

**ITEM 1 Call to Order: 6:00 p.m.**

**ITEM 2 Roll Call: Mayor Gibson, Trustee Billings, Trustee Brady, Trustee Cooper, Trustee McVey, Trustee West, Trustee Wittler.**

**Present: Mayor Gibson, Trustee Brady, Trustee Billings, Trustee Cooper, Trustee McVey, Trustee West, Trustee Wittler (joined meeting at 6:36 pm).**

**Phone/Computer: Trustee West (by phone)**

**Absent: Trustee Wittler (joined meeting at 6:36 pm)**

**Guest Present: Lexie Brooks, Stuart Eskew, Bill Brooks, Ray Schmidt**

**Staff Present: Merna McGinnis, Town Manager  
Tammy Newman, Town Clerk  
Heath Piper, Electric Superintendent  
Mike Ingle, Water/Sewer Superintendent  
Don Steerman, Town Attorney  
Clay Klipfel, Police Chief  
Derek Salano, Police Sergeant (joined meeting at 6:29 pm)**

**ITEM 3 Pledge of Allegiance, led by Mayor Gibson**

**ITEM 4 Prayer, led by Trustee West**

**Amendment to the agenda ITEM 5 should say October 18, instead of October 13.**

Trustee McVey made motion to amend agenda item #5 to say approve minutes of the October 18, Board of Trustees' Regular Meeting. Second by Trustee Billings.

Motion Passed

**ITEM 5 Approve Minutes of the October 18, Board of Trustee's Regular Meeting.**

Trustee Brady made motion to approve October 18, regular meeting minutes. Seconded by Trustee McVey.

Motion Passed.

**ITEM 6 Approve Bills**

Trustee McVey directed a question to Mr. Piper about a crimper that cost over \$2,000.00 for the electrical department. Mr. Piper stated that it is a battery-operated crimper to replace the one that quit working.

Trustee Cooper made motion to approve bills as presented. Second by Trustee Billings.

Motion Passed

Ms. McGinnis asked to pay the Steerman Law office professional services invoice for \$3,526.75, that was received after bills were processed.

Trustee Cooper made motion to pay Steerman Law invoice for professional services. Second by Trustee McVey.

Motion Passed.

**ITEM 7 Public Comment for Non-Agenda Items**

*Anyone who would like to address the Board of Trustees on any matter other than an agenda item will be given an opportunity, 3-minute time limit each person after signing the roster.*

Ray Schmidt has purchased late property taxes on 1213 Santa Fe, he wanted to know if the town would forgive the cleanup fees that has been done on the property earlier this year around \$1,500.00. Attorney Steerman advised the board that if cleanup fee has already been assessed to the property, the fee could be rebated after a period with contingencies, but could not be forgiven at this point.

Tabled for next meeting. Attorney Steerman will have a resolution drafted for board to review, for rebates on fees imposed on property taxes.

**ITEM 8 Cobblestone Update**

Stuart Eskew and Bill Brooks

Cobblestone Hotel opened Friday November 4th; Mr. Eskew had purchased property 17 years ago with the vision of having a hotel on the property. Has been a group effort between investors, county, and town to get the hotel going. Construction has helped several businesses thought out the county from workers that had jobs working on hotel to the businesses that workers spent money at in town. The road to the hotel has been paved to second driveway to the east on Trevor Way (\$173,060.00), and has 260 foot left to Ty Road and the cost will be \$50,000.00 to finish. In the incentive agreement the frontage road and Trevor Way was to be paved and town would reimburse \$75,000.00. Trustee Cooper stated he has been one of the biggest supporters of the hotel from the start but after emails and conversations with BriMark and the way they wanted to sue town after BriMark had known from before starting the building that they would have to go through the state for the plumbing and electrical inspections, the Town must follow the incentive agreement. Agreement was originally made between the Town of Springfield and Cobblestone the investors are the ones whom the agreement fell to fulfill. Town either finish the Trevor Way for \$50,000.00 and reimburse the investors the \$25,000.00, or can reimburse to the investors \$75,000.00 once the incentive agreement has been fulfilled.

Mayor Gibson suggested a meeting with mayor, trustee Cooper, Ms. McGinnis, Ms. Newman, Mr. Brooks, Mr. Eskew to investigate what needs to be done, either end of this week or next week?

Town will investigate a Ready Grant, and visit with Cheryl Sanchez, with Baca County Economic Development.

Mr. Piper has a conference call with ARPA tomorrow on a company funding EV charger.

Mr. Brooks and Mr. Eskew left the meeting at 6:55 pm.

**ITEM 9 2022 Charge Offs**

Trustee Brady made motion to approve past due 2022 charge offs as presented. Second by Trustee Wittler.

Yes: Trustees Brady, Billings, Cooper, McVey, West, Wittler, Mayor Gibson

No: None

Motion Passed

**ITEM 10 Landfill EDOP**

Miller Engineers-Professional Service Agreement Amendment No. 6

Trustee Cooper made motion to approve Miller Engineers-Professional Service Agreement Amendment No. 6 as presented to add \$7,500.00 to the contract. Second by Trustee Billings.

Yes: Trustees Brady, Billings, Cooper, McVey, West, Wittler, Mayor Gibson

No: None

Motion Passed

## **ITEM 11 CIRSA-Insurance Options:**

1. Volunteer Accident Medical Plan 2023 Program Plan Information and application Form
2. Occupational Accident Death and Dismemberment 2023 Renewal Acceptance/Rejection Quotation Form
3. Excess Crime 2023 Renewal Quote, Acceptance Form and Plan Information
4. Equipment Breakdown 2023 Renewal Quote, Acceptance Form and Plan Information
5. Community Service Worker's Accident Medical Plan 2023 Program Plan Information and Application Form

Trustee McVey made motion to approve CIRSA Insurance Options 1-5 as presented. Seconded by Trustee Billings.

Yes: Trustees Brady, Billings, Cooper, McVey, West, Wittler, Mayor Gibson

No: None

Motion Passed.

## **ITEM 12 General Business**

### **A. 2023 Holiday Schedule**

Trustee Brady made motion to approve 2023 Holiday Schedule as presented. Seconded by Trustee Billings.

Yes: Trustees Brady, Billings, McVey, West, Wittler, Mayor Gibson

No: Trustee Cooper

Motion Passed.

### **B. Kestrel Housing Update**

#### **1. Alley Plat for Kestrel Addition-Tabled from October 18, regular board meeting.**

Discussion on platting alley now or wait until next subdivision is platted. West side of town needs engineered to get better water pressure to existing and future customers. Utility easement does not give residents access to use the property. Even with utility easement must follow setbacks set by town.

Trustees would like to see state paperwork for electrical and plumbing. Lots of concerns about the construction of the buildings. Send list of concerns to the mayor so can be forwarded to Michael Yerman for clarification.

Trustee Billings and Trustee Wittler will do a walk through with building company to go over concerns.

### **C. Ayres Main Street Update**

Main street project has been completed and have received final payment.

### **C. House Bill 21-1162- "Plastic Pollution Reduction Act"**

Jan 1, 2023 .10 per bag fee at retail businesses will go into effect. Awful written bill with no clear direction, education, and collection of fees.

Ms. McGinnis asked if town should purchase reusable bags and distribute out to residents. Can get 1,000 bags cost around \$1,400.00. Could just educate customers on .10 per bag.

### **E. S.E. & E.C. Recycling Association**

Increasing recycling fees from .17 to .20 per month per capita adding \$455.40 per year.

### **F. Landfill**

No discussion

## **ITEM 13 Administrative Reports**

### **Merna McGinnis, Town Manager/ Treasurer:**

Budget meetings there was discussion to purchase 20' trailer from Mr. Piper for \$8,250.00 we need to have a motion to purchase the trailer.

Trustee Cooper made motion to purchase 20 trailer \$8,250.00. Second by Trustee Wittler.

Yes: Trustees Brady, Billings, Cooper, McVey, West, Wittler, Mayor Gibson

No: None

Motion Passed.

CDPHE will pay for landfill well monitoring fees through 2023. May have to start paying in 2024.

Hand out was given to Trustees on government transparency on social media, archiving social media for CORA requests. May have to look at ADA law that is coming down the pike and how we will handle that.

Changed from Centurylink to Viaero on the Swimming pool phone line. Phone number was ported over to a cell phone and will cost 30.00 first month then suspended when not in use for off season will cost \$1.92 a month then during summer will cost around the \$30.00 a month.

Sales tax for this month was \$55,093.95.

Annual Christmas Party Friday December 2, 2022, 6:00 pm. at the electric shop.

Insurance broker has bid our health insurance out to other insurance company's. Only get 1 to 2 percent cost savings for every \$500.00 in addition to your deductible, would help make up the difference.

**Heath Piper, Electric Superintendent:**

Transformer finally showed up for the school, so will be getting that installed.

Have a meeting on the EV charging stations town can buy or consumer can buy.

**Mike Ingle, Water/Wastewater Superintendent:**

Turned roof on well 7 into insurance as wind was taking the roof off, rafters and all.

**Tammy Newman, Town Clerk:**

Ms. Newman gave a report on grants: applied for \$50,000.00 with the Bernard Neill foundation.

Still waiting on contract with CPW LWCF on grant funding.

Sammie George (GOCO) has arranged a phone meeting with Kristen May, Grant Copy writer that has worked with GOCO in the past, for 11.15.2022 to see what she fee she charges to help with the GOCO process.

Baca County Economic Development is doing the shop small season again this year running from Friday, November 25 to Wednesday December 21, 2022. Spend \$25.00 at participating stores get one token, once get four tokens bring them to town hall for \$20.00 in Baca Bucks to spend at participating stores, and have until January 31, 2023 to get Baca Bucks spent.

**Don Steerman, Town Attorney:**

Working with Chief Klipfel to get municipal traffic model code updated, hope to have ordinance ready by next month.

Have 6 attorney letters to land owners hope we do not have to file 6 abatement warrants, but several are repeat offenders.

Mayor Gibson asked about working on condemnation on buildings around town.

Trustee Cooper asked about looking into removing building inspector from code, wanting to get the liability off the town. Moving to the 2018 building code, from the 2006 code, or wording as 2006 or newer? To change would have to be by ordinance.

**Clay Klipfel, Police Department:**

Mr. Klipfel introduced Sargent Derek Solano to the trustees.

Worked on all known warrant checks for the town of Springfield, all were found and apprehended.

Need to purchase another case of Tazer cartridges.

Went over October police report handed out to the trustees.

Will need purchase two thermo printers for the new system this year.

Bent County may have a light bar they will give us.

Trustee Cooper reported that Manager from Loaf N Jug gave a compliment on Sargent Salano, on the very professional job he did escorting someone out of the store.

**ITEM 14 Mayor and Trustee Reports**

Merna McGinnis turned in retirement and resigning letter effective June 30, 2023, after 30 years of service, but would be up to working part time to help.

Trustee Cooper made motion to accept Merna McGinnis letter of resignation effective June 30, 2023. Seconded by Trustee McVey. Motion Passed

Board thanked Merna for her 30 years of service.

Need to have another meeting to finish up budget. Thursday November 17, 2022 at 5:30 pm.

Trustee Wittler asked about snow removable process and can there be some education on where the snow can be piled somewhere else besides the town sidewalks and town roadways that obstructs views. Trustee West stated snow piles are an issue for home owners and businesses. Ms. McGinnis and Chief Klipfel can handle the issue.

**ITEM 15 Adjournment**

Trustee McVey made motion to adjourn at 9:00 pm. Seconded by Trustee Wittler. Motion Passed.

**Next Regular BOT Meeting December 8, 2022, 6:00 PM**