

**VILLAGE OF GARLAND**  
**GARLAND, NEBRASKA 68360**  
**Regular Meeting – February 1, 2022 – 7:00P.M.**

1. **Pledge:** The meeting was opened by saying the pledge of allegiance.
2. **Call meeting to order/roll call:** Marilyn Patsch called the meeting to order. Present: Rachel Jamison, Jeremy Lewis, Jake Bennett, Jason Swerczek, and Marilyn Patsch. Absent: none.
3. **Minutes:** Motion by Lewis to waive the reading of the minutes to the January 4, 2022 regular meeting. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Swerczek. All aye. Motion by Lewis to accept and approve these minutes. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Swerczek. All aye.
4. **Claims:** Motion by Lewis to waive the reading of the claims with the additions. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jamison. All aye. Motion by Lewis to approve and pay these claims with the additions. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Swerczek. All aye.
5. **Joel Ludwig – Planning Commission:** 389 4<sup>th</sup> Street – discussion of setbacks, survey should be done for accuracy.  
300 Nash Street – discussion of RV being lived in at this property, there is no issue with the code for this because it is a residential property.  
141 Ryan Street – fence variance discussed; project not planned at this time.  
Ludwig was voted in at the last meeting to be the Planning Commission Chairman for another year (2022).  
The Planning Commission is planning on having a meeting this month to work on updating the current Municipal Code Book.
6. **Wayne Regnier – Water/Sewer/Maintenance:** Street: Al Meyer repaired the radiator on the grader. Regnier ordering street signs to have in stock and to replace existing street signs that need it. Water: 189 Frazier Street new meter was activated by Ulrich and Regnier gave to the contractor to install - Ulrich got a blank read today. 1903 Old Mill Road/3<sup>rd</sup> & Nash - Regnier has been reading the meter and giving the reading to Ulrich for the last 7 months, as the meter is not able to be read because the address being used is the same as the other residence on the same property. Ulrich has sent a letter to the residents September 2021 stating that Seward County Zoning requires proof of residency before addressing. Ulrich has not received a response. Ulrich is to let Swerczek know if state inspection or just an electrician is required so that he can talk to them. Sewer: Regnier got the MAP report back regarding the infiltration to the sewer system - he will mark up a map to show where the most smoke showed up. He has been trimming trees at the lagoon. Park: Replaced the water heater heating element at the park restroom. Bank: Rented a steam cleaner to clean the carpet. There was discussion to look for a vacuum on sale to purchase for the Bank.
7. **Old Business - ARPA funding request application update:** Miller & Associates wants to verify that the Board is still wanting to subtract the \$10,000.00 from the total amount of funding due to a project that is pending from Sargent Drilling. The Board agreed.  
- **Village Ordinance regarding dogs running loose in the Village/Deputy Schulz to discuss:** Deputy Steve Schulz explained that he had been on a couple of calls regarding loose dogs in the Village. He typically finds the dogs, locates the owners, has a stern talk, and the issue is usually corrected. If it is truly an accident, he will give them a verbal warning. If it is a recurring issue, he will issue a citation. If a dog is on their property, they do not have to be chained. If a dog is dangerous, the police need to be called. Rabies vaccine and a collar are required by state statute.
8. **Police Services Contract and Agreement between the Village of Garland and Seward County:** This item was not discussed. It will be an agenda item at the next Board meeting.
9. **Relocation of Garland Post Office - letter received from USPS Real Estate Specialist:** John Frederics is a Real Estate Specialist with the United States Postal Service. He sent the following letter: The United States Postal Service is considering relocating the retail services currently provided at the above-referenced Post Office to a new location within the city limits of Garland and within the 68360 -zip code. The Postal Service is considering relocation because of a space deficiency at the former location. Despite significant cost reductions, the postal Service continues to experience net loss as mail volume continues to decline because of increased electronic communication. As a self-supporting government establishment that receives no tax dollars for its operating expenses, the Postal Service must rely on the sale of postage, products and services to generate revenue. In the face of unsustainable deficits, the Postal Service must seek ways to cut costs, increase revenue and use its physical facilities as efficiently as possible. The relocation project will consist of procuring a suitable location, preparing the new location for use as a post office and then transitioning the retail services to the new location. The Postal Service will continue retail services at the current Post Office until the new post office is up and running. In undertaking this project, the Postal Service will complete a process set out in 39 C.F.R. \* 241.4 for soliciting and considering input from the community and local officials. As we are at the beginning of the process, I am offering to discuss the project with you. In our discussion,

I would address the specific need the Postal Service faces, outline the proposal that is under consideration, explain our process for soliciting and considering input from the affected community, and ask for input from you and other local officials regarding the proposal. If you would like to discuss the project, please contact me by February 19, 2022. We will send an initial news release outlining the proposal to one or more news media serving the community and post a copy of the information in the public lobby of the Post Office. Normally, at this point in the process, we would set up a public meeting to discuss the potential relocation with the community. But with the pandemic impacting communities, particularly as it relates to the guidance to reduce public gatherings, the usual process of holding a community meeting to discuss the planned retail relocation would be a risk for our employees and customers. Instead, the Postal Service will post the information required to be presented at the public meeting in the lobby of the current post office and mail a postcard to the community. In this posting, the Postal Service will identify the specific need the Postal Service faces, outline the proposal to meet the need through relocation, solicit written input on the proposal, and provide an address to which the community and local officials may send written appeals of the tentative decision and comments on the proposal. Appeals and comments will be accepted for a period of 30 days following the posting. After the 30-day comment and appeal period, the Postal Service will consider the comments and appeals received that identify reasons why the Postal Services' tentative decision and proposal is, or is not, the optimal solution for the identified need. Following that consideration, the Postal Service will inform you in writing of its final decision, send a news release announcing the final decision to local news media and post a copy of the information in the public lobby of the Post Office. The Postal Service then will implement the final decision. If the Postal Service decides to use a site or area that it did not identify in the posting then our regulation generally requires the Postal Service to return to the posting stage of the process to provide new information regarding the new site or area. We look forward to working with you and your staff as this project develops. The Board would like to see the USPS go through their steps and see what happens. The NPPD Round Up Program would be nice to be used on a roof for the PO Box area. Regnier is to get pricing put together for this.

10. **Bob Birkett/110 2<sup>nd</sup> Street - violation of Village Ordinance and recent court appearance:** Lewis reported that he went to court on January 19, 2022 with Bob Birkett. Birkett pleaded guilty and the next court date for sentencing will be on April 6, 2022. If Birkett gets thing cleaned up then he will be issued a minimal fine, if not, then he will get up to \$500.00 per day/per offense. Birkett says he would like guidance from the Board. The Board gave him direction on needing to remove items and not just reorganize them and to get things out of the back yard now. The fence he has put up needs a permit, Birkett says it was for leaves and is removable, the Board would like a permit or for it to be removed. Lewis will take photos before the next Board meeting for the Board to review.
11. **Wayne Regnier - Street Maintenance Program:** Ulrich is to get the Request for Proposals ready for review by the Board. Items to be included are: street repairs, seal coating, annual crack sealing, annual review/report.
12. **Low Income Household Water Assistance Program (LHWAP):** The Board agreed that the Village should sign up for this program. This program will be able to help with the water and sewer bill for residents.
13. **Village Google Calendar:** There was discussion on who wants to use the calendar, merging it on to the website.
- 14.
- 15.
16. **Announcements:** There were no announcements.
17. **Adjournment:** Motion by Lewis to adjourn the meeting. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bennett. All aye. Meeting was adjourned at 8:13pm.

  
Village Clerk/Treasurer