



Village of Staplehurst

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VILLAGE OF STAPLEHURST

MEETING MINUTES, June 30th, 2026

The Village Board of Trustees met in regular session on June 30th, 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.

Co-Chair Wilken 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.

Roll Call:

Present: Co-Chair Wilken, Trustees Stava, Benedict, Novotny

Resignation of Chairperson Deb Frank from Board:

A letter dated June 25th, 2026 from Deb Frank was presented to board members. Due to Lottery/Gaming Commission attorneys, Deb Frank as owner of Good Ol Days cannot have a Keno license for her business and sit on the board. Her resignation was effective immediately.

Election of New Board Chairperson:

To replace Deb Frank, Trustee Stava nominated Trustee Wilken to Chairperson. Seconded by Novotny, all in favor, Benedict, Novotny, Stava.

Approval of Village Claims

The Clerk presented claims for the period of May 27, 2026 through June 30, 2026. Claims totaling \$29,079.11 were presented as follows: Staplehurst Volunteer Fire Department \$16,536.36 (State Mutual Assistance Act Grant reimbursement, FD workers comp insurance); Travelers RMD \$1,409.00 (FD workers comp insurance); Chris Eckles \$400.00 (May health insurance reimbursement); Farmers Cooperative \$78.24 (E15 gas); Midwest Laboratories, Inc. \$141.85 (May effluent test); Farmers Cooperative \$99.74 (gas, 24 gallons); Crouchs Farm and Hardware \$76.02 (prayer, pump, chain oil, bleach); Seward County Independent \$32.39 (legal minutes, April); Summit Fire Protection \$167.71 (annual inspection, extinguishers); Constellation NewEnergy-Gas \$44.75 (200 A Street); Northeast Neb Tele Co \$59.31 (monthly phone bill); Black Hills Energy \$193.84 (155 S. 3rd); Svehla Law Offices, P.C. \$68.00 (Keno correspondence); Waste Connections of Nebraska \$140.11 (monthly garbage pickup, 200 A Street, 759 A Street); RK Bookkeeping LLC \$300.00 (pre-payments, aging report assistance); Nebraska Department of Revenue \$100.00 (Keno license fee); RK Bookkeeping LLC \$150.00 (Sage consulting, GL correction review, invoice printing); Chris Eckles \$523.09 (hotel, meals for training, mileage for training); Farmers Cooperative \$207.84 (SNL E-15, Roadmaster clear diesel); Chris Eckles \$400.00 (June health insurance reimbursement, mileage for water treatment); Staples \$473.71 (printer cartridges x4); Norris Public Power District \$1,317.45 (city well, village/FD, town shop, city well, ball diamond lights, ball diamond well, sewer, sewer plant, ball park restrooms, streetlights, town shop); Post Office \$66.30 (invoice postage, June); Chris Eckles \$2,437.49 (gross wages May 13 through May 28); Bobbi McVey-Blath

\$1,019.89 (June 1, 2026 payroll); Wayne Regnier \$585.30 (May gross pay); Chris Eckles \$2,050.72 (gross wages May 29 through June 11).

Motion to approve Stava, seconded by Benedict, all in favor, Wilken, Novotny

Sheriff's Department Report

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

Fire Department Claims

Fire Department claims were presented for June, 2026. Claims totaling \$1,448.48 were presented as follows: Phase \$259.00 (Supplies-EMS), Battery Junction \$86.08 (Maintenance-Fire), Summit Fire Protection \$563.40 (Maintenance-Fire), NSVFA \$540.00 (Annual Membership Dues) Motion to approve Stava, seconded by Novotny, all in favor Wilken, Benedict

Fire Department Report

3 rescue/1 mutual aid for Bee. A new fire fighter has been brought on board. Annual insurance for commercial auto, general liability, property, equipment floater, liquor liability, and commercial umbrella was presented in the amount of \$12,961. Motion to approve that annual payment Novotny, seconded by Stava, all in favor Benedict, Wilken.

Alicia McVey/Greg Hampton

Alicia stated that they will be fixing sewer issues which is in the alley and may impact drivability. Trustee Stava said it would not be an issue and to begin whenever they were ready.

Miller & Associates-Water Tower:

Reed Miller mentioned that they will send the soil samples to both the EPA and DWEE for review. NPPD will set another pole for single phase power to new tower. M&E will begin looking for bidders for construction.

Maintenance Report

Stu Daehling will receive asphalt on the side of his building to pay for mowing coverage between maintenance employees. White rock will be ordered from Birkle. Gravel will be provided to some areas that are not in an easement. Seward has extra paint and offered to help paint the parking lines on main street. The Fire Department will help power wash the street prior to painting. Road closed signs and notice will be provided. A bid for \$20,147 from JR's Digging was presented to help the draining in alley behind post office, bar & residents. Trustee Stava asked for another bid for comparison. This will be added to July's agenda for review. 7th & C culvert to be fixed. A newer maintenance pickup truck is still being viewed by board.

Clerk Report:

Both properties at 150th and 400 A have been rectified and in the process of tear down and/or repair. Notification letters will be sent to the owner of two vacant properties located at 135 S. 5th Street and 435 A Street, allowing 60 days for the owner to respond with a plan of action for both properties.

The board agreed to a Statement of Work contract with RKBookkeeping to get the books caught up for this fiscal year in the amount of ~\$2400.00, this will allow for partners GBE to perform audits as needed. CD Renewal at a rate 3.85%APY for 9 months.

Resolution 2026-06 approving DSFrank, LLC dba Good Ol Days as a Keno Sales Outlet. Motioned to approve by Benedict, seconded by Novotny, all in favor, Stava, Wilken.

Two open board seats will come available in November.

Two ordinances were presented to board to discuss Rooters in town. The board is reaching out the village attorney to ask about the process of removing roosters from city limits. This will be on the July agenda. The stop sign at 3rd and A will be moved a few feet to west.

Residents Comments:

Roger Anderson offered to help paint the shed by the current water tower.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Stava, seconded by Benedict. All in favor: Wilken, Benedict, Novotny
Meeting adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

Next Meeting, July 28th at 7pm

Village Clerk, Bobbi McVey-Blath