

The Village of Brule Board of Trustees met in regular session on July 11, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. in the Brule Fire Hall. Notice of the meeting was posted in three public places prior to the meeting date, that being the designated procedure. The meeting will be conducted according to the Open Meetings Act which is the posted on the north side of the meeting room.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance to the Board Chairman and Board members.

The meeting was called to order by Alan Bahnsen stating the meeting will be conducted according to the Open Meetings Act posted on the north wall.

Roll Call: Alan Bahnsen, Kenneth Armknecht Mike Gibson, Brian McNeff, Ed Smith. Absent: None.

*Guests:* Andrea Sullivan, Penney Metheny (Ogallala Elks Club), Jamie Moore, Brenna Triplette, Roger Triplette, Art & Molly Hill, Lonnie & Val Olson, David Spencer, Taylor Provost (WCNDD).

Taylor Provost is taking over Cody Fenwicks position as she is with Keith County Planning a& Zoning. Taylor stated that 17 properties were sited, 4 cleared, 3 requested an extension presented Resolutions:

Properties for motion to abate less than 10 properties:

2023 BRU 001 PID 109009801, Brule, NE

2023 BRU 002 PID 109009800, Brule, NE

~~2023 BRU 004 317 Olive, Brule, NE~~

~~2023 BRU 005 307 Olive, Brule, NE~~

2023 BRU 003 317 Linnell, Brule, NE (yard débris, buckets, tubs, unlicensed vehicle, yard debris, scrap metal, buckets, tubs)

2023 BRU 007 619 East 3rd, Brule, NE (Scrap metal & wood,c appliance, unlicensed vehicle)

2023 BRU 010 305 State, Brule, NE

2023 BRU 011 507 East 3rd, Brule, NE (auto parts, scrap metal tree & scrap materials, pallets)

2023 BRU 012 213 State St, Brule, NE (dead or dying tree) Extension granted as he has not been able to find a tree person to remove the tree or trim tree.

Molly Hill asked about the unlicensed vehicle does not belong to 317 Linnell, Taylor will correct in her files. A motion by Ken Armknecht to approve the properites as presented and seconded by Ed Smith. Yeas: Alan Bahnsen, Kenneth Armknecht, Mike Gibson, Ed Smith, Brian McNeff.

Nay: None. Motion: Carried.

Penny Metheny present a temporary Liquor License for Brule Day on August 5, 2023. A motion by Gibson to approve the request and seconded by Kenneth Armknecht. Yeas: Alan Bahnsen, Kenneth Armknecht, Mike Gibson, Ed Smith, Brian McNeff. Nay: None. Motion: Carried.

Art Hill asked why the Village does not take care of the alleys. The alleys are to be maintained by the property owners.

Molly Hill requested the State Hightway be contacted concerning prohibiting the use of Jake Brakes. In the current Ordinance Book regulating the non use of Jake Brakes. Vicki will mail the request to the Highway Department.

B J: informed the Board that the dedication for the restroom painting will be August 5<sup>th</sup> at 9:30. B J wants the minutes sooner than after the approval of the next meeting. A motion to allow the minutes to be presented sooner to B J if not prohibited a regulation made by Ed Smith and seconded by Brian McNeff. Yeas: Alan Bahnsen, Kenneth Armknecht, Mike Gibson, Ed Smith, Brian McNeff. Nay: None. Motion: Carried. B J is there something that can be done about the weeds at the apartments east of town. Vicki: He will be contacted and informed that the Village will mow the grasses/weeds at \$150 for the first hour and \$150 per hour until it is mowed completely.

Spencer: Was interested in what has happened with the credit card. Vicki: That was handle several meetings in the past. What is the One & Six Year Plan for Brule? Alan Bahnsen: I will have to get a copy of the plan for the next meeting. The One and Six Year Plan is a yearly program. The Matt is doing all these good things for the Village and would it be a possibility that Matthew could make a report and bring it to the meeting. The Agenda will be posted with the Notice of the Meeting.

The junior ball team coach Josh Essinks requested that water be turned on for a restroom and fountain. Matt will turn on the water at the Concession stand for the youth ball team.

Art Hill ask if he needed a Building Permit to replace the permit that he received some time back. Art Hill was given a Building Permit application for his property at

Signs will be posted the Barton Park that no dogs are allowed.

All persons with dogs are to have them on a leash at all times.

Brian McNeff stated there are properties in town that have Noxious Weeds. Letters have been sent out to all residents concerning their weeds. Noxious weeds notices will be sent to residents in Brule.

A motion by Ed Smith to create an Employee handbook will be created with a job descriptions and seconded by Brian McNeff. Yeas: Alan Bahnsen, Kenneth Armknecht, Mike Gibson, Ed Smith, Brian McNeff. Nay: None. Motion: Carried.

A motion by Ken Armknecht to approve the Treasurers Report and seconded by Brian McNeff. Yeas: Alan Bahnsen, Kenneth Armknecht, Mike Gibson, Ed Smith, Brian McNeff. Nay: None. Motion: Carried.

Items are put on the agenda from calls or emails. Brian: some items were sent and not put on the agenda. Some items that were sent by Mike could not be put on the agenda as a closed session. Per the Nebraska League Municipalities: A Closed Session is private meeting with the Boards Members and not to be discussed in the Regular Session. After the Closed Session meeting is closed, a motion in the Regular Meeting that all members agree to the discussion. Closed Session and not to be discussed or commented on afterwards.

Village Office hours Per B J are Monday, Wednesday & Friday 10-11 a.m.

Discussion was held on finding someone for the Water, Sewer, Roads. This is not an easy task and in the past it took years to find someone to hire. Ads were placed in numerous publications: Job Services, Scottsbluff NE Job Services, Nebraska Rural Water System. The Big Springs Employee that only has a lagoon system is paid \$80,000 per year. Lonnie Olson: I would not do Matt's job for \$100,000 per year. Ed: I believe we need to get a second person to learn to do Matt's job. Nebraska is a right to work state. Water samples go to Scottsbluff. Lonnie Olson: The water samples have to go to Scottsbluff because the McCook is not qualified. Ed suggested that a monthly report be given to the Board by the Maintenance Department, what he has accomplished and what he has planned. A motion by Ed to ask for a monthly report by Maintenance and seconded by Brian. Yeas: Alan Bahnsen, Kenneth Armknecht, Mike Gibson, Ed Smith, Brian McNeff. Nay: None. Motion: Carried.

Is Matt upset about the credit card issue. Vicki: No he is not upset about the credit card. Brian: Mike: I did not vote to abate the properties at the June meeting. I did not vote to approve the 2023 Nuisance and Abatement Program.

A motion by Ed Smith to approve the June minutes with the correction from Ryan Essinks to Josh Essinks and seconded by Brian McNeff. Yeas: Alan Bahnsen, Kenneth Armknecht, Mike Gibson, Ed Smith, Brian McNeff. Nay: None. Motion: Carried.

Brule Cemetery financials were presented.

A motion by Ed Smith to approve the bills as presented and seconded by Kenneth Armknecht. Yeas: Alan Bahnsen, Kenneth Armknecht, Mike Gibson, Ed Smith, Brian McNeff. Nay: None. Motion: Carried.

Residents in Brule that have noxious weeds will be sent a letter.

Jermey Olson meter pad wiring that was cut by the resident has not been repaired because there is not access to the property. The meter wiring will have to be rewired from inside the house to the meter pad. Matt plans on repairing the wiring and move the meter pad when accessible. Meter has not been read because the wire has been cut. Brian: Jermey said that he called Matt and told him he cut the wire. Vicki: I called Matt to tell him that the meter reader did not grab the reading at Jermey Olson's. Matt went to read the meter and noticed the wire was cut.

A building permit was presented for Brian McNeff for a fence on the Kampke Replat. A motion by Mike and seconded by Ed. Yeas: Alan Bahnsen, Kenneth Armknecht, Mike Gibson, Ed Smith. Nay: None. Motion: Carried.

A motion by Brian McNeff to approve the yearly contract with McChesney, Martin, Sagehorn for the monthly audit and seconded by Ed Smith. Yeas: Alan Bahnsen, Kenneth Armknecht, Mike Gibson, Ed Smith, Brian McNeff. Nay: None. Motion: Carried.

Mike questioned the billing for \$7946.23 for Radio Reads & 520 S Points. Due to the cost they will be budgeted in for the next several to update the current water reads. The Village readers are outdated and will begin to fail. The readers have only approximately 1-4 years left.

A motion to approve the billings as presented by Ed Smith and seconded by Kenneth Armknecht. Yeas: Alan Bahnsen, Kenneth Armknecht, Mike Gibson, Ed Smith, Brian McNeff. Nay: None. Motion: Carried.

21st Century Equipment, LLC 342.34, ALAN BAHNSEN 68.65, ATC COMMUNICATIONS 157.88, KENNETH ARMKNECHT 46.18, BLACK HILLS ENERGY 95.19, BRULE ACTIVITY CENTER 175.00, CLINE WILLIAMS 18.00, CORE & MAIN LP 7946.23, Correll Refrigeration 685.00, EDWARD SMITH 46.18, ENVIRO SERVICE INC 270.00, FRASER WELDING, LLC. 21.50, MIKE GIBSON 47.78, KEVIN TJADEN 549.44, KWIK STOP 340.21, VICKI MALMKAR 1156.44, MATTHEW EMERZIAN 2908.38, MEAD LUMBER 53.30, BRIAN MCNEFF 46.18, MIDWEST LABORATORIES, INC 64.48, NAPA 192.29, NEBRASKA CHILD SUPPORT 542.00, Nebraska Public Health Environmental 49.00, NPPD 1747.94, OFFICE SERVICE 34.60, KEVIN TJADEN Mowing 1900, K. Tjaden Repairs 549.44, TRISTEN A STICKLEY 193.94, TWOMEY TREE SERVICE 1659.59, UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE 236, WEST CENTRAL DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT 1555, WIEST HARDWARE 199.57, WASTE CONNECTIONS OF NE, INC. 179.79. \$35215.17.

A motion by Brian McNeff to adjourn the meeting at 9:11 and seconded by Ed Smith. Yeas: Alan Bahnsen, Kenneth Armknecht, Mike Gibson, Ed Smith, Brian McNeff. Nay: None. Motion: Carried.

Vicki Malmkar, Clerk

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Approved Alan Bahnsen

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Approved Vicki Malmkar

July 11, 2023