

## VILLAGE OF DUNCAN BOARD MEETING

August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022 7:00 PM – Village Hall, 906 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Duncan, NE 68634

The monthly board meeting of the Village of Duncan Board of Trustees was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairperson, Jeff Oppliger. The Chairperson publicly stated to all in attendance that a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was available for review and indicated the location of such copy in the room where the meeting was held in the Village Hall. Board members present were Nick Wagoner, Jeff Oppliger and Josh Dahlberg. Steve Langton and Joe Boruch were absent. Also, in attendance were, Village Staff: Don Reves, Marianna Evans and Michelle Schindel. Visitors present were Jill Sock (Love Signs); John (JEO). *A motion was made to approve the minutes from last month's meeting on July 11, 2022 by Dahlberg, second---Wagoner. Vote was as follows: voting aye—Wagoner, Oppliger, Dahlberg. Voting nay—none. The Chairman carried the motion.* Visitors were given the opportunity to speak for 5 minutes on any non-agenda items. No comments. Oppliger continued with the meeting.

### **Unfinished Business:**

#### **Duncan Welcome Sign**

**Sign Design** Oppliger thanked everyone for the work they have been doing with this project. Evans explains the Love Signs quotes and pics that were previously given to each board member. She reported that the single sided sign with internal lighting on the east side of town was quoted at \$11,985.99. This would include Love Signs doing the pillars as well. However, they do not do brick/stone work around but do have faux stone that is very nice. The board discussed and would like to ask Boruch to continue as planned with doing only the stone work around the pillars. Which will reduce his quote for not having to do the concrete and pillars themselves. Evans explained about the advantages of having the west sign be a digital sign with the 'Welcome to Duncan' also above it. She stated that since the placement of the west sign is further inside city limits than originally planned, it would allow us to advertise local events not only for Duncan but for other events around the area. She stated that she thought this would also help us in qualifying for the grant that she was given to work on by Schlesinger. She stated that the grant application is due by September 30<sup>th</sup> this year and that there would be a guest from the visitor bureau in Columbus at the next meeting to discuss. Evans stated that the digital sign is quite a bit more expensive, however the benefits would last forever and if we did not receive the grant, the board could always amend the budget to scale back on the price. She reported that Love Signs quoted the double-sided digital sign at \$45,650.09. Sock presented to the mic and explained to the board about the digital sign manufacturer. She stated that they are based not only in the U.S. but in Brookings, SD. She stated that Daktronics is the best quality of digital signs that she has seen. She reported that others have bought cheaper signs from other companies from out of the U.S. and have called to change to Daktronics brand only a few years later due to quality and other issues. Evans asked her if their pricing was comparable to other sign companies. Sock stated that they do compare very well with other companies. She stated that people who have troubles with Daktronics signs, will get taken care of very well. Parts are easy and fast to get. They do have warranty on their signs for 5 years and Love Signs offers 1 year warranty of their work. She stated that if something was going to go wrong, it usually happens within the first 30-60 days with electronics. She discussed placement of the signs and offered to visit the areas and stated she would be able to create a photo with a program she has that will show us exactly what our sign will look like in the places we wish to put them. Reves offered to take her to the two spots. She stated the LED's are warrantied for 100,000 hours which equates to approximately 8 years, depending on how long they are lit each day. She discussed the difference between the 10mm and 15.85mm digital and stated the 10mm is better for those that are reading from a distance. It is the better, tighter, clearer picture. Sock also stated that they would complete our Nebraska DOT sign permit as well. She stated that with the state, a digital sign just cannot be scrolling, flashing and the message must stay up for 10 seconds. To avoid causing distraction to drivers on the highway. Sock also stated that the software is cloud based. So, whomever controls the message on the sign will be able to do it from anywhere at anytime. She stated that the sign is also auto-dimming and we can set times for shut off. The board discussed the design and decided on the one that Sock had presented. Colors are something that can be decided at anytime. Oppliger stated that Boruch had asked to discuss adding a Bluejay to the sign. The board discussed and decided that since the ball association no longer exists, that may not be the best emblem. Evans stated that we had time to think of a good emblem/picture to add. Sock stated that we could always add something at a later time even. Even after the sign is already installed. She suggested checking with Northeast Nebraska Economic Development for grants as well. Sock did go over cheaper options as well but suggested staying away from solar lighting. However she did say that ground lighting works well. She stated that she would work with us if we decide to scale down the cost. She instructed that for electrical, we will need 2 circuits to each, 120amp, 120 volts. She stated that if we wish, she can do a demo of a digital sign for us. She stated that she has a guy that has a sign on a trailer and would bring to the exact spot we want to place it and turn on and we could see what it looks like in person. Wagoner asked why we would do a digital sign since we do not have a school or anything

anymore. Evans explained about the advertising of events not just for Duncan, but for areas surrounding. It can also put public info out as well such as weather etc. She also stated that it may increase our chances in getting the grant as well if we would be attracting more visitors to Platte County. Wagoner then agreed. After further discussion of design, the board agreed on Love Signs design. *A motion to approve the designs drafted by Love Signs was made by Wagoner, second—Dahlberg. Vote was as follows: voting aye—Wagoner, Oppliger, Dahlberg. Voting nay—none. The Chairman carried the motion.*

**Welcome Sign Budget** The board discussed the approximate total for both signs with all costs associated. *A motion to approve up to \$70k for the Welcome Signs was made by Dahlberg, second—Wagoner. Vote was as follows: voting aye—Wagoner, Oppliger, Dahlberg. Voting nay—none. The Chairman carried the motion.*

**Land Use Agreement** Evans reported what the attorney's suggested options were. The board discussed and Evans asked Sock what her experience has shown her in other comparable communities for agreements. Sock stated that most of the time the municipality will have their attorney draw up a 'land lease agreement' with the property owner. She stated that a term of 20 years with option of renewing was common. However, she stated that you could do 25 years or 30 years or whatever you wanted. She stated that a survey of the area would be needed for the agreement. The board discussed and Evans stated she would confer with the attorney on land use agreement with survey. *A motion to approve the Village attorney to create a land lease agreement with property owners for the Welcome Signs, as well as a survey of each area was made by Wagoner, second—Dahlberg. Vote was as follows: voting aye—Wagoner, Oppliger, Dahlberg. Voting nay—none. The Chairman carried the motion.*

### **New Business:**

**Consider Engineering Amendment for Additional Water Main Extension** John (JEO) presented to the microphone and stated that due to the ARPA funds that Platte County has stated they would award Duncan, he and Reves had added a few things to the project that were initially removed due to cost. He stated that they include a water main extension extending out to CVA. And, replacement of a section of water main in front of the Church that will be changed from 4 inch to 6 inch. In order to be congruent with the rest of the mains. Oppliger asked about the south side of town. Concerned that the project will be sufficient for future growth on the south side. John stated that the south side will be looped in to the north side with this project and should be suitable for any future growth. John stated that the additions to the project add a total of \$32,300.00. *A motion to Amend the Water Main Extension Project by Adding the Extension to CVA and replacing the section of 4-inch pipe with 6-inch in front of the church and adding \$32,300.00 was made by Dahlberg, second—Wagoner. Vote was as follows: voting aye—Wagoner, Oppliger, Dahlberg. Voting nay—none. The Chairman carried the motion.*

**Water Main Looping Project Update** John reported that at this point, we are just waiting for the funding to come through to begin the bidding process on the Bumpy Rd. portion of the project. He stated that they have already obtained all permits needed for that part of the project. He stated that the project would hopefully start around next spring. He reported that he would be back to discuss the design for the new amendment additions with Reves once they are completed. No further questions or discussion from the Board.

**Proposed ARPA Funds Reallocation (Sewer Lining)** Evans reported that since the Bumpy Rd project turned into a much larger project that we are obtaining loan and grant money for, the Board will need to reallocate Duncan's ARPA funds for something else. She stated that Reves had reported the need for sewer linings in problem areas of town. Which would prevent tree roots from entering the lines and clogging causing back ups into the homes of customers. Reves reported that the cost to line the problem areas of town would be approximately \$80k the first year and \$71k the second year. If completed in 2 phases. Evans reported that our ARPA funds total approximately \$64k. The board discussed and decided that this would be the best option and use of these funds. *A motion to reallocate Duncan's ARPA funds towards sewer linings of problem areas in Duncan was made by Dahlberg, second—Wagoner. Vote was as follows: voting aye—Wagoner, Oppliger, Dahlberg. Voting nay—none. The Chairman carried the motion.*

**R22-259 Lower Loup Natural Resources District Multi-Jurisdiction Hazard Mitigation Plan Update** Evans explained that this is a continuance of what Dahlberg was working on several months ago. In order to be eligible for the help/funds offered if there were a disaster in Duncan, we had to take part in this update. We must now pass this resolution to finalize it's approval by the Village. Evans read the entire resolution aloud. *A motion to approve R22-259 was made by Dahlberg, second—Wagoner. Vote was as follows: voting aye—Wagoner, Oppliger, Dahlberg. Voting nay—none. The Chairman carried the motion.*

**Proposed Duncan Rural Firefighter Application** Evans referred the board to their copy of the application. After looking it over *a motion to approve the application for Duncan Rural Fire Dept. of Jeffery Coffey was made by Wagoner, second—Dahlberg. Vote was as follows: voting aye—Wagoner, Oppliger, Dahlberg. Voting nay—none. The Chairman carried the motion.*

## **Departmental Reports:**

**Utilities** Reves reported that Sergeant Drilling completed our annual efficiency tests of our wells. He reported that both were graded to have excellent efficiency. Reves reported that Village Dept. of Health may need to get involved with the back yard of a resident. He reported that it is 4-8 feet overgrown with weeds/grasses. And had parts of a cut-down tree laying in the mess somewhere. He stated there is a trampoline back there as well that he has seen kids on previously. He reported that Evans has sent a letter out already but he is concerned with children in the home and the safety and health risks it poses to them and their neighbors. Evans stated that she will follow our ordinance, however, if it leads to abatement and we do the work, it may not be safe to send Reves in there. She stated she didn't know who she would call to do the work due to the safety issues involved. She stated one cannot just go mow it due to the tree debris and who knows what else is hidden on the ground. The Board agreed to continue with following the ordinance and send another letter giving her one month to complete or the work will be done and she will be billed, as stated in our ordinance.

Reves then stated that Art Runge approached him and requested to be allowed to install a statue near the bell at the pumphouse. It was reported to Reves by Runge that he had donation funds to use on it. He would like to place it under the flag pole. Reves did not know what the statue looked like or any further details. Evans suggested that once Runge gets all the details/designs, to invite him to present it to the board for approval at that time. Oppliger agreed and stated he would like Runge to present the design to the board.

**Parks & Rec.** Dahlberg stated that the tables are now installed in the park. He suggested buying a tarp canopy for the train and see-saw. He stated that for 2 canopies, wood posts and hardware, the cost would be less than \$1,000. Oppliger reminded the board of the potential for the dermatology grant that Paige Young had mentioned prior to leaving the board. He stated he would contact a dermatologist tomorrow to get information on the grant.

**Planning & Zoning** no report

**Clerk Report** Evans reported that Schindel is in the process of setting up direct deposit for anyone who wants to participate. She reported that they were all given the document to sign and give their bank info on to Schindel if they would like their paychecks to be direct deposited.

**Treasurer Report & Updates—Approval of Bills** Schindel handed out the monthly recap to the board members. She went over the receipts and bills. She reported that she finally closed the old general account. She reported that there are still two checks that have not cleared. Evans stated she would attempt to contact USPS broker again about the one. *A motion to approve the bills was made by Dahlberg, second—Wagoner.. Vote was as follows: voting aye—Wagoner, Oppliger, Dahlberg. Voting nay—none. The Chairman carried the motion.*

All meetings are open to the public and a current agenda for said meetings will be posted and available for public inspection at the office of the Village Clerk, Post Office, T-Bone 2 and the Village website on the Thursday prior to the meeting. The next meeting will be on **September 12, 2022 at 7:00 PM**. Being no other business, adjournment was made by Oppliger at 8:44p.m.

Minutes recorded and submitted by: Marianna Evans (Clerk)