



**Village of Staplehurst**

155 South 3<sup>rd</sup> PO Box 174

Staplehurst, NE 68439

Hours: Saturdays 8AM-12PM

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## **VILLAGE OF STAPLEHURST**

### **MEETING MINUTES, February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

The Village Board of Trustees met in regular session on February 17<sup>th</sup>, 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.

#### **Roll Call:**

Present: Chairperson Frank, Trustees Stava, Wilken, Benedict

Chairperson Frank called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and announced that the Open Meetings Act is posted on the north wall of the meeting room for public review.

#### **Approval of Village Claims**

The Village Board reviewed and approved claims for the period of January 27, 2026 through February 17, 2026, totaling \$15,336.54 from Jones National Bank. Claims approved included: Farmers Cooperative \$152.13; Seward County Independent \$22.50; Midwest Auto Parts Inc \$4.83; Chris Eckles \$1,200.00; Waste Connections of Nebraska \$141.97; GBE \$3,500.00; United States Treasury \$242.99; Pac N Save \$33.97; Farmers Cooperative \$143.37; RK Bookkeeping LLC \$150.00; Crouchs Farm and Hardware \$207.95; Midwest Laboratories, Inc \$188.55; Nebraska Rural Water Association \$200.00; NWEA \$550.00; Nebraska Dept. of Water, Energy & Environment \$150.00; Northeast Neb Tele Co \$60.68; Svehla Law Offices, P.C. \$68.00; Black Hills Energy \$311.96; OnPay \$40.00; NE Municipal Clerks Association \$273.00; Post Office \$81.90; and payroll payments to Chris Eckles \$2,927.72, Wayne Regnier \$1,623.90, Bobbi McVey-Blath \$901.81, and Chris Eckles \$2,159.31.

Motion by Stava, seconded by Benedict, to approve the Village claims. All in favor: Wilken, Frank, Stava, Benedict

#### **Sheriff's Department Report**

The board reviewed the report from January, no action needed.

#### **Fire Department Claims**

The Fire Department approved claims totaling \$714.00 for operational expenses and equipment and EMS training refund. Payments included ESMC \$314.00, Minutes submitted for 4 VFD EMT's \$400.00

Motioned by Wilken, seconded by Stava, all in favor, Benedict, Frank, Wilken, Stava

#### **Fire Department Report**

The Fire Department reported 2 rescue calls (1 was mutual for Seward) and 1 fire call.

**Incumbent Vote:**

Chair Frank nominated Corden Novotny as Incumbent Board Trustee to replace Trustee Hans. Motioned by Wilken, seconded by Stava, all in favor Frank, Benedict, Wilken, Stava

**Legal Description for Sanitary Sewer Compound:**

In 1969, the Village received a conveyance of real estate for the construction and maintenance of sanitary sewer infrastructure; however, upon review of the legal descriptions, it was determined that the infrastructure was constructed approximately 75 feet north of the parcel described in the original deed. This title discrepancy between the recorded legal description and the actual location of the sewer improvements could cause confusion for future property owners, lenders, title companies, or the Village.

**Adoption of Resolution 2026-02:** Correction of the tract of real property.

Motion by Stava, seconded by Benedict, all in favor Wilken, Frank, Benedict, Stava

Public Hearing to be held on March 31<sup>st</sup> at 6:30pm.

**Maintenance Report**

Chainsaw and Weed Eater are in need of repair or replacement. Trustee Stava will look for alternatives. A request was made to have a partial fencing around the public park. This would include along the streets of A, 4<sup>th</sup> and South. Funds would come from grants and Seward County Gives. Approximately 250' of fence. Motion to approve IF funds are raised; Stava, seconded by Benedict, all in favor Wilken, Frank, Stava, Benedict

**Maintenance Employee Review:** Chair Frank proposed a \$1.00 an hour raise for Maintenance employee, next review will be in August.

Motion by Wilken, seconded by Stava, all in favor, Benedict, Stava, Wilken, Frank

**Clerk Report:**

Grant application was submitted on Feb. 13<sup>th</sup> for the Water Tower.

**Clerk Annual Review:** Trustee Wilken proposed a \$1.00 raise to the Village Clerk/Treasurer.

Motion by Stava, seconded by Frank, all in favor, Wilken, Stava, Benedict, Frank

**Trustee Wilken:**

Mentioned that the Village has a membership with the county Solid Waste Management, after research this does not benefit the Village of Staplehurst. Wilken proposed we cancel our membership.

Motion by Stava, seconded by Benedict, all in favor, Frank, Wilken, Stava, Benedict

**Residents Comments:**

None

**Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by Stava, seconded by Benedict. All in favor: Wilken, Frank, Stava, Benedict. Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

**Next Meeting, March 31<sup>st</sup> at 7pm**

Respectfully submitted,  
Bobbi McVey-Blath  
Village Clerk