



The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2021

CUSTER COUNTY, ARNOLD, NEBRASKA 69120

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Photo/Debbie Connelly

On behalf of the Arnold Community Foundation Fund Board, Becky Dailey presented a check to Village Board members on December 13 to represent the \$31,709.73 that was donated from half of the proceeds from this year's Arnold Community Foundation Fundraiser for new flooring and future needs of the community center. Standing on the newly installed floor (l-r) are: Zach Hagler, Becky Dailey, Glen Bowers, Donnell DeLosh, and Brent Kulp.

School Board Approves Track Fence Project

Superintendent reports that school's proficiency is above state average

Arnold School Board members voted 5-1 to approve a track fence project at their regular meeting held on December 14. Superintendent Joel Morgan said the current fence alongside the street will be moved in 24 feet and dirt work will be done to create an angle for parking that will help alleviate congestion. He said that with the current parking situation, he's not sure emergency vehicles could get in if needed.

Members approved the purchase of a larger commercial refrigerator for the kitchen. The school received a grant from the Department of Education Food Service Program in the amount of \$6,600.00. The total cost of the refrigerator is right at \$8,000.00.

Board members also approved replacing flooring in the preschool for the two East Campus projects. The carpet will be replaced on the classroom side and hardwood floors

will be installed on the kitchen portion sometime in the 2nd semester.

In non-action items, members discussed results of the boiler steam trap survey and what traps need to be replaced to help with loss of energy. In action items, members voted to approve the new steam traps.

In his report, Mr. Morgan said that the east doors will be replaced on the main building during Christmas break.

He was also happy to report that the Department of Education came out with last year's assessment scores, and Arnold School's level of proficiency is above the state average, and higher than other districts in our area.

In other business, the board approved the 2022-2024 Superintendent Contract.

The next regular meeting will be held January 11 at 7:00 p.m. at the East Campus.

Village Receives Large Donation from ACFF for New Flooring, Community Center Needs

By Janet Larreau

At their regular meeting held on December 13, the Village Board of Trustees was informed by Arnold Community Foundation Fund Board member Becky Dailey that the ACFF is donating \$31,709.73 to the Arnold Community Center Account - a sub-account of the ACFF that was set up for the upkeep, maintenance, renovations and improvements to the building. The ACFF is affiliated with the Nebraska Community Foundation. Board members then voted to submit a request to the Nebraska Community Foundation for \$20,000.00 from the community center account for the flooring project.

CDBG Grant for Plan

The Village has been awarded

a CDBG grant up to the amount of \$37,500.00 to be used for the preparation of an updated comprehensive plan and zoning ordinances and to conduct a comprehensive housing study. Chairman Bowers was authorized to sign the CDBG agreement with the State of Nebraska Department of Economic Development.

Code Enforcement

Code enforcement was on the agenda. According to Village Attorney Mike Borders, the first issue would be citing the person, which is basically giving them a document that states the violation, the possible penalties, and a court date. The person would need to be personally served with the citation. There would be a charge, but then the service would be proper. The Village attorney would file the charge with the

court and prepare for a hearing. Discussion was held on the costs. The matter will be further discussed at the January 10 meeting.

Recycling Trailer

Board members learned that at the Custer County Board of Supervisors meeting held in November, it was decided that each community will bring the recycling trailers to the recycling center at Broken Bow effective January 1, 2022. Board members voted to continue with the recycling program and have the Village employees haul the trailer to the Center.

Loan and Grants Approved

At the recommendation of the AEDC, the Village Board of Trustees approved a loan and grant to A-1 Auto Repair for sidewalk and driver approach improvements to the front and

back of the building. The \$5,449.00 loan and accompanying \$2,000.00 grant will come from the Economic Development Fund. The AEDC also recommended a grant for \$593.91 be issued to A-1 Auto from the Motor Vehicle Sales Tax Fund, which was also approved.

Request from School

Doug DeLaune informed the Board that in an effort to provide more parking in a diagonal fashion for track and field events, the Arnold Public School would like to move their fence back running north along Maple Street. The school is requesting that the Village remove the existing poles and supply the power to their scoreboard and to a building that they are planning to erect for equipment with underground

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Tickles Purchase Sandhills Motors Showroom

April and Andrew Tickles have purchased the Sandhills Motors showroom (the old Spargo building) and will be relocating Touch of Grace Massage Therapy to that location around the first part of March. Some additions will be added to what Touch of Grace already offers, including a sauna, spa room with a shower, and a wellness and health room. She will also be expanding her hours.

April opened Touch of Grace Massage in 2010 and is currently located in Hotel Custer.

A complete report will be provided after the business relocates.



Photo/Jessica Tickles

Students Perform “Christmas Around The World”

For the first year, Arnold preschoolers joined in the fun at the annual Christmas program held in the school gymnasium. These 1st year out preschoolers sang “Up On The Rooftop” with actions to delight the crowd. The theme of the program was “Christmas Around the World,” featuring several songs by each of the elementary grades, including “Suzy Snowflake,” “When Santa Gets Your Letter,” “Holly Jolly Christmas,” “Let It Snow! Let It Snow! Let It Snow!” “Santa Claus is Coming to Town,” and 5th graders playing “Jingle Bells” on guitar. In her program, music director Kallie Bush provided interesting information on the history of each song that was performed. Grades 6-12 also presented their program this year, ushering in the season of joy.