

Salem Sue Sign on I-94 will undergo renovation by New Salem Lions Club

By Richard Mendoza
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The New Salem Lions Club will be replacing the current Salem Sue sign on the north side of I-94 just west of the Judson exit with a new sign in the coming weeks. The work will be completed by a local contractor and members of the New Salem Lions Club.

Given approval by the North Dakota Department of Transportation to install the new sign, Lions Club Member Dan Klug stated that the goal is to have the installation completed

by November 1 but noted the target date may change due to extenuating circumstances such as weather and direct access to the sign.

The new sign to be used reportedly came with an approximate \$3500 price tag. To assist in the funding, the Lions Club was aided and supported by the Lions District 5NW, which is the collection of clubs in the Western half of ND. According to Klug, total costs for the installation of the sign "will depend on the time it takes to install and if any additional materials are needed." He later added

that the new sign will be similar to the current one, which has stood out on I-94 for many years.

"There were originally two Salem Sue signs along I-94, one for west bound traffic to see and one for east bound traffic," Klug said. "With the signs being on private property, it was more difficult to maintain them." The I-94 eastbound sign was reportedly lost some time ago because of a combination of weather effects and missed maintenance, with only the westbound I-94 sign remaining.

Along with routine

maintenance for the new sign, five new posts will be installed for better stability. The Salem Sue website (SalemSue.Com) and a Lions International logo are two additions added to the new sign. Similar additions were placed on the Salem Sue sign located at the base of the Morton County fairgrounds in New Salem.

"With almost everyone having web access at hand, the creation of the Salem Sue website was something that definitely needed to be added to the signs," Klug said.

Renovations to the fairgrounds sign came at an approximate \$240 cost to the Lions Club, with no added cost to perform the update.

Providing funds for the community of New Salem, the in-town Lions Club also takes on the duty of maintaining and repairing the pride of New Salem, Salem Sue. As shared by Klug, Salem Sue requires routine maintenance and repairs. Last year, the Lions Club repainted Salem Sue to go along with repairs done to the fiberglass of the 50-foot spec-

tacle. The total cost of that project was \$22,000. Klug added that some of the annual repairs are due to vandalism.

With several signs in and around the area, the purpose and hope of them is to help promote the community of New Salem, Salem Sue, and the Lions Club. "The signs promote folks [to come] visit Salem Sue and hopefully make a donation. The donations help pay for some of the cost for the maintenance and repairs needed," Klug said.

New Salem Park Board Proceedings

NEW SALEM PARK BOARD MEETING REGULAR MEETING SEPTEMBER 9, 2025

Call to Order – meeting called to order at 7:01 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: Rob Boehm, Andrea Mathern, Lori Goetzfridt, Blaise Olson, Steve Kleinjan
Absent: Cadee Goetzfridt
Guest: Chad Goetzfridt
Golf Course Reps: Don Kautzman

Approval of Minutes – Minutes from previous meeting were presented. Motion to approve by Steve, seconded by Andrea - approved

Treasurer's Report – Treasurer's report of income and expenditures for the month of February were presented. Andrea made a motion to approve. Second by Steve – approved

Golf Course

–Slab for pumps will be poured and bill from Leingang's needs to get paid.

–Water project will be moved to next spring due to the

contractor's schedule.

North Park

–Gravel needs to be replaced and could use the money from the money market account where all the deposits from Roverpass are being deposited.

Baseball

–Field project meeting is next week.

Swimming Pool

–Pump was shut off after the pool closed.

–Pool will be drained and cleaned up soon.

Groundskeeper

–Some hours have been put in for the parks, but it's slowing down.

Old Business

–Chad returned to talk about the ice rink again and provided copies of Facebook responses about the use of the rink and support from the community. The budget of a shed and quotes from contractors on bringing water to the rink were presented again: water – Sims Valley \$17,900 - concrete \$1000 – water heater \$1500 – lum-

ber, insulation, siding \$3500 = \$23,900. Chad was asking one last time if the board would be willing to pay for all these items and then could also go to other organizations with a smaller ask to help with some of the costs or submit another grant request through ND Community Foundation. After long discussions, Steve makes a motion to approve up to \$25,000 to be spent on ice skating rink. Second by Blaise. All approved.

–Rob will order three round benches for the parks – Rud Park, Pool, Mann Park.

New Business

–Blaise makes a motion to approve the preliminary budget as presented. Second by Steve. All approved.

Next regular scheduled meeting to be held on October 14th (2nd Tues of every month) at 7:00 p.m.

Chairman Boehm adjourned the meeting at 8:27 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

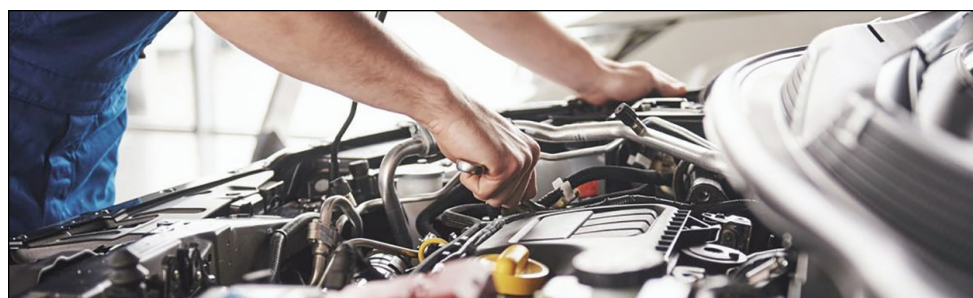
Lori Goetzfridt

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THE VISIBLE WEAR AND TEAR on the Salem Sue sign on westbound I-94 led to the decision by the New Salem Lions Club to purchase a brand new sign that will look fairly similar.

photo | Richard Mendoza



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