

VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 21, 2026

Opening prayer by Sophia Custer.

Peterson called the Regular meeting to order at 6:00 pm in the Ceresco Community Room. Board Members were given the agenda and supporting documents. Notices were posted at the Village Office, Ceresco Post Office and CerescoBank. Peterson pointed out the Open Meetings Act posted on the wall of the Community Room.

Answering roll call: Peterson, Burkland, and Custer. Tardy: Ruble and Johnson. Also present: Zayden Frye, Alyssa Grundin, Alexis Faimer, Elijah Ehlers, Brooklynn Benes, Nancy Witters, Chilton Leedom, Cindy Welsh, Brian Roland, Lynn Maxson, and Joan Lindgren.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Ruble moved to accept the March 17th minutes. Custer seconded. Voting Yeas: Ruble, Custer, Johnson, Burkland, and Peterson. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Leedom reviewed the Police Report, including TNR receiving cooperation, but slowly.

The Board agreed to update the cat ordinances, and send ordinances suggested by TNR to the attorney for review.

Roland reviewed: **1)** Flushing hydrants tomorrow. **2)** Low water pressure for some residents. **3)** Generator for water tower purchased. **4)** Huge trees at compost site. Hofeling will be contacted. **5)** Cardboard and metal dumpsters overfilling. **6)** Drought concerns. Water restrictions will continue with the odd and even days matching the address. **7)** Quality Water Report. **8)** Efficiency testing of wells. Well #6 is showing signs of plugging and should be pulled for maintenance. **9)** Splash pad warranty. It will be tested, and the contractor contacted for repairs, including the pipe that leaked when it was installed. **10)** Street potholes. **11)** Lead and copper potholing. The west side of town has been signed off by Dave Burkland, verifying copper was installed, as he was present during construction. **12)** Lead and copper sampling. **13)** Health insurance bids.

Discussion held on the health insurance bids. Employees have agreed to LIGHT PPO Option 3, which will increase their deductible, but will not increase the Village premium.

Peterson moved to go with LIGHT PPO Option 3 as the employees would like to go with. Ruble seconded. Burkland questioned splitting Option 2 with the employees. Voting Yeas: Peterson, Ruble, Johnson, and Custer. Nays: Burkland. Motion carried.

Peterson noted that part time help will be discussed at the end.

Burkland moved to accept the resignation of Brad Custer as assistant building inspector. Peterson seconded. Voting Yeas: Burkland, Peterson, Custer, Ruble, and Johnson. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Peterson moved to approve the Building Inspector report as presented. Ruble seconded. Voting Yeas: Peterson, Ruble, Burkland, Custer, and Johnson. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Peterson moved to approve the report for the Zoning Administrator as presented. Ruble seconded. Voting Yeas: Peterson, Ruble, Burkland, Custer, and Johnson. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Right-of-way obstructions at Swanson Auto was discussed. Lindgren noted Darrel Swanson called regarding some health issues and he'll get the cars moved as soon as he can. Discussion continued.

Ruble made a motion to move forward with a letter from the attorney to Darrel Swanson about the vehicles in the right-of-way. Custer seconded. Voting Yeas: Ruble, Custer, Johnson, Burkland, and Peterson. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Burkland questioned the sales tax funds, back up funds, and a loan at CerescoBank. Discussion held. The accountant will be contacted for clarification. Burkland questioned the capital outlay of \$1,074,000.

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Peterson moved to approve the Treasurers Report as presented. Ruble seconded. Voting Yeas: Peterson, Ruble, Johnson, Burklund, and Custer. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Claims were reviewed. **Peterson moved to pay the claims as presented with the additional claims, except excluding the payroll claims. Ruble seconded.** Burklund questioned the Municipal Supply annual subscription. Lindgren noted it's for reading meters. **Voting Yeas: Peterson, Ruble, Custer, Burklund, and Johnson. Nays: none. Motion carried.** Approved claims: A&H Concrete \$2,300.00/gen; AFLAC \$355.68/ins; Ameritas Life \$26.21/ins; Blue Cross and Blue Shield \$3,031.68/ins; Brian Roland \$36.25/wat/sew; Bromm, Lindahl, ET AL \$439.50/gen; Card Services \$190.39/pol, gen, wat, sew, st; Cash \$49.83/gen, st; Ceresco FD \$925.00/fire; Delta Dental \$129.03/ins; DEMCO \$99.62/lib; FNBO \$545.69/gen, wat; FNBO \$1,299.99/wat; Frontier Coop \$247.60/fuel; Great Plain Uniforms \$122.00/pol; Guardian \$27.20/ins; Hergert Oil \$129.27/pol, sew; Hergert Oil \$129.27/pol, sew; Husker Electric \$53.40/lib; INGRAM \$280.07/lib; Jackson Services \$167.39/gen, sew, wat, fire; Jacob Robinson \$75.00/wat; JEO \$1,906.25/gen; Joan Lindgren \$140.29/gen; Johnson Service Co \$2,933.55/sew; Menards \$89.09/st, wat, prk; Midwest Labs \$206.12/sew; Municipal Supply of Omaha \$1,908.00/wat; National Sign Company \$129.66/st; NE Public Health \$30.00/wat; Neil Falk \$800.00/prk; OPPD \$5,588.58/elec; Otte Oil \$485.59/fire, gen, st, lib; Pest Solutions \$60.00/gen; Sam's Club \$85.57/wat, lib; Sargent Irrigation \$1,442.02/wat; Simons Home Store \$109.99; Small Engine Specialists \$53.94/prk; Ty's Outdoor Service \$190.65/prk; UNITI \$454.07/phones; Verizon \$169.80/phones; Vermeer High Plains \$600.00/wat; Wahoo Newspaper \$98.55/gen; Vermeer High Plains \$600.00/wat; Wahoo Auto Parts \$174.03/wat, sew; Waste Connections of NE \$8,027.04/trash; NE Dept of Revenue \$2,820.22/sales tax; Payroll Liabilities: American Funds Investment \$1,093.60; NE Dept of Revenue \$668.16; Payroll \$19,475.19; United States Treasury \$5,202.88

Peterson moved to pay the payroll claims. Ruble seconded. Voting Yeas: Peterson, Ruble, Johnson, and Burklund. Nays: none. Abstain: Custer. Motion carried.

Peterson questioned the Library minutes regarding the Sam's Club card. Lindgren noted she has received the Sam's Club card and a credit card she previously had when working for the town.

Peterson moved to approve the minutes for the Library as presented. Ruble seconded. Voting Yeas: Peterson, Ruble, Johnson, Burklund, and Custer. Nays: none. Motion carried.

The Library budget reallocation for wages was discussed. Lindgren noted they plan on the wage difference coming out of the operating expenses. Burklund said he thought the Friends of the Library agreed to pay part of the wages. Lindgren noted the Friends of the Library haven't been talked to yet. Burklund asked that the Library Board attend the next Board meeting. Board Members noted the only reason the Board increased the librarian pay is because the Friends of the Library was going to pay the difference in wages.

Custer noted the CYRA put the batting cage lights in and paid for it. Lindgren noted the Agreement and \$500 check were received today. Ruble asked who did the lights. Peterson requested verification of who installed the lights.

Burklund questioned the Raymond Central Agreement for the ballfield at the elementary school. Lindgren noted it continues until cancelled.

Peterson questioned the March 16th Fire Department minutes. Discussion held.

Peterson moved to approve the April 7th Fire Department minutes and also minutes from March 16th that are very vague, which will be included on the motion as well. Burklund seconded. Voting Yeas: Peterson, Burklund, Custer, Johnson, and Ruble. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Peterson noted he and Burklund met with a grant writer for the fire department land purchase and had a good meeting. The grant writer also does strategic planning. Discussion held. The Board agreed to get a cost on the strategic planning.

Burklund moved to approve the Celebrate Ceresco minutes. Peterson seconded. Voting Yeas: Burklund, Peterson, Custer, Ruble, and Johnson. Nays: none. Motion carried.

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Cost share of flags for Celebrate Ceresco was discussed. Gushard will hang the flags, and a police officer will assist along the highway.

Ruble moved to do the cost share of the flags with Celebrate Ceresco for \$1,215.90. Johnson seconded. Voting Yeas: Ruble, Johnson, Custer, Burkland, and Peterson. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Burkland reviewed the 2026 Elm Street Mill & Asphalt Overlay project. The coop parking area had only 1 ½ inch of asphalt on top of dirt with tree stumps. They dug it all out and put rock back down for a base and go back over it. The road was in worse shape than we thought. There was \$17,000 of patching, but there was \$9,000 in square foot overage. There was \$3,500 of rock that was needed for the Co-op parking. There was an extra \$10,000 just for the Co-op parking.

The One & Six Year Street Plan was reviewed. Adding 1st Street from Elm to Pine, estimate of \$18,000, and 1st Street Pine to Oak, estimate of \$14,000 to the One Year Street Plan was discussed. Adding areas of 2nd Street was discussed. Discussion held. Lindgren called the attorney for recommendation, but she didn't answer.

Lindgren reviewed: 1) Correspondence on LB400 not passing. 2) The amount for going out to bid changed from \$30,000 to \$90,000. Date of the change is not known yet. 3) Power outage on Easter. 4) Advertising America's 250th birthday information on the website and Facebook.

The Board agreed to post America's 250th birthday information on the website and Facebook.

Street discussion continued.

Ordinance 2026-1 now comes on for third reading. **AN ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF CERESCO, SAUNDERS COUNTY, NEBRASKA, TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 2020-2 OF THE VILLAGE OF CERESCO, NEBRASKA, KNOWN AND CITED AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF CERESCO, NEBRASKA, BY REMOVING 5.05.03.15 AND 7.16 AND AMENDING SECTION 4.13 ACCESSORY BUILDING AND USES IN PARTICULAR SUBSECTION 4.13.02; AND SECTIONS 5.07.05 AND 5.08.05 HEIGHT AND LOT REQUIREMENTS.**

WHEREUPON, Board Member Ruble moved that said Ordinance 2026-1 be approved by its third reading and its title agreed to. Board Member Johnson seconded this motion.

The Chair instructed the Clerk to call the roll for the vote thereon. The Clerk called the roll and the following was the vote on this motion. Yeas: Ruble, Johnson, Custer, Burkland, and Peterson. Nays: none.

WHEREUPON, the Chair declared that a majority of the members of the Board having voted in the affirmative for the passage and approval of said Ordinance No. 2026-1, the Chair declared Ordinance No. 2026-1 to have been duly passed and adopted as an Ordinance of the Village of Ceresco, Saunders County, Nebraska, and the Chair subscribed his name thereto, and the Clerk attested said signature of the Chair by subscribing her name thereto and affixing thereon the seal of the Village of Ceresco, Nebraska. The Chair then instructed the Clerk to publish Ordinance No. 2026-1 in the manner required by law, within fifteen (15) days after passage.

Resolution 2026-2 was introduced by Board Chair Peterson and is set forth in full as follows, to wit:

WHEREAS, certain municipalities and fire protection districts located in Saunders County, Nebraska desire to enter into an Interlocal cooperation agreement for the creation of a Mutual Finance Organization pursuant to Legislative Bill 1120, 1998;

WHEREAS, certain municipalities and fire protection districts located in Saunders County, Nebraska desire to enter into an Interlocal cooperation agreement for the creation of a Mutual Finance Organization pursuant to Legislative Bill 1120, 1998;

WHEREAS, the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement for a Mutual Finance Organization would be in the best interests of all participating members; and

WHEREAS, the members desire to enter into a written Interlocal Cooperation Agreement for a Mutual Finance Organization.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Ceresco, Nebraska:

Section 1. The Interlocal Cooperation Agreement for a Mutual Finance Organization is hereby approved, ratified and accepted, and the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Ceresco, hereby is authorized, directed and empowered to execute the same.

Section 2. The Interlocal Cooperation Agreement for a Mutual Finance Organization shall not establish a separate legal entity, but rather shall be a joint and cooperative undertaking between the members and that a joint board shall be responsible for administering this joint and cooperative undertaking.

Section 3. All resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict herewith are repealed.

Passed and Adopted this ____ day of _____.

ATTEST:

Clerk

Printed Name

Chairperson

Printed Name

WHEREUPON, Chairman Peterson moved that said Resolution No. 2026-2 be approved as presented. Board Member Ruble seconded this motion. No further discussion was required.

The Chair instructed the Clerk to call the roll for the vote thereon. The Clerk called the roll and the following was the vote on this motion. Yeas: Peterson, Ruble, Custer, Burklund, Johnson. Nays: none.

WHEREUPON, the Chair declared that the Motion having been approved by a majority of the votes cast, said Resolution 2026-2 is approved and adopted.

Resolution 2026-1 was reviewed. Ruble asked if the Village or County gets the fees, and questioned street games violation. Tabled for further clarification.

Resolution 2025-5 was tabled.

Peterson moved to enter into the Interlocal Agreement with Wahoo for Mosquito control. Discussion held. **Ruble seconded. Voting Yeas: Peterson, Ruble, Custer, Burklund, and Johnson. Nays: none. Motion carried.**

Cindy Welsh was present to discuss Ordinance 2026-3 with the Board. Language in Section 3-215: Barking and Offensive Dogs, and Section 3-224: Impoundment was reviewed.

Ordinance 2026-3 now comes on for second reading. AN ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF CERESCO, SAUNDERS COUNTY, NEBRASKA, TO UPDATE CHAPTER 3 TO BRING THE CODE INTO COMPLIANCE WITH STATE LAW; TO PROVIDE LIABILITY FOR DAMAGE DONE TO PERSONS AND PROPERTY; TO MODIFY ANIMAL-RELATED NUISANCES ALL CONTAINED IN THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF CERESCO, NEBRASKA.

WHEREUPON, Chairman Peterson moved that said Ordinance 2026-3 be approved upon its second reading with the changes of removing the “frightening” out of the Barking and Offensive Dogs section, leaving the 30 day period, and then down on Impoundment removing the “within the village” under Section G, and its title agreed to. Board Member Ruble seconded this motion.

The Chair instructed the Clerk to call the roll for the vote thereon. The Clerk called the roll and the following was the vote on this motion. Yeas: Peterson, Ruble, Custer, Johnson, and Burklund. Nays: none.

WHEREUPON, the Chair declared said Ordinance 2026-3 be approved with the changes of removing the “frightening” out of the Barking and Offensive Dogs section, leaving the 30 day period, and then down on Impoundment removing the “within the village” under Section G, on its second reading and its title agreed to and that the third reading of Ordinance 2026-3 be on the next Agenda of a meeting of the Board of Trustees.

Ruble moved to approve the NextLink Lease Amendment to cost share the generator for the water tower. Johnson seconded. Voting Yeas: Ruble, Johnson, Custer, Burklund, and Peterson. Nays: none. Motion carried.

The clerk didn't hear back from the attorney yet. Street discussion continued.

Peterson questioned the workmanship of the new steps off the kitchen.

Street discussion continued.

Burklund moved that we do this 2nd Street, Beech to Spruce, while Pavers are still in town for \$28,400. Ruble seconded. Voting Yeas: Burklund, Ruble, Johnson, and Custer. Nays: Peterson. Motion carried.

Burklund moved that if we can do maintenance on 1st Street Elm to Pine and 1st Street Pine to Oak, and do an overlay, and if the attorney says its OK, I make a motion to go ahead and do them two at \$14,000 for one and \$18,000 for the other, and amend the 1 & 6 Year Street Plan if we have to. Ruble seconded. Discussion held. Voting Yeas: none. Nays: Burklund, Ruble, Johnson, Custer, and Peterson. Motion failed.

Burklund moved to rescind his motion that we do this 2nd Street, Beech to Spruce, while Pavers are still in town for \$28,400.00. Ruble seconded. Voting Yeas: Burklund, Ruble, Johnson, Custer, and Peterson. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Street discussion continued.

Johnson moved that Plan A - to redo 2nd Street between Elm and Pine for \$58,000 even. And Plan B - is going to be between Beech and Spruce Street on 2nd Street for \$28,400, and then Plan B will have Elm to Pine on 1st Street for \$14,000, and then Pine until Oak on 1st Street for \$18,000. So if Plan A doesn't work out we go to Plan B. If Plan B is OK'd by the attorney and amending the 1 & 6 Year Street Plan. Burklund seconded. Voting Yeas: Johnson, Burklund, Ruble, Custer, and Peterson. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Village insurance was mentioned. Lindgren noted we are waiting for bids, but correspondence was received from LARM who said we currently have a pretty good policy, other than a few deductibles he would recommend changing.

Peterson moved to enter executive session to discuss personnel. Ruble seconded. Voting Yeas: Peterson, Ruble, Johnson, Custer, and Burklund. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Peterson said the purpose of the closed session is for the Board to discuss personnel and entered closed session at 8:50 PM.

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Peterson resumed Regular Session at 8:58 PM from the closed session for the Board to discuss personnel.

Peterson moved to hire part-time help of Gary Schultz and Tysen Taylor. Ruble seconded. Voting Yeas: Peterson, Ruble, Johnson, Custer, and Burklund.

Burklund moved that all hires come to the Village Board first. Ruble seconded. Voting Yeas: Burklund, Ruble, Custer, Johnson, and Peterson. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Ruble moved to adjourn at 9:00 PM. Burklund seconded. Voting Yeas: Ruble, Burklund, Custer, Johnson, and Peterson. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Scott Peterson, Chair
Joan Lindgren, Clerk