

**MINUTE RECORD
VILLAGE OF FIRTH
REGULAR MEETING**

August 5, 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 **5th day of August, 2025** at the Firth Community Center. Normal notification procedures were observed. 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 Samantha Henderson, seconded by Tina Booton, to approve the agenda as presented. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas (T. Carlson, J. Cooper, S. Henderson, C. Middle, T. Booton.) No Nays. Motion carried.

It was moved by Jason Cooper, seconded by Craig Middle, to approve the July 1, 2025 regular meeting minutes and the July 8, 2025 Special meeting/annual budget work session minutes. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas (T. Carlson, J. Cooper, S. Henderson, C. Middle, T. Booton.) No Nays. Motion carried.

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

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

Current Month Claims

Salaries	13,731.49
Payroll Taxes	981.95
Simple IRA Employer Match	312.34
Health Ins and cell phone stipends	600.00
Abbot Portable Toilets, LLC	427.28
Better Backyards	1,075.00
Black Hills Energy	164.21
Blue Cross Blue Shield	904.54
Capital City Refuse – garbage service	4,592.17
Electric Pump	1,123.12
Farmers’ Cooperative – fuel, propane tank rental	732.22
Firespring – website host	100.00
First National Bank of Omaha – misc supplies	1,134.53
Guardian Life – employee benefits	98.64
Lancaster County Sheriff’s Office – June & July	2,751.56
League of NE Municipalities –admin fee -LIGHT	18.00
Lovell Excavating, LLC – sewer line repair	2,090.00
McNally Law Office – legal counsel	380.00
Microsoft Office 365 - software	17.41
NE Code Consulting, LLC – bldg reviews/inspection	705.00
Nebraska Public Health Environmental Lab -testing	90.00
Norris Public Power - electricity	2,052.93
One Call Concepts, Inc	8.98
Schrock Innovations – IT Services	170.00
Windstream – com ctr and maintenance bldg	246.44
FACET expense	345.00
Total	34,852.81

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

- Susannah Friesen stated that the boy scouts are still planning to do the flagpole at the Welcome to Firth sign and that Farabee will help.
- Susanah Friesen stated that FACET is planning a Tail Gate event for Saturday October 18 from 11-2.
- Dan Svatos asked if the Board had moved ahead with starting a Community Foundation and if the Village recycle site would ever be brought back.

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

- Water usage was down for the last month due to the rains
- Sargent tested all three working wells for efficiency – all is in good order
- Nitrates held steady since the last testing.
- The fire barn has been repainted, and the maintenance building is in the process of being repainted.
- There is a need to clear cut trees on the platted Russell Street portion south of 4th Street due to many dead or dying trees.

It was moved by Samantha Henderson, seconded by Craig Middle, to approve a fireworks sale permit for Christopher and Dillan Durham for the dates of December 28 through and including December 31 at their property at 8340 Firth Road in compliance with Firth and State fireworks sale regulations. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas (T. Carlson, J. Cooper, S. Henderson, C. Middle, T. Booton.) No Nays. Motion carried.

It was moved by Craig Middle, seconded by Tina Booton, to approve resolution # 2025-09-1 to renew membership in the League of Risk Management Insurance Pool for the 2025-2026 fiscal year with an agreement to provide written notice of termination at least 180 days prior to the desired termination date, which date shall be no sooner than September 30, 2028. (180 day and 3-year commitment; 5% discount on premium.) Roll call vote: 5 Yeas (T. Carlson, J. Cooper, S. Henderson, C. Middle, T. Booton.) No Nays. Motion carried.

At 7:30pm the Board Chair opened a public hearing for the purpose of hearing public comment on the proposed changes to the Future Land Use Map.

Kristin Draper, Firth Planning Commission Chair, gave an explanation for the proposed FLU Map changes and the reason for them. She stated that the Planning Commission hosted 2 Open Houses and a public hearing on the FLU Map changes. There was no public comment.

The public hearing was closed at 7:38pm.

Board Chair Todd Carlson read Ordinance #08-2025.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF FIRTH, LANCASTER COUNTY NEBRASKA, ADOPTING AMENDED ZONING REGULATIONS FOR THE VILLAGE; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ALL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

It was moved by Jason Cooper, seconded by Craig Middle, to waive the three readings of Ordinance #08-2025-1. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas (T. Carlson, J. Cooper, S. Henderson, C. Middle, T. Booton.) No Nays. Motion carried.

It was moved by Jason Cooper, seconded by Samantha Henderson to take the recommendation of the Plannings Commission and adopt Ordinance #08-2025-1 amending the Future Land Use Map. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas (T. Carlson, J. Cooper, S. Henderson, C. Middle, T. Booton.) No Nays. Motion carried.

Ordinance #08-2025-1 is available in pamphlet form from the Village Office at 311 Nemaha, Firth Nebraska.

It was moved by Jason Cooper, seconded by Samantha Henderson, to allow NT Softball to use the Firth Ball Complex as their home fields for the 2026 ball season.

At 7:44pm it was moved by Jason Cooper, seconded by Samantha Henderson, to go into executive session for the purpose of reviewing bids received for the Firth Roof Replacement project. Village staff were asked to join the executive session. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas (T. Carlson, J. Cooper, S. Henderson, C. Middle, T. Booton.) No Nays. Motion carried.

At 8:02pm it was moved by Jason Cooper, seconded by Craig Middle to come out of executive session and reconvene the regular meeting. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas (T. Carlson, J. Cooper, S. Henderson, C. Middle, T. Booton.) No Nays. Motion carried.

It was moved by Craig Middle, seconded by Jason Cooper to not accept any of the received bids for the Firth Roof Replacement project and readvertise for bids with clearer bid instructions. The 2nd bid request for the Firth Roof Replacement project will be published 8/14, 8/21, and 8/29. Bids will be due by noon on 9/2/25. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas (T. Carlson, J. Cooper, S. Henderson, C. Middle, T. Booton.) No Nays. Motion carried.

It was moved by Samantha Henderson, seconded by Jason Cooper to have the following two properties surveyed:

- * The north ballpark property lines
- * Platted Russell Street south of 4th Street.

Roll call vote: 5 Yeas (T. Carlson, J. Cooper, S. Henderson, C. Middle, T. Booton.) No Nays. Motion carried.

Village Maintenance has compiled a list of nuisance properties and unlicensed vehicles in the Village. Nuisance notices will go out in the next month.

It was agreed to notify Village residents of the need to contact the Village before doing work in the Villag Right of Way in order to

avoid potential issues.

The Board briefly discussed the speeding problem in town. The Sheriff's Dept will bring down one or two portable speeding signs to be temporarily used in Firth. The Sheriff will be at the September meeting to discuss various issues and the contracted monthly hours with Firth.

The Board discussed the possibility of placing a Local Option Sales Tax on the ballot. This will be placed on the September meeting agenda.

It was agreed to table approval of the bidding phase of the Downtown and Firth Road Sidewalk Project until the September meeting.

At 8:32pm it was moved by Jason Cooper, seconded by Samantha Henderson to go into executive session to discuss employee wages and compensation. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas (T. Carlson, J. Cooper, S. Henderson, C. Middle, T. Booton.) No Nays. Motion carried.

At 9:27pm it was moved by Jason Cooper, seconded by Tina Booton, to close the executive session and reconvene the regular meeting. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas (T. Carlson, J. Cooper, S. Henderson, C. Middle, T. Booton.) No Nays. Motion carried.

It was moved by Craig Middle, seconded by Jason Cooper, to raise the compensation for the Treasurer for annual Budget Preparation to \$1,370/year. Roll call vote: 5 Yeas (T. Carlson, J. Cooper, S. Henderson, C. Middle, T. Booton.) No Nays. Motion carried.

It was moved by Tina Booton, seconded by Jason Cooper to amend the Employee Handbook Page 18 - Section 4 – Employee Benefits - Health Insurance – 2nd paragraph:

All eligible permanent part-time employees (working at least 24 hours/week for 12 months out of the year) of the Village shall be provided health insurance with the Village of Firth paying the pro-rated premium amount (% of 40-hour work week x full premium) for this coverage. After 10 years of employment an extra 10% will be added to the pro-rated premium amount the Village pays.)...

Roll call vote: 5 Yeas (T. Carlson, J. Cooper, S. Henderson, C. Middle, T. Booton.) No Nays. Motion carried.

Committee Reports were given.

Meeting adjourned.

Todd Carlson – Board Chairman

Jill A. Hoefler, Village Clerk