



Village of Staplehurst

155 South 3rd PO Box 174

Staplehurst, NE 68439

Hours: Saturdays 8AM-12PM

Phone: 402-535-2758

Email: Clerk.Staplehurst.NE@gmail.com

VILLAGE OF STAPLEHURST

MEETING MINUTES, August 25th, 2026

The Village Board of Trustees met in regular session on August 25th, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. at the Staplehurst Village Hall. Notice of this meeting was given in advance by posting in three designated places.

Chair Wilken called the meeting to order at 7:20 p.m. and announced that the Open Meetings Act is posted on the north wall of the meeting room for public review.

Roll Call:

Present: Chair Wilken, Trustees Stava, Novotny, Benedict

Approval of Village Claims

The Clerk presented claims for the period of July 28, 2026 through August 25, 2026. Claims totaling \$16,458.47 were presented as follows: Chris Eckles \$91.20 (mileage/water testing); RK Bookkeeping LLC \$675.00 (tech support, reconciled Sept/Oct); Farmers Cooperative \$240.71 (fuel); Crouchs Farm and Hardware \$73.35 (blade); Northeast Neb Tele Co \$59.47 (monthly phone bill); Pac N Save \$13.27 (bleach, trash bags for ball field/bathroom); Waste Connections of Nebraska \$280.22 (monthly garbage, 2 locations); Nebraska Public Health Environmental Lab \$17.00 (colilert sample); Midwest Laboratories, Inc. \$141.85 (monthly effluent, supplies, shipping); JR's Water, Sewer & Septic \$2,000.00 (replace curbstop, 250 N 4th); Seward Lumber \$214.41 (traffic paint, striping, roller); Constellation NewEnergy-Gas \$11.28 (155 S 3rd gas); Seward County Independent \$54.88 (legal minutes, wages, liquor license); Farmers Cooperative \$99.35 (no lead gas); Lincoln Winwater Works \$637.81 (rod soil probe valve); Birkels Rock and Gravel LLC \$889.17 (1 1/2 crusher run); Svehla Law Offices, P.C. \$340.00 (ordinance correspondence); Black Hills Energy \$171.62 (155 S 3rd); Sage Software Inc \$1,375.00 (annual software renewal); RK Bookkeeping LLC \$2,062.50 (Nov, Dec, Jan, Feb reconciled, GL); Nebraska Public Health Environmental Lab \$15.00 (coliform collected 7/22); Farmers Cooperative \$247.84 (fuel/diesel, tractor/mower); Post Office \$84.46 (postage for August invoices); Norris Public Power District \$1,635.45 (city well, village hall, FD shop, 220 A, town shop, ball diamond lights, ball diamond well, sewer, sewer plant, ball park restrooms, street lights); Staples \$134.17 (2 box envelopes); Staples \$39.91 (calculator tape, hole punch); Wayne Regnier \$811.96 (July payroll); Bobbi McVey-Blath \$1,179.84 (July payroll); Chris Eckles \$2,861.75 (July 29 through August 11 payroll). Motion to approve Stava, seconded by Benedict, all in favor.

Sheriff's Department Report

The board reviewed the Sheriff's report, no action needed.

Fire Department Claims

Fire Department claims will be held until the September board meeting.

Fire Department Report

The Fire Department reported 1 call and 1 partial assist for Bee.

Harlan Anson: Building Permit

The request was for the reconstruction of a deck behind the home. Motion to approve Benedict, seconded by Novotny, all in favor.

Resolution 2026-08: Annual Certification of Program Compliance

The Board reviewed Resolution 2026-08, Annual Certification of Program Compliance. Motion to approve and sign Stava, seconded by Benedict, all in favor.

Nebraska Board of Public Roads Classifications & Standards

The Board reviewed the Nebraska Board of Public Roads Classifications & Standards. Motion to approve and sign Stava, seconded by Benedict, all in favor.

CDBG Funding Forms

The Board reviewed the following forms in connection with the Village's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application for water system improvements. All forms were signed by Chair Wilken:

Resolution Authorizing Chief Elected Official to Sign Application for CDBG Funds: authorizes Chair Wilken to execute and submit the CDBG application and related agreements with the Nebraska Department of Economic Development for the Village's proposed \$627,000 water system improvement project.

Residential Anti-Displacement & Relocation Assistance Plan: certifies that the Village will replace any low- or moderate-income housing units lost as a result of CDBG-assisted activities and will provide relocation assistance to any displaced low- or moderate-income households.

Excessive Force Certification: certifies that the Village has adopted and enforces policies prohibiting the use of excessive force against non-violent civil rights demonstrators and prohibiting the barring of entrance to or exit from facilities involved in such demonstrations.

Citizen Participation Plan: establishes the Village's process for encouraging citizen input on community needs, providing public notice of CDBG-related meetings, and making CDBG project information and records available to residents.

Procurement Procedures & Code of Conduct: establishes the Village's procurement methods and standards of conduct for purchasing goods and services with CDBG funds, in accordance with 2 C.F.R. Section 200.320 and applicable state statutes.

Maintenance Report

Chris will obtain another bid from Brent Temple for the alley behind the Post Office. The back alley project will require an estimated 24 foot culvert for drainage. The Village is now in compliance with its Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) requirements due to replies received from residents. Chris will continue working on unplugging drains and culverts and may need to rent a backhoe at an estimated cost of \$300 to \$500 per day. Chris is also working on renewing the Village's waste water permits. Most alleys

are in need of grading. The ball field is closed for the season, all water will be shut off and the system winterized. The ball field will continue its contract with Zach and Matt into the 2027 baseball season.

Maintenance Pickup Budget

The maintenance pickup budget will require a levy rate of \$.45 cents, similar to prior years, plus a tax levy for any indebtedness. Motion to approve Stava, seconded by Novotny, all in favor.

Street Repair

The street repair budget is set at \$56,000.00 and will go toward culverts, drains, and alleys. A resident requested an elevation survey for North 7th Street to help address drainage. The Board will physically go on-site to review the area and make a final decision on how to proceed.

Rooster Update/Enforcement

The Board discussed enforcement of the rooster ordinance. A certified letter, along with a final letter delivered by a county deputy, will be used to enforce the ordinance.

Vacant Properties Update

Vacant properties in the Village will be sold by the owner. Maintenance and removal of personal property will take place prior to selling.

Office Hours

Office hours for September 19th remain in effect, no changes.

Residents Comments:

None

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Stava, seconded by Benedict, all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Next Meeting, September 29th at 7pm

Village Clerk, Bobbi McVey-Blath