VILLAGE OF ROCKDALE

Board Meeting Minutes of

July 18, 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 July 18th, 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, Mr. Pirc, and Mr. Barnes. Also present in person were Police Chief Robert Dykstra, Deputy Chief Rob Baikie, Public Works Superintendent Angelo Proia, Village Attorney Michael Stiff and Village Engineer Dan Malinowski.

III. Approval of Previous Minutes

Village President Mr. Wyke asked for a Motion to approve the Village Board meeting minutes from July 5th, 2023, as written. Mr. Scheidt made a motion to accept the minutes as written with a second by Mr. Cooling. Motion carried 6 ayes, 0 nays and 0 absent.

IV. Visitors

None

V. Bills and Claims.

Village President Mr. Wyke asked for a Motion to accept the Bills & Claims as submitted. The motion to approve was made by Mr. Cooling with a second by Mr. Lorenc. Motion carried 6 ayes, 0 nays and 0 absent.

VI. Clerk's Receipts

Village President Mr. Wyke asked for a Motion to accept the Clerk's Receipts as submitted. Mr. Lorenc made a Motion to accept with a second by Mr. Barnes. Motion carried 6 ayes, 0 nays and 0 absent.

VII. Treasurer's Receipts

Village President Mr. Wyke asked for a Motion to accept the Treasurer's Receipts as submitted. Mr. Scheidt made a Motion to accept with a second from Mr. Pirc. Motion carried 6 ayes, 0 nays 0 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. Lorenc. Motion carried 6 ayes, 0 nays 0 absent.

IX. Building Permits

A Permit from 720 Morris, 712 Margaret, 810 Otis were noted.

X. Communications

None.

XI. Old Business

Mr. Wyke polled the Board for any old business. Mr. Scheidt asked about the problematic Guzman property located at the end of Moen Avenue. Mr. Stiff took the reins on this topic detailing a litany of information regarding this subject. Mr. Malinowski added he has contacts made with the Will Count Land Use department and the specifics of violations with their property.

Mr. Lorenc asked about the progress made with the Lafarge Plant and the mess they create daily with the dust and debris on the West end of Mound and Moen Avenue. Mr. Malinowski took the lead on this topic, offering his many attempts to set up meetings and such to get this problem with the road heading in the right direction.

XII. New Business

As for new business. Mr. Stiff led with the first item on the agenda which was to open the Public Hearing regarding the Village of Rockdale Appropriation Ordinance for the year 2023-2024. Mr. Stiff asked for a motion to open the public hearing made by Mr. Cooling with a second by Mr. Lorenc. Motion carried 6 ayes, 0 nays 0 absent. Opened at 7:10 pm. This is a mandated public hearing for the Annual Appropriations Ordinance with the proper notice published in the local newspaper which is the Joliet Herald News on June 30th, 2023 as required by the Illinois Municipal Code which is designated as Ordinance number 1140 for the Annual Appropriations for the Village of Rockdale in the year 2023 – 2024 which is has also been made available for viewing in the Village Hall. Mr. Stiff asked if this document was reviewed by anyone, and it has not. It has also been made available for viewing during this Board meeting to which one member asked for a copy. Mr. Stiff explained the many details behind the scenes which helped finalize the appropriations budget which is before the General Public now for review. Since there were no members of the general public who wanted to offer a comment on this Appropriations Budget, a motion was asked to close the public hears with a motion made by Mr. Cooling and a second by Mr. Lorenc. Motion carried 6 ayes, 0 nays 0 absent.

The next agenda item wass also handled by Mr. Stiff which was asking for an Approval of the Annual Appropriation Ordinance for the Village of Rockdale for the year 2023-2024. Mr. Stiff asked for a motion to which was made by Mr. Lorenc with a second by Mr. Cooling. Motion carried 6 ayes, 0 nays 0 absent.

Mr. Wyke moved to the next agenda item which was the Approval of the Official Job Description for the newly created position of Assistant Public Works Director. After a brief discussion amongst members of the Board, it was decided to table this issue for now. A motion was made to table this agenda item motion made by Mr. Lorenc with a second by Mr Stadler. Motion carried 6 ayes, 0 nays 0 absent.

Mr. Stiff took the next agenda item, Approval of the Promotion of Angelo Proia to the position of Assistant Public Works Director with the intent by the Board to table this issue for now, a motion made by Mr. Lorenc with a second by Mr. Scheidt. Motion carried 6 ayes, 0 nays 0 absent.

Village President Mr. Wyke addressed the next agenda item which was the formal approval of the proposal from Maguire Iron, Inc. for maintenance, repairs, and improvements of Larkin Water Tower as revised per the Board's direction following the meeting of July 5, 2023. From a pre-proposal meeting with Trustee Mr. Lorenc, Public Works Superintendent Mr. Proia and MaGuire Management, favorable terms were originally offered but have since been rescinded so the proposal from the previous meeting is now before the Board for a vote to approve or deny water tower repairs and painting. A motion was made by Mr. Scheidt to approve the revised proposal which includes a not to exceed amount of $495,795.00 for services rendered with a second by Mr. Cooling. Motion carried 6 ayes, 0 nays 0 absent.

Next on the agenda, Mr. Wyke brought before the Board the approval of a proposal to install ADA compliant sidewalk at the corner of Connell and Otis and a 5' x 5' sidewalk on Otis Ave. He explained the history behind this proposal and it was clarified to the Board the property owner agreed to partake in the Village of Rockdale's sidewalk 50/50 program. With the clarification from Mr. Stiff noting the proposal should include a not to exceed amount of $2500.00, a motion made by Mr. Lorenc and a second by Mr. Pirc. Motion carried 6 ayes, 0 nays 0 absent.

Mr. Wyke moved on to the next agenda item which was an approval of Proposals for road repair work and resurfacing of Mound Road from Midland Avenue to Larkin Avenue. There were proposals submitted by two companies who differed with the description of how they determine square yardage for the road resurfacing, of each project for an "apples to apples" comparison of each proposal. Unfortunately this confusion needed further clarification which prevented the Board from making a proper comparison of the two proposals. Since this and the remaining two agenda items are important to better understand, Mr. Wyke recommended meeting with the two companies this week and then presenting the two proposals again before the Board. A motion was made to table the next three agenda items, G. Approval of Proposals for road repair work and resurfacing of Mound Road from Midland Avenue to Larkin Avenue, H. Approval of a Proposal for road repair work and resurfacing of Mound Road from Midland Avenue to Brandon Road. I. Approval of a Proposal for road repair work and resurfacing of Mound Road from Larkin Avenue to the Village west boundary, by Mr. Lorenc with a second by Mr. Stadler. Motion carried 6 ayes, 0 nays 0 absent.

The next agenda item, Discussion and Possible Approval of an amendment to Ordinance 1106 regarding outdoor dining permits in the Village of Rockdale, was brought before the Board by Mr. Stiff who provided a detailed account of what has transpired with the Ordinance since it was issued during the COVID pandemic. This version was not repealed only because of the fluid nature of the COVID pandemic. What Mr. Stiff did do for the meeting tonight was offer a revised version of the Ordinance for review with all of the COVID language for Board review. The Board had many questions about this Ordinance which included Mr. Lorenc who thought it should have a permit process. Mr. Wyke suggested a adding it to the annual liquor license to help keep it organized. Mr. Stiff provided examples for discussion points which would eliminate the unorganized attempts from those in the past who put snow fences identifying the outdoor dining area which is not the true intent of what the Board would prefer. Mr. Lorenc was concerned about noise complaints if the outdoor dining allowed music or televisions. Mr. Stiff offered regulations which control all of the options which were discussed by the Board. Mr. Lorenc wanted to make sure that whatever was decided to make it restaurant friendly trying to not make it too restrictive to those who can offer outdoor dining within the constraints of a tavern with a true dining landscape approved by all county and state food servicing requirements. Part of the discussion centered on providing a layout of the proposed outdoor dining so the Village can review and decide the landscape of the outdoor dining experience. Mr. Pirc suggested something similar to the fine dining experience in the City of Chicago where you find many places located in various locations including off of a street. In conclusion, Mr. Stiff with modify the Ordinance to include all that was discussed and include it with our next agenda.

Mr. Wyke addressed the next important item on the agenda which was Consideration of a Letter of Intent between the Village of Rockdale and the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) regarding the Village's concurrence with the proposed Interstate 80 Improvement Plan from Ridge Road to U.S. 30 and the cost participation and maintenance responsibilities for Traffic Noise Abatement Walls and Utility Relocation. This has been discussed in length with a previously and was brought before tonight's Board to make sure they were aware of IDOT and their plans. Mr. Stiff provided information of what is required by the Board with Mr. Lorenc putting forth a motion to approve this letter of intent and to also allow the Village President for signing with a second by Mr. Stadler. Motion carried 6 ayes, 0 nays 0 absent.

XIII. Department Business

Public Works Superintendent Mr. Proia mentioned he reduced the staff of the Public Works department by one summer help employees. The Scada equipment installation will take place and the end of July. The Lift Station is almost completed. Airy's is waiting on ComEd to complete its work. Village President Mr. Wyke inquired about the water tower repair scheduling.

Police Chief Dykstra addressed the Board and provided a handout. There was a Laraway Communications Center communications related equipment grant for each agency in Will County. There is a decision to be made about either purchasing radios or a Bi-Directional Amplifier for the Village Police Department utilizing funds from the grant. From the last meeting, the case alleging grooming has been dismissed by the Will County States Attorney. The Dacra training will take place soon regarding the new electronic citation program. Officer Griffing and K9 Officer Roxie will be completing their annual North American Police Work Dog Association. Finally, the Automated External Defibrillators purchased 7 years ago are out of warranty as of August 15, 2023. Fortunately, management has reached out and discovered the product is not at the end of life and therefore continue to utilize them. However, safety is always first so in the future, the Department will budget for the purchase of new equipment.

Mr. Malinowski was up next and kept it brief. On-going projects report was handed out which included the recently submitted KWM Gutterman building addition. The old Poly's Garage property is under review by the county.

Village Attorney Mr. Stiff had nothing to bring before the Board at this meeting.

XIV. Public Comment

Village President Mr. Wyke asked those in attendance if they had any public comment. Mr.Wbber has an issue with the property behind his house near the Village alley. The Village has been in contact with the owner of the property and has had conversation with the owner about certain things which might be a nuisance,

XV. Special Business

None

XVI. Adjournment

Mr. Wyke asked for a motion to adjourn. A Motion was made by Mr. Barnes with a second by Mr. Lorenc. Motion carried 6 ayes, 0 nays, and 0 absent.

The next Village Board Meeting will be August 15, 2023