

VILLAGE OF ROCKDALE
Board Meeting Minutes of
November 7, 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 November 7, 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. Cooling, Mr. Stadler Mr. Barnes, and Mr. Scheidt. Mr. Pirc was absent. Also present in person were Police Chief Robert Dykstra, Village Engineer Dan Malinowski, Village Attorney Mike Stiff and Public Works Assistant Director Angelo Proia.

III. Approval of Previous Minutes

Village President Mr. Wyke asked for a Motion to approve the Village Board meeting minutes from October 17, 2023, as written. Mr. Lorenc made a motion to accept the minutes as written with a second by Mr. Cooling. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays and 1 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. Lorenc with a second by Mr. Scheidt. 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. Cooling made a Motion to accept with a second from Mr. Barnes. 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. Cooling made a Motion to accept with a second from Mr. Lorenc. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays 1 absent.

VIII. Treasurer's Report

Village President Mr. Wyke reminded the Clerk to keep the Police Vehicle Fund with a balance of no more than \$8,000.00 until the cost has been recaptured by monthly Red Speed deposits. A Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as submitted was made by Mr. Lorenc with a second by Mr. Stadler. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays 1 absent.

IX. Building Permits

None.

X. Communications

Police Chief Dykstra read a thank you card received by the department regarding former Police Officer Wayda and thanking the officer and Chief Dykstra. For their life-saving actions when the author of the card had overdosed. She thanked the Police Department for saving her life and causing her to turn her life around. She attributes her current success to the actions which saved her life that day.

XI. Old Business

None

XII. New Business

Mr. Wyke moved to the first agenda item which was A Resolution Approving Amendment No. 1 to the November 1, 2021, Agreement for Technical Services Between the Village of Rockdale and Strand Associates, Inc. Mr. Stiff explained that the original Master Services Agreement had a term limit of two years, and it now needs to be extended. Strand has proposed an amendment to the original agreement wherein the “schedule” would be changed from two years to four years. A resolution is in the packet. The next resolution number is 838. Mr. Stiff recommended approval of the resolution. The Board had no questions, so Mr. Wyke asked for a motion to approve Resolution number 838. A motion was made by Mr. Cooling with a second by Mr. Scheidt. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays and 1 absent.

Next on the agenda was a discussion regarding the potential purchase of 1407 Kinsey Avenue for the Village Emergency Water Connection. Mr. Wyke described to the Board details from a recent meeting to discuss options available for an emergency water connection with Joliet. One of the options is to purchase the parcel located at 1407 Kinsey Avenue. The property is currently owned by former Public Works Director Jim Planinsek, who is amenable to selling the property to the Village. The property will first need to be appraised with an appraiser chosen by Mr. Planinsek rather than the Village, although the Village is being asked to pay for the appraisal once the invoice is received. The cost will not exceed \$800.00. At the next Board meeting, Chis Ulm will be presenting options for future water supply for the Village. Mr. Stiff recommended the Board approve the payment of the appraisal invoice at a future meeting after it has been submitted to the Village.

XIII. Department Business

Mr. Proia updated the Board on the Water Tower painting project, which was completed but there are a few “touch ups” required. The tower is now filled, and samples taken were clear, so it is back in service.

The SCADA phone application was demonstrated to a few of the Board members. The application is an important tool to keep track of the water system and its operational parameters.

The lift station work is done but Nicor needs to add a gas line for the backup systems.

Mr. Proia attended a wastewater seminar conducted by the Joliet Water District. Metropolitan Pump made a presentation which included a photo array of the new Rockdale lift station.

Trustee Mr. Lorenc asked about a time frame for adding road strips to the just completed repaving of a number of roads in Rockdale. His reply was to mention about a company and quotes forthcoming.

Police Chief Mr. Dykstra provided material to the Board which included calls for the last two weeks along with other information.

10/8/2023 a burglary took place on the 800 Block of Moen Avenue.

10/20/2023 a stolen Dodge Hellcat was recovered on Maxim Drive

10/24/2023 a driver was cited for driving on a suspended license.

10/24/2023 an officer responded to a home invasion where a person was stabbed and battered.

10/25/2023 a person was arrested for failing to appear for a DUI warrant.

10/26/2023 a driver was detained for a license that was revoked.

10/28/2023 a person was arrested for aggravated unlawful use of a weapon and possession of a weapon without a legal FOID card.

10/30/2023 citation for a suspended license.

Police presence for Halloween was a success and the annual Toys for Tots tow truck parade will take place on November 12, 2023. In years past, a specific route was taken which was modified to accommodate the traffic issues so it will proceed on Route 6 ending up at the Chicagoland Speedway as the final destination. Mr. Dykstra thanked all veterans and wished them a happy Veterans Day.

Mr. Malinowski presented his written Engineering Report. One of the primary topics was the continuing issues with the Ramiro Guzman property on Moen Avenue. Communication is continuing with the owner and his engineer. Mr. Malinowski and Mike Stiff will continue to work with the owner now that they appear to want to cooperate to get the landfill capped and the erosion control issues addressed.

The 132 Harris Drive location was discussed regarding the new valve location. Mr. Wyke brought up an additional proposal to reduce costs for the Valve installation, but that amount was deemed to be a non-starter.

Mr. Stiff also addressed the Ramiro Guzman property. The attorney for the owner is now concerned about the proposed Petition to Intervene and is apparently willing to cooperate with the Village in getting the issues addressed. The attorney has asked that Dan Malinowski provide an estimate of professional fees before they consider a professional fee agreement. They have not refused such an agreement, but they do not want it to be completely open-ended.

The annual Tax Levy Ordinance will be on for either the next Board Meeting or the first meeting in December.

The State of Illinois passed the Paid Leave for All Workers Act, which goes into effect January 1, 2024. It covers all employers including municipalities (with certain limited exceptions) and requires employers to provide 40 hours of paid leave to every employee, including part-time and seasonal workers. The IML has taken the position that Home Rule municipalities can opt out of the Act's requirements. The Opt-Out Ordinance needs to be passed before the end of the year, so we will have a discussion regarding the matter and an Ordinance ready for approval, if desired, at the next meeting.

Mr. Stiff reminded the Board Chris Ulm from Strand Associates, Inc. will be on the agenda for the next Board meeting for a presentation on available future water options for the Village.

Mr. Stiff also reminded the Village President that with Sue Polesel's resignation from the ZBA, a replacement member will need to be appointed and the ZBA will need to re-organize to elect a new Chairperson.

XIV. Public Comment

Mr. Wyke asked those in attendance if they wished to make a public comment. There were none.

XV. Special Business

None

XVI. Adjournment

Mr. Wyke wanted to honor military veterans active and former on their special day. He then asked for a motion to adjourn. A Motion was made by Mr. Barnes with a second by Mr. Scheidt. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays, and 1 absent.

The next Village Board Meeting will be December 5, 2023