

Chester, Nebraska  
April 8, 2026

The Board of Trustees, of the Village of Chester, Thayer County, Nebraska, met at 7:30 p.m. at the Village Hall on April 8, 2026, for their regular monthly meeting. Board members present were: Chairman Crouse and Trustees: B. Wit, Pachta, and A. Wit.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by posting, on March 19, 2026, the designated method of giving notice in at least three places. Notice of the meeting was given to the Chairman and all members of the Board of Trustees and a copy of their acknowledgment and agenda are filed. All proceedings hereinafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public. The Chairman publicly stated to all in attendance that a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was available for review and indicated the location of such copy posted in the room where the meeting was being held.

Chairman Crouse called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed. B. Wit moved and Pachta seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the March meeting. Roll call votes: Ayes: B. Wit, Pachta, A. Wit and Crouse. Nays: None. Absent: Miller. Motion carried.

The treasurer's report was then given. A. Wit moved and B. Wit seconded a motion to approve the treasurer's report. Roll call votes: Ayes: B. Wit, Pachta, A. Wit and Crouse. Nays: None. Absent: Miller. Motion carried.

Delinquent utility accounts were then discussed.

Discussion was held regarding renewal of the chesternebraska.com domain through Nebraska Public Power District and Network Solutions. Art Whitton, a Chester resident, currently owns and manages a separate website, chesterne.com. The Board agreed there is no need to maintain two separate websites. The Clerk reported that Whitton has offered to add the Village as an editor to the chesterne.com website. Further discussion included creating a sub page on that site for official Village documents such as meeting minutes, notices, and other civic forms. Pachta moved and B. Wit seconded a motion not to renew the chesternebraska.com domain and to have the Clerk collaborate with Whitton on the chesterne.com website. Roll call vote: Ayes: B. Wit, Pachta, A. Wit, and Crouse. Nays: None. Absent: Miller. Motion carried.

Chairman Crouse opened discussion regarding the electronic sign in front of the auditorium. The sign has not been operable for several years, and replacement parts may no longer be available. A new sign would be a significant expense. Options discussed included removing the sign and placing a bench on the existing concrete pad or retaining the frame and installing a new insert. The Board directed the Clerk to contact Apple One Media in Belleville, Kansas, for recommendations. Discussion was tabled for a later meeting.

Chairman Crouse presented an estimate from Howard & Sons Asphalt Maintenance of York, Nebraska, to paint approximately 60 parking stalls (including one to two ADA-accessible stalls) and four crosswalks on both sides of the 500 block of Thayer Avenue. The estimated cost is \$1,900.00, with work to be completed on a weekend to minimize traffic disruption. A. Wit moved to approve the estimate. B. Wit seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Ayes: B. Wit, Pachta, A. Wit, and Crouse. Nays: None. Absent: Miller. Motion carried.

Discussion was held regarding the electrical camper outlets at North Park. It was noted that the outlets had recently been used to charge an electric vehicle, though they were originally intended for overnight camping use only. The possibility of installing locks was discussed. The Clerk reported receiving frequent inquiries about the outlets. The Board agreed to continue monitoring usage and address the issue if misuse continues.

The 2024–2025 financial audit prepared by Blobaum and Busboom PC was reviewed.

Nuisance properties were discussed. The five properties identified during the March meeting had not yet received notices. Chairman Crouse reported he has been working with the Village attorney for guidance, which delayed sending the letters. Draft nuisance notices were reviewed, and the Clerk was directed to send them to property owners on April 9, 2026.

The Clerk reported that the Village is continuing to work with gWorks to integrate financial records into the bookkeeping software. The Village is awaiting input from Blobaum and Busboom PC before going live with the system.

A. Wit moved and B. Wit seconded a motion to approve the April 2026 claims. Roll call votes: Ayes: B. Wit, Pachta, A. Wit and Crouse. Nays: None. Absent: Miller. Motion carried.

The following is a list of the April 2026 claims:

25672	Nebraska Public Power District	electricity	9,077.35
25673	Murray Law PC LLO	professional fees	280.00
25674	Bel-Con Refuse, LLC	garbage disposal	1,695.00
25675	One Call Concepts, Inc.	locate fees	72.90
25676	Art Whitton	property lease	25.00
25677	Chester Garage, LLC	repairs	587.54
25678	Blobaum and Busboom PC	24-25 Audit	5,000.00
25679	UScellular	phone	66.12
25680	Blobaum and Busboom PC	professional services	1,100.00
25681	Leyton Mumm	meter deposit refund	150.00
25682	Nutrien Ag Solutions	supplies	72.12
25683	The Hebron Journal-Register	legal notices	70.87
25684	Utilities Section – League of Nebraska	2026 Backflow Workshop	75.00
25685	Eakes Office Solutions	supplies	95.71
25686	Michael Todd Industrial Supply	supplies	84.68
25687	Norris Public Power District	electricity	1,128.33
25688	Cody Boonstra	meter deposit refund	250.00
25689		salaries	6,295.47
25692	AGP Grain Marketing	deposit refund	150.00
25693	Village of Chester	electricity	1,544.36
25694	Scott Finke	water sample delivery	40.00
25695	Scheuerman Tree Care	tree maintenance	5,000.00
25696	C&M Supply, Inc.	fuel	160.01
25697	Black Hills Energy	natural gas	806.65
	Great Plains Communications	phone/internet	267.72
	Hometown Leasing	printer lease	97.79
	NE Public Health Lab	water testing	15.00

EFTPS	withholding	1,692.57
NE Department of Revenue	withholding	818.79
NE Department of Revenue	sales tax	1,224.97
CGI 61	insurance	37.83

There being no further business to come before the Board, A. Wit moved and Pachta seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. Roll call votes: Ayes: B. Wit, Pachta, A. Wit and Crouse. Nays: None. Absent: Miller. Motion carried.

Roger Crouse  
Chairman of the Board

SEAL

ATTEST

Dakota G. Cherney  
Village Clerk

I, the undersigned, Village Clerk, for the Village of Chester, Nebraska, hereby certify that all of the subjects included in the foregoing proceedings were contained in the agenda for the meeting, kept continually current and available for public inspection at the office of the Village Clerk; that the minutes were in written form and available for public inspection within ten working days and prior to the next convened meeting of said body.

Dakota G. Cherney  
Village Clerk