

The Village of Big Springs Board of Trustees met on November 4, 2025, at 7:00 PM in the Village Office meeting room. Notice of the meeting was posted at the Big Springs Post Office, Community First Bank, Village Office in accordance with procedure. The meeting adhered to the Open Meetings Act, which was displayed in the room. The agenda was kept current and available for public inspection at the Village Office and on the website. Advance notice and the agenda were provided to board members, with acknowledgments attached to these minutes. The meeting was recorded and open to the public.

Roll Call: Present Trustees: Thompson, Eveitt, Huff, Payne, and DeCoste. Others present: Village Clerk/Treasurer Tamera Loomis, Village Maintenance Supt. Curtis Brown, Librarians Connie Shaw and Janie Jimenez, and Village Attorney Josh Wendell.

Chairman Huff called the meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public Advisory: Chairman Huff announced that a copy of the Nebraska Open Meeting Law Poster is posted on the north wall of the meeting room, accessible to the public.

Approval of Minutes: Everitt moved to approve the October 7, 2025 regular meeting minutes. Huff seconded. Yea: DeCoste, Thompson, Payne, Huff and Everitt. Motion passed.

One- and Six-Year Street Improvement Program 2025-2026: Chairman Huff called the One- and Six-Year Street Improvement Program 2025-2026 Hearing to Order.

Village Engineer Tom Werblow of T.C. Engineering Inc. presented the proposed One- and Six-Year Street Improvement Plan and invited questions from the Board.

The Board discussed the prioritization of street improvement projects listed in the plan. While all streets included varying levels of traffic, some may warrant higher priority based on usage patterns, visibility, and overall condition. Trustees and maintenance personnel, who regularly circulate throughout the Village, are well-positioned to assess which streets receive the most consistent use and may merit earlier attention.

It was clarified that approval of the plan does not commit the Village to completing all listed projects. The plan serves as a strategic framework—a “wish list”—to guide improvements as funding becomes available. Final prioritization and project selection must be formally ratified by the Board.

Chairman Huff moved to close the hearing. Everitt seconded. Yea: Payne, Everitt, Thompson, DeCoste, and Huff. Motion passed. The hearing was closed at 7:09 PM.

Chairman Huff moved to adopt Resolution R25-11-01 Adopting the One- and Six-Year Street Improvement Program 2025/2026. Everitt seconded. Yea: Thompson, DeCoste, Everitt, Huff, and Payne.

**RESOLUTION R25-11-01
ONE- AND SIX-YEAR STREET IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
2025/2026**

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF BIG SPRINGS, NEBRASKA THAT THE ATTACHED ONE- AND SIX-YEAR STREET IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM 2024/2025 IS HEREBY ADOPTED AND THAT THE HEARING WAS HELD AND THAT THE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING WAS POSTED IN THE FOLLOWING THREE PLACES:

HENDERSON STATE BANK
U.S. POST OFFICE
VILLAGE OFFICE

Resolution passed and approved this 7th day of November 2025.

LB840 Program Presentation: Chairman Huff introduced Brittany Harding, Western Nebraska Business Development Consultant with the Nebraska Department of Economic Development. Ms. Harding provided an overview of the LB840 program, noting that her service area includes all of Western Nebraska, including Deuel County. She was joined by Kristie McClung, Housing Specialist with the Department, who frequently collaborates with Ms. Harding as LB840 and housing initiatives often intersect.

Ms. Harding’s presentation focused on how a local sales tax incentive under LB840 could be implemented in Big Springs. Informational packets were distributed to Board members and attendees, with additional copies placed with the Village Clerk for public access.

Key Points from the Presentation

- LB840 (Local Option Municipal Economic Development Act), enacted in 1991, authorizes cities and villages—if approved by voters—to use local tax dollars for economic development.
- The goal is to develop a plan and place it on the ballot for community approval.
- Voters must approve two items:
 1. The Plan – outlining how funds will be used.
 2. The Funding Source – e.g., a local sales tax increase.
- Other funding options include property tax, reallocating existing sales tax, other local taxes, utility revenue, grants, donations, and state or federal funds.
- LB840 is currently utilized by approximately 80 communities across Nebraska, including 10 in Western Nebraska: Alliance, Bayard, Chappell, Chadron, Gering, Mitchell, Ogallala, Oshkosh, Sidney, and Scottsbluff. Each community has developed a plan tailored to its needs and followed the statutory process to implement the program.

- The first step is to develop a clear plan for the use of tax dollars. This plan should outline program goals and strategy, define qualifying businesses and eligible activities, establish revenue and budget limits, and specify administration and oversight methods. It must also include the role of the Citizen's Advisory Review Committee (CARC, appointed by the Board of Trustees), the program's start and end dates, and procedures for amendments or termination. Community members were encouraged to participate in the steering committee.

Ms. Harding concluded her presentation. Handouts containing program details, qualifying business types, eligible activities, and implementation examples were provided to the Board and made available to the public through the Village Clerk.

Brief department reports were presented.

Zoning Violation: Huff moved to direct the Village Attorney to enforce the stopwork order issued by the Planning and Zoning Administrator on October 7, 2025, through court action against the renter and owner of the property at 109 Railroad Street. Everitt seconded. Yea: DeCoste, Payne, Thompson, Huff, and Everitt. Motion passed.

Participation in the 2026 Nuisance Abatement Program: Payne moved to proceed with the 2026 Nuisance Program application with West Central Nebraska Development District and authorize the clerk and chairman sign the application. DeCoste seconded. Yea: Thompson, Huff, Payne, and DeCoste. Nay: Everitt. Motion passed.

Pro Track Agreement: Payne moved to accept the Pro Track and Tennis, Inc. Agreement to convert two courts on the west side to pickleball, with tennis and basketball remaining on the east side. Court lines will be marked as follows: pickleball in green, tennis in white, and basketball in blue. The project cost is \$7,600.00, with 40% down upon acceptance and the balance payable upon completion and acceptance by the Village. Payment will be made from the KENO fund account. The motion also authorized the Chairman to sign the agreement. Everitt seconded. Yea: DeCoste, Everitt, Thompson, Huff, and Payne. Motion passed.

Site Selection for Proposed Dog Kennel Facility: The Board discussed site selection for the proposed dog kennel facility. The location has not been determined. Further investigation is required. The Clerk will contact Animal Control Officer Logan Gumaer to inquire if he would consider placing a kennel on his property, which lies outside the village limits but within the onemile jurisdiction.

LARM Risk Assessment – Natural Spring Area: The Board reviewed liability mitigation recommendations for the natural spring area, including protective barriers, signage, and site monitoring. Photos provided by the Clerk were examined, and ADA accessibility considerations were discussed. In followup to Trustee/Park Commissioner Everitt's proposal at the last regular meeting regarding additional handrails leading to the spring and fencing around the site, the Board requested the insurance liability review in the area. The Board further considered whether these improvements should be a spring project.

Huff moved to table the discussion until at least the next month. Payne seconded. Yea: Everitt, Huff, Payne, Thompson, DeCoste. Motion passed.

Upgrade Depot Museum Lighting to LED: An electrician advised Trustee/Park Commissioner Everitt that only the fluorescent fixtures can be converted to LED, while standard screw-in bulbs can simply be replaced with LED lightbulbs. The Board noted that applying for the NPPD tax credit would require extensive paperwork with minimal financial benefit.

It was reported that only one fluorescent fixture requires replacement—an 8foot light in the office room. LED bulbs have already been installed in the great room by Village Maintenance Superintendent Curtis Brown, and the remaining lights are standard screw-in bulbs. The Board discussed that installing a new LED fixture would eliminate the need for ballasts required by fluorescent fixtures and provide longlasting efficiency. Possible purchase options, such as Bomgaars, were suggested, with the electrician estimating the cost to be between \$200 and \$500.

Payne moved to authorize up to \$500 for the upgrade of one light fixture in the museum. Everitt seconded. Yea: Huff, DeCoste, Thompson, Payne, and Everitt. Motion passed.

Huff moved to approve the claims. Thompson seconded. Yea: Thompson, Payne, Everitt, DeCoste, Huff. Motion passed.

General

PAYROLL	EXP	2,229.97
BIG SPRINGS CEMETERY ASSOC	EXP	6,679.16
BLACK HILLS ENERGY	Gas	49.77
CENTURY LINK	PH	51.16
CHAPPELL REGISTER	PUB	107.16
DEUEL COUNTY TREASURER	LE	8,166.66
EdwardJones	RET	175.00
HSB-FBO Curtis Brown	RET	225.00
IRS	TX	328.25
McQUILLAN & WENDELL PC, LLO	LEG	687.00
NE DEPT OF REVENUE	TX	58.92
NPPD	ELEC	49.67
ONE CALL CONCEPTS INC	Federal	52.04
Olson's Pest Technicians	R&M	180.00
Spectrum Business	PH	50.00

Spectrum Business	INT	50.00
Tamera Loomis	SU	43.56
U.S. Bank	TRVL	172.73
U.S. Bank	AC	531.45
U.S. Bank	SU	170.41
U.S. Bank	PSTG	32.96

Street

PAYROLL	EXP	1,383.00
BIG SPRINGS TRUCK AND TRAVEL	SU	349.38
IRS	TX	497.17
JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL	SU	50.25
JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL	CAP	1,349.98
JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL	R&M	107.43
NE DEPT OF REVENUE	TX	231.39
NPPD	ELEC	983.82
O'Reilly	R&M	167.90

Water

PAYROLL	EXP	2,358.77
CENTURY LINK	PH	223.46
Henderson State Bank	XFER	7,149.50
IRS	TX	731.31
NE PUBLIC HEALTH ENVIRONMENTAL LAB	TSTG	15.00
NE DEPT OF REVENUE	TX	509.47
NPPD	ELEC	1,055.25
Nebraska Rural Water Assoc	TRVL	275.00
SARGENT DRILLING CO	R&M	650.00
Scott Reffert	REF	131.20
U.S. Bank	TRVL	474.52
U.S. Bank	PSTG	99.89
VERIZON	PH	71.71

Sewer

PAYROLL	EXP	2,358.77
BLACK HILLS ENERGY	Gas	103.36
CENTURY LINK	PH	219.31
Henderson State Bank	XFER	6,982.50
IRS	TX	731.31
NE DEPT OF REVENUE	TX	1,105.71
NPPD	ELEC	394.04
Scott Reffert	REF	39.94
U.S. Bank	PSTG	39.86
VERIZON	PH	71.72

Trash

JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL	R&M	51.96
NE DEPT OF REVENUE	SU	25.00
Scott Reffert	REF	30.00
U.S. Bank	PSTG	39.85
WASTE CONNECTIONS	TRSH	6,416.95

Parks

PAYROLL	EXP	2,571.70
BIG SPRINGS TRUCK AND TRAVEL	SU	14.04
BLACK HILLS ENERGY	Gas	49.77
IRS	TX	478.62

JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL	R&M	25.65
NE DEPT OF REVENUE	TX	208.11
NPPD	ELEC	145.26
Simplot	R&M	60.00
Pool		
Century Link (Lumen)	PH	70.35
NE DEPT OF REVENUE	TX	405.65
Spic and Span Cleaners	SU	6,936.00
Library		
PAYROLL	EXP	1,426.51
IRS	TX	217.29
Depot Museum		
Dave Sauder	R&M	137.97
JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL	R&M	65.98
NPPD	ELEC	58.52
Olson's Pest Technicians	R&M	170.00
Sauder Sales	R&M	509.80
U.S. Bank	SU	57.37
WIEST HARDWARE	SU	6.98
	TOTAL	71,182.12

Huff moved to adjourn. Payne second. Yea: Payne, Everitt, DeCoste, Huff, and Thompson.
Motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 8:32 PM.

Richard Huff, Chairman
Village of Big Springs Board of Trustees

ATTEST:

Tamera Loomis, Village Clerk