

VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
REGULAR MEETING  
MARCH 19, 2024

Opening prayer by Sophia Custer.

**Peterson called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:00 PM in the Ceresco Community Room. Board Members had been given the agenda and supporting documents. Notices were posted at the Village Office, Ceresco Post Office and CerescoBank. Peterson pointed out the Open Meeting Law Act posted on the wall of the Community Room. Answering roll call: Peterson, Custer, Ruble, and Eggleston. Absent: Rupe. Also present: Arnie Lowell, Nancy Witters, Courtney Polak, Shawn Manion, Megan Johnson, Brian Suhr, Julie Ogden, Chilton Leedom, Brian Roland, Cynthia Babin, Jessica Falk, Neal Falk, Blake Richter, Libby Bartels, Tony Hernandez, and Joan Lindgren.**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Eggleston moved to approve the February 20<sup>th</sup> minutes as presented. Ruble seconded. Voting Yeas: Eggleston, Ruble, Custer, and Peterson. Nays: none. Motion carried.**

Lindgren reviewed the banking authorization suggestions from CerescoBank, which includes 1) Separate access for Anderson. 2) Using the general bank account or creating a separate utility bank account for ACH utility payments. 3) Due to security concerns, the Chair or Chair Pro Tempore, should approve the payroll NACHA file and ACH utility Nacha file in the online banking platform. 4) Paying bills online through CerescoBank would also require a Nacha file with the Chair or Chair Pro Tempore approving.

Arnie Lowell shared security concerns they are seeing at CerescoBank, and recommended the Village implement the NACHA security. Lindgren noted she spoke with the accountant and she recommended using the general account with Anderson receiving certain permissions, but the bank doesn't have that option. Discussion held.

Banking Authorizations tabled to next month's meeting.

Hernandez and Leedom reviewed the Police Report. Ceresco Days was discussed. Leedom noted the Sheriff is looking into funding for the radios.

No parking in the east lot was discussed. Lindgren noted the Fire Chief has concerns about the location of the generators. Installing emergency vehicle access signs and painting the lot was discussed. Roland noted people are asking about parking in front of fire hydrants. Ruble and Heyen will work with maintenance to paint and install signs.

Roland reviewed maintenance items including: 1) New radios were installed, but the wells cannot be run in auto without wells 4 and 5 having VFD's installed. Discussion held. Ogden has forwarded the information on to the well design team, but hasn't heard back. The VFD's are needed so the water tower can be taken down and cleaned, which was initially planned last fall, but delayed due to Roland's surgery. 2) Backhoe is working. 3) Roland will request a new bid for the wwtp roof. 4) Gushard and Bower passed the wastewater operator test. Creating an instruction manual and a rotating weekend shift were mentioned. 5) Cleanup day.

**Peterson moved to have cleanup day June 29<sup>th</sup> 2024, 8 am to noon. Ruble seconded. Voting Yeas: Peterson, Ruble, Eggleston, and Custer. Nays: none. Motion carried.**

Mole treatment was discussed. The Board agreed to continue with Orkin for mole treatment at the park. A new quote will be requested.

Roland continued his review: 6) Hydrant at 2<sup>nd</sup> & Beech needs to be repaired. 7) Johnson Administrative Subdivision water and sewer connection. 8) Health restrictions. 9) Drought restrictions. The Board agreed to continue the restrictions. 10) 4<sup>th</sup> & Beech sewer jetting. 11) Asset management. 12) Annual water quality report. 13) Sewer plant lighting. Replacing the bulbs with LED bulbs, instead of ballasts, will be looked in to. Cynthia Babin said her husband can assist with the lift, if one is needed. 14) Replacing the hallway lights in the community building.

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**Eggleston moved to approve the replacement for the city hall lights in the amount of \$625.13. Ruble seconded. Voting Yeas: Eggleston, Ruble, Peterson, and Custer. Nays: none. Motion carried.**

Roland continued his review: 15) New meter reading program. 16) Generator maintenance.

**Ruble moved to approve the maintenance plan for the current generator, for the two visits, totaling \$1,570.21. Eggleston seconded. Voting Yeas: Ruble, Eggleston, Custer, and Peterson. Nays: none. Motion carried.**

Shawn Manion asked about the Ceresco Day's trailer being parked at the shop. It is currently at the well site. Megan Johnson felt it is the Village Board's decision. Manion noted for liability the trailer should be on Village property. Roland noted the north side of the old shop may work. Discussion held. A new location will be found.

**Peterson moved to approve the Zoning Inspector report as reported. Ruble seconded. Voting Yeas: Peterson, Ruble, Custer, and Eggleston. Nays: none. Motion carried.**

**Ruble moved to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Eggleston seconded. Voting Yeas: Ruble, Eggleston, Custer, and Peterson. Nays: none. Motion carried.**

**Eggleston moved to approve the JEO claims totaling \$4,428.00 as presented. Peterson seconded. Voting Yeas: Eggleston, Peterson, Custer, and Ruble. Nays: none. Motion carried.**

Claims were reviewed. **Peterson moved to approve claims as presented. Ruble seconded. Voting Yeas: Peterson, Ruble, Custer, and Eggleston. Nays: none. Motion carried. The approved claims are as follows: AFLAC \$490.68/ins; Ameritas Life \$31.44/ins; Aqua-Chem \$146.75/wat; Baker & Taylor \$152.27/lib; Blue Cross and Blue Shield \$3,628.60/ins; Bomgaars \$106.96/sew, st; Card Services \$431.94/gen, st, prk, wat, sew, comp, pol, lib; Carquest of Havelock \$61.34/wat, sew, st; Cash \$27.99/gen, sew; Ceresco 60+ \$214.00/gen; Ceresco American Legion Post #244 \$25.00/gen; Delta Dental \$167.68/ins; Eakes \$138.28/gen; FES \$500.00/gen; FNBO \$517.28/lib, gen; Frontier Coop \$598.79/fuel; Hamilton Equipment \$342.00/sew; Jackson Services \$153.73/gen, sew, wat, fire, prk, st; Joan Lindgren \$43.72/gen; Johnson Service Company \$3,500.00/sew; League of NE Municipalities \$30.00/gen; Menards \$56.85/st; Michael Todd Industrial Supply \$571.60/st; Municipal Supply of Omaha \$4,028.96/wat; Mutual of Omaha \$103.10/ins; OPPD \$4,954.73/electric; Otte Oil & Propane \$1,550.04/fire, gen, st, lib; Progressive Electric \$10,562.43/gen, fire; Samantha Evans \$75.00/gen; Sandy Tvrdy \$325.00/gen; Schutt Electrical and Contracting \$2,775.58/gen; Southeast Community College \$500.00/fire; Taylor's Drain & Sewer \$1,890.00/sew; Verizon \$178.68/phones; Wahoo Auto Parts \$39.44/st; Waste Connections of NE \$5,963.41/trash; Windstream \$511.96/phones; Lincoln Winwater \$218.19/sew; Payroll Liabilities: Payroll \$17,720.39, United States Treasury \$4,916.12**

Lowell reviewed the Tree Board plans to plant a tree with grade school kids on Arbor Day.

The CYRA agreement was reviewed. Lindgren noted the signed contract has not been received back yet. Custer will contact Novak.

**Peterson moved to approve Rupe to sign the CYRA agreement once figured out with CYRA. Custer seconded. Voting Yeas: Peterson, Custer, Ruble, and Eggleston. Nays: none. Motion carried.**

Ogden reviewed the Splash Pad is out for bid and as of this morning there are 3 general contractors on the list. Bids will be opened April 11<sup>th</sup>. She also noted since the last agreement in 2021, updates are needed, which include 1) Updated scope of work for bidding and to allow for anticipated negotiations. 2) Change the bidding and negotiation task and remaining construction task to hourly, instead of fixed, because with the changes they aren't sure how much will be needed from JEO. 3) Increase fees for bidding and construction by an additional \$1,600 of what was estimated in 2021.

**Custer moved to approve the Amendment To Engineer Agreement No. 1 by \$1,600. Eggleston seconded. Voting Yeas: Custer, Eggleston, Ruble, and Peterson. Nays: none. Motion carried.**

Ruble noted the grant for radios, pending approval in May.

Peterson moved to streets for discussion with the Ogden. Ogden reviewed the contract with M.E. Collins for Elm Street patching. Concerns of water main breaks were discussed. M.E. Collins is willing to work with the town to find other locations. Megan Johnson questioned when work would begin with Ceresco Days in July. Discussion held. Peterson will send Ogden suggested locations for a motion at the April meeting.

Ogden and Peterson will meet with Pavers regarding the 2022 Main Street Asphalt Overlay Project.

Ogden reviewed the 2023 Well Improvement Plans. The total project range is between \$720,000 and \$810,000. Approval is needed to go out to bid, with advertising dates of April 12, 19 and 26. Bids will be opened May 1<sup>st</sup>. A fee of \$3,700.00 is also needed for NDEE to review the plans.

**Peterson moved for JEO to go out for bid for the well improvements and to approve Lindgren to pay the \$3,700.00 fee for NDEE. Eggleston seconded. Voting Yeas: Peterson, Eggleston, Custer, and Ruble. Nays: none. Motion carried.**

**Peterson moved to approve the Celebrate Ceresco minutes as presented. Ruble seconded. Voting Yeas: Peterson, Ruble, Eggleston, and Custer. Nays: none. Motion carried.**

Celebrate Ceresco bank statements were reviewed. Bank account ownership was tabled. An updated scope and sequence for was reviewed.

Arnie Lowell was present to share concerns of CerescoBank being open Saturday mornings and the parade being at 11 Saturday morning and streets closing. Lowell said he talked to Tyler Swanson and he also is concerned with the parade at 11 and closing the business during the day on Saturday since that is their peak day at Ernie's. Megan Johnson noted they don't need to close. Lowell noted they are busy on Saturdays and it will be difficult for out of town customers who won't know about it and wonder how they are going to park. Ruble questioned why the parade is moved to Saturday, instead of Friday night. Johnson said last year was a huge hit with a huge crowd and it created more money and more collaboration with the entire town to have it all on one day. Lowell agreed with that.

Courtney Polak spoke on behalf of the Celebrate Ceresco Committee in support of the schedule, noting the decision to change the schedule was not taken lightly. There was a lot of time spent talking about what would be best for Ceresco Days to keep people in town longer and put Ceresco in the best perspective possible. It was determined an 11 am start time with the parade, lunch available, park activities and the car show would best keep people in town for a longer period of time. They feel business will increase with family participation. The location of the car show provides space and a separation from the kids activities at the park. The plans started in regards to car show are above and beyond of what they have been in the past. With the scale being anticipated for the car show deserves space and to present our town in the best light. It's different than what they did before, but they think it best represents Ceresco Days moving forward.

Shawn Manion spoke as a business owner and noted that Brian Suhr has done car show statistics, and downtown for 1 day, the businesses make more money on that Saturday then they do on a regular Saturday. It promotes business in the downtown area, which she is trying to promote. It was noted the car show will be bigger than before, and there is a \$20 entry fee and trophies will be given.

Peterson noted if you're going to close all this off, the businesses that are affected should be talked to about it.

Discussion held.

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Peterson moved for a liquor license for Celebrate Ceresco Days, Friday, July 12<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 PM to 1:00 AM, and Saturday, July 13<sup>th</sup> from 11:30 am to 1:00 am. Custer seconded. Voting Yeas: Peterson, Custer,

Ruble, and Eggleston. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Eggleston moved to approve the street closing for the beer garden from 3:00 PM on Friday, July 12<sup>th</sup> until 10:00 AM on Sunday July 14<sup>th</sup>: Elm Street from 1<sup>st</sup> street to just east of 109 Elm (Legion), and 1<sup>st</sup> street from Elm South to alley way. Peterson seconded. Voting Yeas: Eggleston, Peterson, Custer, and Ruble. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Ruble moved to approve the street closings for the parade Saturday, July 13<sup>th</sup> from 11:30 am until the parade ends: 1<sup>st</sup> Street from Elm - Spruce, Spruce from 1<sup>st</sup> - 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> from Main - Oak, and 1<sup>st</sup> Street from Oak - Spruce. Eggleston seconded. Voting Yeas: Ruble, Eggleston, Custer, and Peterson. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Ruble moved to accept the street closings for the Car Show Saturday, July 13<sup>th</sup> from right after parade until 7:30 PM: 2<sup>nd</sup> street from Beech to Pine, 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and Elm to the beer garden, and 2<sup>nd</sup> Street from Elm towards 3<sup>rd</sup> St ½ block. Peterson seconded. Voting Yeas: Ruble, Peterson, Eggleston, and Custer. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Manion asked if the park was going to be torn up before Ceresco Days for the splash pad. Peterson noted they would schedule around it.

Custer reviewed the request from Celebrate Ceresco for \$1,500.00 toward fireworks.

Ruble moved to continue the payment of \$1,500.00 to Celebrate Ceresco Days for fireworks. Eggleston seconded. Voting Yeas: Ruble, Eggleston, Custer, and Peterson. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Custer reviewed a few changes made to the job description for Jody Anderson.

Eggleston moved to approve the job description for the Office Assistant and Zoning/Flood Plain Administrator as presented. Ruble seconded. Voting Yeas: Eggleston, Ruble, Custer, and Peterson. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Fulltime start date, wages, employee benefits, and reappointment of Zoning Administrator and Assistant Zoning Administrator were tabled.

Stream Stabilization work has begun.

Eggleston reviewed a walking trail meeting held March 5<sup>th</sup>. He will be meeting with the National Parks Service.

No update on the Interlocal Agreement with the Ceresco Rural Fire District.

Lindgren reviewed topics from the Midwinter Conference she attended, including EPIC, strategic planning, and municipal operations and public safety. The Board agreed to post public safety information from the Attorney General's website.

WHEREUPON, the Chair Pro Tempore announced that the introduction of Resolutions was now in order.

Resolution 2024-2 was introduced by Board Member Peterson and is set forth in full as follows, to wit:

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the Village of Ceresco, Nebraska, has enacted a Municipal Code, and,

**WHEREAS, Section 4-110 of the Municipal Code of the Village of Ceresco, Nebraska, provides, in part, as follows:**

**“The Village Board may by resolution provide for the placing of stop signs or other signs, signals, standards, or mechanical devices in any street or alley under the village's jurisdiction for the purpose of regulating or prohibiting traffic thereon.”**

**and,**

**WHEREAS, the Chair and Board of Trustees of the Village of Ceresco, Nebraska, as the Village of Ceresco's Governing Body, does desire to adopt this resolution providing for the placement of stop signs at various locations within the corporate limits of the Village of Ceresco, Nebraska,**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Chairman and Board of Trustees of the Village of Ceresco, Nebraska, as follows:**

**Section 1. That the finding hereinabove made should be and are hereby made a part of this Resolution as fully as if set out at length herein.**

**Section 2. That the following traffic control signals, consisting of stop signs, for the purpose of regulating traffic, 24 hours a day, every day of the year, shall be placed at the following locations:**

**a. At the intersection of 3<sup>rd</sup> and Edwin Street to stop the Westbound traffic on Edwin Street before entering or crossing 3rd Street;**

**Section 3. That authorized personnel of the Village of Ceresco, Nebraska, are hereby authorized to erect said stop signs and to provide for their enforcement upon the erection of said stop signs.**

**Section 4. That all other traffic control signals, authorized by previous Resolutions hereto, shall remain in full force and effect.**

**WHEREUPON, Board Member Eggleston moved that said Resolution No. 2024-2 be approved. Board Member Custer seconded this motion. No further discussion was required.**

**The Chair Pro Tempore instructed the Clerk to call the roll for the vote thereon. The Clerk called the roll and the following was the vote on this motion. Yeas: Eggleston, Custer, Ruble, and Peterson. Nays: none.**

**WHEREUPON, the Chair Pro Tempore declared that the Motion having been approved by a majority of the votes cast, said Resolution 2024-3 is approved and adopted.**

**Resolution 2024-3 was introduced by Board Member Eggleston and is set forth in full as follows, to wit:**

**WHEREAS, the Village of Ceresco, Saunders County, Nebraska has adopted a Municipal Code, as revised and amended from time to time, to provide for rules and regulations within the municipality and within its one mile zoning jurisdiction to promote the health, safety and general well-being of its inhabitants, and,**

**WHEREAS, the Village of Ceresco Municipal Code Book, contain rules and regulations regarding licenses, fees and permits for various processes, procedures, and activities, and,**

**WHEREAS, the Trustees of the Village of Ceresco has the authority to set the amount of all fees required for issuance of the licenses, permits, and other activities pursuant to the rules and regulations set out in the Municipal Code, the Zoning and Subdivision Regulations of the Village of Ceresco, Saunders County, Nebraska in a Master Fee Schedule, and,**

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**WHEREAS**, it is the desire of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Ceresco, Nebraska, to amend the Master Fee Schedule to include FARMERS MARKETS PERMIT FEE, and,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY** the Board of Trustees of the Village of Ceresco, Nebraska, as follows:

1. That the findings here and above made should be and are hereby made a part of this Resolution as if fully set out at length herein.
2. That the Master Fee Schedule shall be amended to include:

FARMERS MARKETS                      \$10.00 per Vendor, per Season

**WHEREUPON**, Board Member Eggleston moved that said Resolution No. 2024-3 be approved. Board Member Ruble seconded this motion. No further discussion was required.

The Chair Pro Tempore instructed the Clerk to call the roll for the vote thereon. The Clerk called the roll and the following was the vote on this motion. Yeas: Eggleston, Ruble, Custer, and Peterson. Nays: none.

**WHEREUPON**, the Chair Pro Tempore declared that the Motion having been approved by a majority of the votes cast, said Resolution 2024-3 is approved and adopted.

A tower development permit for Verizon was reviewed.

Peterson moved for Verizon to be able to install two roof mounted dishes and radio with cabling to inside existing shelter. Eggleston seconded. Voting Yeas: Peterson, Eggleston, Custer, and Ruble. Nays: none. Motion carried.

OPPD Local Government Affairs was mentioned.

Peterson noted it needs to be made clear so Celebrate Ceresco or anybody else, understands that anything that is going to impact any of our businesses before they come to a schedule for us, need to talk to the business owners. Discussion held.

The Celebrate Ceresco budget was reviewed.

Peterson moved for Celebrate Ceresco to pull funds from the Celebrate Ceresco accounts in the amount of \$15,978.00 for the 2024 budget. Eggleston seconded. Discussion held. Voting Yeas: Peterson, Eggleston, Ruble, and Custer.

Manion questioned placing \$8,000 in a CD, which will be discussed further at the April meeting.

Peterson moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:42 PM. Eggleston seconded. Voting Yeas: Peterson, Eggleston, Ruble, and Custer. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Scott Peterson, Chair Pro Tempore  
Joan Lindgren, Clerk