Village of Staplehurst
155 South 3rd PO Box 174
Staplehurst, NE 68439
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VILLAGE OF STAPLEHURST

MEETING MINUTES, Oct. 27th, 2026

The Village Board of Trustees met in regular session on Oct. 27th, 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.

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: Chair Wilken, Trustees Stava, Novotny-Absent Benedict

Approval of Village Claims
The Clerk presented claims for the period of October 1, 2026 through October 30, 2026. Claims totaling $24,869.77 were presented as follows: Chris Eckles $152.00 (mileage for samples, 90 miles on 9/16 and 110 miles on 9/22); Crouch's Farm and Hardware $59.98 (torch, shop); Farmers Cooperative $277.72 (truck and tractor fuel); Seward County Independent $476.25 (August minutes and September budget hearing legal publications); Seward Lumber $140.92 (bungee, sewage plant; asphalt and concrete, streets); Northeast Neb Tele Co $61.44 (monthly phone bill); Pac N Save $20.18 (bleach); Waste Connections of Nebraska $280.22 (dumpsters, South 3rd St. and ball field); Midwest Auto Parts Inc $59.29 (wiper blade and rain repellent, truck and tractor); GBE $3,750.00 (budget preparation for 2026-2027); John Deere Financial $358.01 (grease, filter elements, O-ring, fuel conditioner, oil filters, Cool-Gard and Hy-Gard); Constellation NewEnergy-Gas $14.65 (200 A St and 155 S 3rd gas); Farmers Cooperative $99.00 (E-15 fuel, truck); Midwest Laboratories, Inc. $428.57 (August and September monthly effluent testing); Black Hills Energy $226.96 (200 A St, 155 S 3rd, 759 A St); Svehla Law Offices, P.C. $254.05 (letters to Dobesh and Sheriff); Farmers Cooperative $88.75 (E-15 fuel, truck); RK Bookkeeping LLC $500.00 (August and September reconciliation, new general ledgers); JR's Water, Sewer & Septic $11,000.00 (locating culverts); Nebraska Public Health Environmental Lab $358.00 (coliform and EPA 515.3 routine testing); Reed Electric $411.00 (generator service); Farmers Cooperative $152.94 (25.92 gallons diesel); Chris Eckles $400.00 (October health insurance reimbursement); Nebraska Department of Revenue, Charitable Gaming Division $334.00 (keno tax, July through September 2026); Norris Public Power District $1,271.45 (220 A St shop, city well 100 N 2nd, village hall/FD, town shop, 8th St city well, ballfield lights, ball diamond well, N 1st sewer, sewer plant, ball park restrooms, street lights); Post Office $86.92 (postage for October invoices); One Call Concepts Inc $8.47 (September Diggers Hotline fees); Amazon Business $147.67 (bookshelf); Deluxe Forms $346.97 (laser checks); Staples $815.55 (envelopes, paper, toner, invoice paper); Chris Eckles $2,288.81 (September 26 through October 12 payroll). Motion to approve Stava, seconded by Novotny, all in favor: Wilken, Stava, Novotny

Sheriff's Department Report
The board reviewed the report from September, no action needed.

Fire Department Claims
Fire Department claims were presented for September, 2026 for $66.94 for Fast Mart (Fuel) and Danko Emergency Equipment for $45.00 (Stickers for helmets) for a total of $111.94. Motion to approve Stava, Seconded by Novotny-all in favor

Fire Department Report
4 Rescue calls, 1 Fire call, 1 mutual aid for Seward and 1 mutual aid for Bee. Staplehurst street closure will be Saturday, Oct. 31St for the Halloween run.

Paul Duer-Park Fence & Trees
Paul shared where the approx.. 250 sq ft. fence will go around the park, there are two trees that are dying and would like to have removed for safety and the fence. The grant that was approved will cover all costs. No cost to the village.

GBE Engagement Letter to Prepare for Audit Waiver 2025-2026
The Village board agrees to use GBE, PCA, PC to prepare the Village Waiver Request in accordance with Neb Rev. Statute for the year of Oct. 2025-thru Sept. 2026
Motion to approve Stava, Seconded by Novotny-all in favor

Approval of Audit Waiver
The board reviewed the documents provided by GBE with the Statement of Cash receipt & Disbursements from Oct. 2025-Sept. 2026. Motion to approve Stava, seconded by Novotny, all in favor

Year-End City Street Superintendent Resolution 2026-10
The village board reviewed the certification of city street superintendent and agreed the certification.
Motion to approve Novotny, seconded by Stava, all in favor

Year-End Certification of City Street Superintendent
The village board approves Miller & Associates Consulting Engineers to continue as the City Street Superintendent.
Motioned by Stava, seconded by Novotny, all in favor

Clerk Report:
Vacant property updates for S. 5th and also A st. are as follows, owner is working to obtain and POA in order to sell both locations. Clerk will check in mid-November to verify progress is being made. The village has accrued $1634.32 in Keno revenue since Keno started. Water Tower update is as follows, the engineers are continuing with bids and continuing to work with NDWEE as it relates to gal/day.

Maintenance Report
Looking at Salt costs for the upcoming winter, truck needs a radiator and steering column roughly looking at costs around $600 to repair. Christmas lights will go up in November by NPPD, the village will buy a new plug and check to ensure all lights are working.

Residents Comments:
None

Adjournment
Motion to adjourn by Stava, seconded by Novotny. All in favor
Meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Next Meeting, Nov 24th, 2026

Village Clerk, Bobbi McVey-Blath