motion carried.

The Municipal Impact proposal for building and hosting a new Village website was discussed. It was agreed to wait on a decision until the October meeting to verify that the same website address could be used.

Potential street projects to be added to the 1&6 year street plan were discussed. The annual public hearing for the 2023 1&6 Year Street Plan will be held in conjunction with the October 4, 2022, regular Board meeting.

It was moved by Kami Beaty, seconded by Eric Mercier, to establish a policy allowing for permanent part-time employees working at least 24 hours per week to receive a pro-rated stipend in lieu of individual health insurance, or pro-rated premium for individual health insurance to be paid by the Village. (Full-time employees have always been given the option of 100% individual health insurance premium or a stipend in lieu of health insurance paid for by the Village.) Roll call vote: 5 Yeas, no Nays. Motion carried.

Ordinance #2022-09-2 establishing new employee benefits was read by title.

ORDINANCE NO. 2022-09-2

AN ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF FIRTH, LANCASTER COUNTY, NEBRASKA, TO AMEND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS IN THE POLICY MANUAL; TO REPEAL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE VILLAGE BOARD OF THE VILLAGE OF FIRTH, NEBRASKA:

SECTION 1. *That the following employee benefits be and hereby are adopted and shall be incorporated into the Village's Policy Manual:*

A. The retirement match for full-time and permanent part-time employees earning at least \$5,000.00 per year is set at 3%.

B. Full-time and permanent part-time employees working at least 24 hours per week shall be enrolled in the Village's long-term disability insurance policy.

C. Full-time and permanent part-time employees working at least 24 hours per week shall be enrolled in the Village's accidental death and dismemberment insurance policy.

D. Full-time and permanent part-time employees working at least 24 hours per week shall be enrolled in the Village's \$20,000.00 life insurance policy.

E. The Village shall pay a prorated insurance premium or a stipend (% of 40-hour work week x full-time stipend amount or full premium) for permanent part-time employees working at least 24 hours per week.

SECTION 2. *That the benefits described in Section 1 shall go into effect for a new employee after serving a probationary period of 60 days.*

SECTION 3. *That all ordinances in conflict herewith be and hereby are repealed.*

SECTION 4. *That this ordinance shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage, approval and print or digital publication as required by law.*

Passed and adopted this 6th day of September, 2022.

VILLAGE OF FIRTH, NEBRASKA

It was moved by Eric Mercier, seconded by Kami Beaty, to waive the customary three separate readings of the Ordinance. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas, no Nays. Motion carried.

It was moved by Kami Beaty, seconded by Eric Mercier, to adopt Ordinance #09-2022-2, establishing additional employee benefits. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas, no Nays. Motion carried.

The Chair introduced Ordinance #09-2022-03 by title, setting employee wages for the 2022-2023 fiscal year beginning October 1, 2022.

ORDINANCE NO. #09-2022-3

AN ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF FIRTH, LANCASTER COUNTY, NEBRASKA, SETTING WAGES AND SALARIES FOR EMPLOYEES OF THE VILLAGE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2022, AND CONTINUING TO AND THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2023; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CHAIRMAN AND VILLAGE BOARD OF THE VILLAGE OF FIRTH, NEBRASKA:

SECTION 1. *That there be and hereby are established wages and salaries for the officials and employees of the Village for the 2022-2023 fiscal year, as follows:*

<i>Maintenance Employee</i>	<i>\$ 65,000.00 per year</i>
<i>\$500/month stipend in lieu of health insurance</i>	
<i>\$50/month stipend for cell phone</i>	
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>\$ 8,250.00 per year</i>
<i>Village Clerk</i>	<i>\$ 25.00 per hour</i>
<i>Monthly Stipend in lieu of health insurance (% of 40 hour work week x full-time stipend amount)</i>	
<i>\$50/month stipend for cell phone</i>	
<i>Summer Mowing Employee</i>	<i>\$ 15.00 per hour</i>
<i>Brush Dump Attendant</i>	<i>\$ 12.00 per hour</i>

SECTION 2. *That all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict are hereby repealed.*

SECTION 3. *This ordinance shall go into force and effect from and after its passage, approval and publication as required by law.*

DATED this 6th day of September, 2022.

VILLAGE OF FIRTH

It was moved by Jason Cooper, seconded by Kami Beaty, to waive the customary three separate readings of the Ordinance. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas, no Nays. Motion carried.

It was moved by Craig Middle, seconded by Kami Beaty, to adopt Ordinance #2022-09-3, setting employee wages for the 2022-2023 fiscal year beginning October 1, 2022. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas, no Nays. Motion carried.

There was a brief discussion regarding the spruce tree that was moved into the park in the spring. The wrong size tree was planted, and the Village had the option to get a different tree this fall. It was agreed that it would not be wise to allow a heavy tree spade and truck to drive over the new sidewalk at this time, so the Village will keep the tree.

OPEN FORUM

John Mardock, Firth liaison for Lancaster County Emergency Management, was present to discuss activity in the previous quarter. All activations were due to severe weather.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:00pm.

David L. Hobelman, Village Board Chair

Jill A. Hoefler, Village Clerk