

**VILLAGE OF UNION
MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 12, 2007**

The Union Village Board met in regular session on Dec 12, 2007. The meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m. at the ALA hall. The Open Meeting Laws are displayed. On roll call: McClane, Brown, Wingett & Trull were present, & Kahland was absent. Angela Minihan, representing Reinsch, Slattery & Bear, PC, LLO, was also present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved with correcting the term health committee to health board, with a motion made by Trull & 2nd by Brown. Trustee votes are as follows: McClane – Aye, Brown – Aye, Wingett - Aye & Trull – Aye. Kahland was absent. Motion approved.

Claims & Accounts were presented separately. Motion to approve made by Trull & 2nd by Wingett. Trustee votes are as follows: McClane – Aye, Brown – Aye, Wingett - Aye & Trull – Aye. Kahland was absent. Motion approved.

**CLAIMS & ACCOUNTS
December 12, 2007**

NPPD	FIREBARN*	\$51.57	
	AREA LIGHT RENTAL	\$8.76	
	BALLFIELD**	\$35.28	
	WATER PUMP	\$343.72	
FIREBARN (TOWN BLDG)		\$15.79	
NEW TOWER (WATER)		\$20.43	
	TRAFFIC LIGHT	\$15.79	
	AREA LIGHT RENTAL	\$6.85	
	STREETLIGHTS	\$389.50	
	NEW SEWER PUMP	\$91.30	
	ALA HALL	\$27.30	
	CABOOSE	\$15.79	
REINSCH, SLATTERY & BEAR		\$249.40	
NE PUBLIC HEALTH ENV LAB		\$8.00	WATER TESTS
	ALLIED REFUSE	\$1,184.41	
GREAT PLAINS ONE-CALL		\$1.01	
WINDSTREAM OFFICE		\$57.36	
	WINDSTREAM FIRE	\$82.69	
	DEB MCWHA	\$415.58	
JOHNSONS GAS N GO		\$276.96	

WATKINS TRUE VALUE	\$82.37	
LEAGUE OF MUNICIPALITIES	\$230.00	Annual Membership dues
DANA COLE & CO.	\$1,872.36	audit
AMERITAS	\$2,520.00	Interest for highway bonds
STEVE MCWHA	\$1,301.03	Salary
TERRY McCLANE	\$290.00	Trustee & chmn pay 10 meetings
HAROLD TRULL	\$250.00	Trustee pay 10 meetings
MERI MEREDITH	\$245.00	Chmn pay 7 meetings
KAREN KAHLAND	\$125.00	Trustee pay 5 meetings
GAILLE BROWN	\$250.00	Trustee pay 10 meetings
CHARLES WINGETT	\$50.00	Trustee pay 2 meetings
GLENN WOLFE	\$50.00	Trustee pay 2 meetings
NE DHHS	\$272.00	App. Fee, course & books for water training

Village manager's report included the water usage for the month was 898,000 gallons, approximately 29,000 gallons per day. The sewer pumps ran for 83 hours. All water tests were good. Steve went to Grand Island the 28th to 30th November for water training. He got his test results scoring 96% out of 100%. Steve said it was good training & he made a lot of contacts. The village is eligible to apply to the Nebraska Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS) for reimbursement of the class fee, travel & meals. Clerk will fill out the forms & get them sent out. Motion to approve \$131.79 (mileage reimbursement) was made by Brown & 2nd by Wingett. Trustee votes are as follows: McClane – Aye, Brown – Aye, Wingett - Aye & Trull – Aye. Kahland was absent. Motion approved. He has been plowing snow & is still working on plowing the alleys. Larry Hathaway from Lake Waconda has assisted by spreading melting agents on the public roads. He has refused re-imbursement. While trying to spread ice-melt on the sidewalks, the spreader fell apart. Steve has a new spreader still boxed, so he used it on the sidewalks. When they are available at the stores, the village will replace it.

Fire/Rescue Report. In Nov & Dec there were 2 fire & 4 rescue calls. Brown asked if the rescue is in our jurisdiction but another squad transports, who gets the payment? DeeDee Brazzle stated that the transporting squad gets the payment.

Water/sewer/trash bills were discussed. The clerk asked if the village board would approve delaying the payment requirements for the accounts in arrears for this month due to the holiday season. The clerk will send letters

to the accounts with a suggested payment on a motion made by Brown & 2nd by Wingett. Trustee votes are as follows: McClane – Aye, Brown – Aye, Wingett - Aye & Trull – Aye. Kahland was absent. Motion approved.

Problem properties were discussed. The village received information from the legal representative for the Pickens property. No word yet on the Kinnison property.

Clerk discussed the cost of a liquor license. The state dictates \$300.00 per year for a Class C license & the village is authorized to double that which has been done in the past. The clerk suggested making a change to that policy. The suggestion was to charge only \$50.00 over what the state requires for administrative costs such as running an ad in the newspaper, etc. Motion to approve made by Trull & 2nd by Wingett. Trustee votes are as follows: McClane – Aye, Trull – Aye, Wingett – Aye, and Brown – abstained, Kahland – absent. Motion approved.

The Health Board appointment of Lily Wolfe was opened for discussion. Wolfe volunteered for the job & wants to remain on it. McClane told Wolfe he wants her on the Main St committee not the health board. Wolfe asked why McClane doesn't want her since she is volunteering. McClane stated that the relationship between her family & some other residents might cause problems. McClane went to Wolfe's home to discuss his error in appointing her to the health board. Wolfe said that it was unfair for McClane to do that without any other board members. McClane told her that he didn't think the other board members wanted her as part of the health board. McClane also said that since Wolfe wasn't at the Nov 2007 board meeting, that she would need to be reappointed. Angie stated that Wolfe didn't need to be at the last board meeting & for her to be removed, the board members would have to vote her off. Trull stated that it was unfair of McClane to assume the board members would not support Wolfe's appointment & calls point to order to get the meeting back on track. Against McClane's wishes, the board members did not vote to remove Wolfe. Amy Seyler, the other health board member, commented that they do not have the authority to go out on their own to identify problems, that the village board directs their actions.

McClane appointed Chuck Wingett & Amy Seyler to the Main St Building Committee. Clerk needs to send the information to Angie for the Main St Building Resolution. Will have it on the next agenda for the Jan 2008 meeting.

The invoice dates on the water tower maintenance contract with Utility Services, Inc needed to be changed to reflect payments to be made on the fiscal year rather than calendar year. Motion to approve change & authorize McClane to sign was made by Wingett & 2nd by Trull. Trustee votes are as follows: McClane – Aye, Brown – Aye, Wingett - Aye & Trull – Aye. Kahland was absent. Motion approved.

Gaille Brown wanted to discuss flooding one of the lots in the park area for the children in the village to use for skating & sledding. She suggested using the snow as a berm & flood the rest with water. Angie stated that it's a huge liability for the village. This subject is in front of the Supreme Court & many other recreational areas used for this that has been closed. She does not recommend the village take on this liability. The clerk will put notices on the water bills letting residents know that sledding on village property & roads are not permitted & the village will not be responsible for injuries or damages.

At the October board meeting, the village board did not specify approval of the 1% increase of our budget. Motion to approve 1% increase was made by Trull & 2nd by Brown. Trustee votes are as follows: McClane – Aye, Brown – Aye, Wingett - Aye & Trull – Aye. Kahland was absent. Motion approved.

The village board discussed the clerk's wages. McWha is currently paid a salary of \$450.00 per month. McClane recommended an increase of \$200.00 a month stating if they had to hire another clerk, it would be much more expensive as most clerks earn \$12.00 to \$15.00 per hour. McClane stated that McWha also does more than she is required & has not had a pay raise in 5 years. Motion to approve raise effective Jan 2008 was made by Brown & 2nd by Wingett. Trustee votes are as follows: McClane – Aye, Brown – Aye, Wingett - Aye & Trull – Aye. Kahland was absent. Motion approved.

McClane opened the discussion about replacing the Union rescue squad. The current squad has been breaking down on a regular basis & is not reliable. It doesn't always start, runs rough & has difficulty going uphill. They have had other squads meet them to insure the patient would be treated properly. Nehawka has received a grant to purchase a new squad so they are offering a 1997 Ford squad for sale for \$35,000.00. The squad has a diesel engine, is in great condition, & has 21,000 miles on it. The Union Fire Dept

purchased a squad for parts to try to repair our squad but it wasn't helpful. The clerk will contact the Rural Fire Dept as they share the cost of maintaining the rescue dept with the village, to ask if they would share the cost of replacing the squad. A motion to approve the purchase, which will require a bank loan, on the condition that the Rural Fire Dept agrees to pay half, was made by Wingett & 2nd by Brown. Trustee votes are as follows: McClane – Aye, Brown – Aye, Wingett - Aye & Trull – Aye. Kahland was absent. Motion approved.

DeeDee Brazzle wanted to discuss the condition of the mobile home on the corner of B St & 2nd St. She stated that it is not in a livable condition & needs to be removed. The owners are out of state & have offered to sell it but the price is too high. Brazzle was told to put her concerns in a letter to the village board, which will then assign it to the health board for inspection & their recommendations.

Motion to adjourn at 8:40 p.m. was made by Brown & 2nd by Wingett. Trustee votes are as follows: McClane – Aye, Brown – Aye, Wingett - Aye & Trull – Aye. Kahland was absent. Motion approved.

Next regular board meeting to be held January 9, 2008 at 7:00 pm at the ALA Hall.

Terry McClane
Chairman