

VILLAGE OF ROCKDALE
Board Meeting Minutes of
May 2, 2023

I. Call to Order

Village President Mr. Wyke called to order the regular meeting of the Rockdale Village Board at 7:00 p.m. on May 2, 2023, at the Village Municipal Building, 79 Moen Avenue, Rockdale, Illinois.

II. Roll Call

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, the Village Clerk conducted the roll call. Village President Mr. Wyke was present along with Trustees Mr. Lorenc, Mr. Scheidt, Mr. Stadler, Mr. Cooling and Mr. Barnes. Trustee Mr. Pirc was absent. Also present in person were Police Chief Mr. Robert Dykstra, Deputy Chief Mr. Baikie, Village Engineer Dan Malinowski, and Village Attorney Mr. Michael Stiff. Public Works Superintendent Angelo Proia was absent.

III. Approval of Previous Minutes

Village President Mr. Wyke asked for a Motion to approve the Village Board meeting minutes from April 18th, 2023, as written. Mr. Stadler made a motion to accept the minutes as written with a second by Mr. Lorenc. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays and 1 absent.

IV. Visitors

Village President Mr. Wyke asked the first visitor on the agenda to speak before the Board about their new business application listed as an owner for GT General Mechanic. Ms. Stephanie Torres spoke on behalf of the business. Questions from Board members ranged from the purpose of the business to the exact location. Mr. Wyke impressed upon the owner that there are no water and sewer hook ups available since they are on the far south side of Rockdale near rout Six. The owner addressed the Board about their plans with the business noting it will be used for storage for their existing lawn care business which helps the residents near the location of their house on Bellevue to eliminate any potential for parking their lawn car vehicles on the street. There were assurances pt for by the owner of keeping their property and business in order. They will own the property.

Next on the Agenda was the Reauto Group, LLC and the owners spoke person, Ms. Serena Lesa. This business will be located on the corner of Midland Avenue and Meadow Avenue which puts them front and center in a high traffic area. One of the big concerns for the Board and Mr. Wyke was the overall appearance of the business since it is in a high traffic area. The condition now borders on cluttered so Mr. Wyke wanted to impress upon the owner that there will not be used tires and other unsightly issues which could be cause for concern. There was an assurance by the owners that this would not be good for their business to be anything but neat. One those important issues where addressed, the Board and Mr. Wyke was satisfied and wished them success.

Although on the agenda, Michele James from the Veregy Engineering group working on the Rockdale Schools project was not in attendance which moved the Board to address the next items on the agenda.

V. Bills and Claims.

Village President Mr. Wyke asked for a Motion to accept the Bills & Claims as submitted. Mr. Scheidt made a Motion to accept with a second by Mr. Barnes. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays and 1 absent.

VI. Clerk's Receipts

Village President Mr. Wyke asked for a Motion to accept the Clerk's Receipts as submitted. Mr. Stadler made a Motion to accept with a second by Mr. Lorenc. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays and 1 absent.

VII. Treasurer's Receipts

Village President Mr. Wyke asked for a Motion to accept the Treasurer's Receipts as submitted. Mr. Lorenc made a Motion to accept with a second from Mr. Stadler. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays 1 absent.

VIII. Treasurer's Report

Village President Mr. Wyke asked for a Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as submitted. Mr. Cooling made a Motion to accept with a second by Mr. Scheidt. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays 1 absent.

IX. Building Permits

Permits from 616 Morris, 20 Graham Park and 406 Moen Avenue were noted.

X. Communications

Police Chief Dykstra read a thank you card delivered to the Police Station regarding the efforts of one of the officers. It described how a Rockdale Police Officer, Mr. Wydah, arrived at a nearby home to offer support for a 911 emergency call. The call involved an emergency with a resident who had passed out in his home. The card explained how Officer Wydah responded to the call by being kind and considerate helping to keep this emergency and those involved calm. Mr. Wydah was very respectful to the victim and his wife controlling the situation with professionalism and kindness which helped to defuse a stressful situation for all of those involved. Mr. Wydah stayed with the victim throughout the incident and made sure this victim had nothing to worry about. It was a special moment handled by a special Officer. The author of the card wanted to thank Officer Wydah and wanted to remain anonymous.

XI. Old Business

The Village President Mr. Wyke polled the Board for any old business issued they would like to address. Reaching Mr. Lorenc, his concern was the deep well and the time it has taken which has him concerned. Chief Dykstra, speaking on behalf of Mr. Proia, told how the well bowl assembly has taken longer than anticipated to repair, which is part and parcel of the delay.

XII. New Business

Village President Mr. Wyke suggested Mr. Chris Olm of Strand Engineering go before the tabled Food Truck Ordinance discussion. Village Attorney Mr. Stiff concurred with the suggestion and asked Mr. Chris Ulm from Strand Engineering to open the new business section of the agenda with the Consideration of Task Order 23-02 with Strand Associates, Inc. for Corrosion Control Treatment (CCT) Demonstrative Study. Mr. Ulm began providing a brief but extremely detailed outline of what is taking place now with lead pipe harvesting as required by the IEPA for the Village of Rockdale. Mr. Ulm described the circumstances which led to our predicament with requirements by the IEPA to start with the initial removal of lead piping from four different locations in the Village. Mr. Ulm described the process of lead harvesting as normal when the introduction of a new supply of water into an existing system. In fact, it is not uncommon for the events to take place as they are and is actually a preemptive move before potentially changing our supply from a Rockdale supply to a Joliet water supply. If the decision is made to eventually switch to a Joliet supply, which will eventually come from a Lake Michigan water feed, all of this is necessary to move forward. Mr. Ulm explained the chemistry behind this process that's taking place and wanted all to understand this might be what's required for now once the lead pipe samples are sent in for analysis. The Village is hopeful things all fall into place and go according to plans. Questions from the Board were related to sampling and lead pipe harvesting. Mr. Ulm again reiterated this process has now become commonplace, so the requirements are not new and untested. Mr. Lorenc asked about the water sampling which includes the volume needed and the source. Village President Mr. Wyke inquired about State or Federal Grants which might be available for this costly work taking place now and into the future. Mr. Ulm promised to keep checking with his staff for any potential Grants and to research potential Grants on a weekly basis. From this presentation, Mr. Stiff asked the Board to vote on the Consideration of Task Order 23-02 with Strand Associates, Inc. for Corrosion Control Treatment (CCT) Demonstrative Study. Mr. Wyke asked the Board for a motion to approve this with a motion made by Mr. Lorenc, with a second by Mr. Cooling. Motion carried with 5 votes aye, 0 nay and 1 absent.

Next Mr. Wyke asked the Board for a motion to approve the Consideration of the Cornwell Engineering Group Proposal for Corrosion Control Treatment (CCT) Demonstrative Study. Motion made by Mr. Cooling, with a second by Mr. Barnes. Motion carried, 5 ayes, 0 nays, and 1 absent.

Village President Mr. Wyke introduced the final agenda item which was a discussion regarding an Ordinance Amending the Village Code regarding the operation of Food Trucks in the Village. This on-going discussion centers on how many food trucks to allow in the Village, where they can park, and the fees associated with each food truck. Mr. Stiff from his narrative providing a review of what has been reviewed and where it stands for tonight's

discussion. Many different ideas were bandied about with thoughts pertaining to keeping the Village respectful to each brick-and-mortar restaurant but also keen on providing another option for food in our Village. Mr. Wyke thought it best to keep the number of available licenses for food trucks at 3. Also proposed was staying with food trucks only allowed on private property. 500 feet from the nearest restaurant is the cornerstone of the Ordinance which, in the eyes of the Board, offers protection for the existing restaurants. Mr. Cooling thought it a fair distance and shouldn't conflict with normal operations of the Food truck. Mr. Stadler made it clear there would be 500 feet plus it had to be on private property. The Board asked Chief Dykstra about the existing food truck on the East side of Rockdale. Were there any complaints of note about the operations and location. Chief Dykstra gave a positive review of the food and offered his opinion about options for his officers to eat in the Village. His honest assessment of the food truck owner and his daily operations clarified the situation of operations better and helped to solidify the terms to be included in the Ordinance. Mr. Stiff went down his list of approvals, which started with tables and chairs, music, parking overnight, no discharging of wastewater (complying with all Will County Health Department rules) and so forth to which will be allowed or not for the Ordinance. From the discussion the decision was made to allow only three separate licenses within the Village boundaries. The next issue to be addressed is the sales tax for the food trucks. Board members are curious as to how to recapture those sales taxes charged and due for the Village. Mr. Stiff will take all of the discussion points and provide a draft for the next meeting.

XIII. Department Business

Public Works Superintendent Mr. Proia was absent so in his stead was Police Chief Mr. Dykstra who reported the progress of the work on Well #2. The construction of the new lift station is progressing nicely. The well bowl assembly is being repaired and the Well is scheduled to return to service in a couple of weeks. The lead pipe harvesting project for the IEPA has started one day early. The first dig was successful with each sample section sent out for analysis.

Chief Dykstra provided the Police Department's two-week report. Police Office Administrator Gayle returns to work next Monday. There will be an Incident Management meeting which requires his attendance. The Officer Enrollment Program began with a recent interview taking place. Sex offender six-month verification program went well. The Rockdale "Hill Yeah" run was a tremendous success with 283 runners participating. An Incident Management Meeting will take place regarding the IDOT I-80 project. A Rock City event is to take place on May 13, 2022.

A special event took place at the Baikie household in support of his lovely Wife, Bobbi. A Pink Heal parade brought many of her friends and supporters to their house for a celebration for her recovery. Bobbi was surprised to see the turnout and was genuinely moved by those who took the time to see her and the family to show their support of her efforts. Chief Dykstra wanted to thank all of those who have Bobbi in their thoughts and prayers and participated in the parade and event.

Deputy Chief Mr. Baikie wanted to personally thank everyone who stopped by and gave support to his Wife, Bobbi during these trying times in her life. Also, there is a candidate for the open Rockdale Patrol Officer position which should be filled shortly.

Village Engineer Mr. Malinowski provided a written report which included a number of projects including Moen Avenue and trees, the on-going problem and progress of the Tony Guzman property on Moen Avenue, LaFarge Quarry, PT Ferro new building, AJ Inter Estate progress, 132 Harris site plan, and Euro Trucking.

Work at the old Polly's Garage property is currently halted. Meetings and communications have been conducted with the owner and representatives with the understanding that before work can begin again there must be a pre-development agreement executed. Some of the issues discussed were tap-on fees, water and sewer connection and a fire hydrant along with a fee in lieu of detention. Mr. Stiff will be drafting the agreement.

The 1500 Mound Road building addition is moving ahead slowly. The owner emailed Mr. Malinowski about demolishing a concrete safe room which needs to be part of their final submittal for review.

Mr. Malinowski also reported continuing issues with the LaFarge quarry truck traffic bringing silt and material onto the new Moen Avenue roadway and causing back-ups along the curb and gutter. This problem has also been noted with the Guzman property as well, which continues to be reported to Will County Land Use and is supposed to be handled by the Will County State's Attorney. It was noted that Waste Management owns a sweeper and uses it regularly outside of its facility. The suggestion was made to make this an action item with all the businesses in the area perhaps agreeing to chip in with their own Street Sweepers to keep the entire road clean. Chief Dykstra indicated that he might be able to assist in these discussions.

Euro Trucking on Moen is also continuing to have issues with its trucks causing damage across the street near the ERDS property. Mr. Malinowski suggested possible resolutions.

With respect to the Guzman property, it was suggested that rather than wait for Will County, the violations be reported to the IEPA.

Village Attorney Mr. Stiff advised the Board that he has been in contact with an attorney who represents the new owner of the old Polly's Garage property and plans to communicate with him to get the pre-development agreement done and the project moving forward.

A group of property owners located on Oakwood Court contacted Spesia & Taylor regarding a requested change in their water rates from Industrial to Business. These owners previously attended a Village Board meeting and were advised that because the property was zoned Industrial, they had the lower of the two Industrial rates. The Board authorized Mr. Stiff to respond that the rate would not be changed.

XIV. Public Comment

Ms. Weber addressed the Board regarding the Houbolt Road Bridge project. She also wanted to thank the Rockdale Police, specifically, Officer Hine who made contact with her family after an inadvertent alarm went off during the weekend.

XV. Special Business

None.

XVI. Adjournment

Village President Mr. Wyke asked the Clerk to add to next meeting's agenda, the swearing in the new elected Trustees. Additionally, the agenda would include Chief Dykstra and a final decision on his next increase and a couple of other employees increases. Afterwards, Mr. Wyke asked for a motion to adjourn tonight's Board meeting. Motion by Mr. Barnes with a second by Mr. Lorenc. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays, and 1 absent.

The next Village Board Meeting will be Tuesday, May 16, 2023