

**VILLAGE OF ROCKDALE**  
***Board Meeting Minutes of***  
**January 2, 2024**

**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 January 2, 2024, 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. Scheidt, Mr. Lorenc, Mr. Stadler, Mr. Barnes, Mr. Pirc and Mr. Cooling. 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 December 19, 2023, as written. Mr. Pirc 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. Mr. Scheidt asked about the TIF check to the Rockdale Public Schools. The motion to approve was made by Mr. Scheidt with a second by Mr. Cooling. 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. Stadler made a Motion to accept with a second from Mr. Lorenc. 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. Lorenc 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 was made by Mr. Cooling with a second by Mr. Pirc. Motion carried 6 ayes, 0 nays 0 absent.

**IX. Building Permits**

None.

**X. Communications**

None

**XI. Old Business**

None

**XII. New Business**

None of the Board Members had any new business items. Mr. Wyke moved to the first agenda item which was the Approval of the Rockdale Village Board Meeting Schedule for 2024. After a quick review and

verification that it was correct, Mr. Wyke asked for a motion to approve the Board meeting schedule for 2024. Motion made by Mr. Stadler with a second by Mr. Barnes. Motion carried with 6 ayes, 0 nays and 0 absent.

Mr. Wyke moved to the next agenda item which was a Discussion regarding 2024 water and sewer rate increase. The Village Clerk provided a brief explanation of proposed increases of water and sewer rates to keep pace with Joliet's rate increases. From the recent agreement to use Joliet water as an interim and emergency supply, Joliet will charge Rockdale an amount of \$8.23 per 100 cubic feet of water. Joliet measures its water supply by the cubic foot which translates to 7.48052 gallons of water per 1 cubic foot. The Clerk explained that currently, a typical residential water bill of \$50.00 would increase to \$150.00.

Mr. Wyke explained that he recently met with Joliet again regarding the potential of becoming Joliet's water customer. Mr. Wyke and Chris Ulm of Strand Associates met with Joliet Mayor Terry D'Arcy, Joliet Councilwoman Jan Quillman, Joliet Director of Public Utilities Allison Swisher and Joliet City Manager, Beth Beatty. Although the meeting was cordial, and the Village was able to present the financial issues facing Rockdale with these water issues, there was no headway in getting Joliet to lower the proposed rates that have been discussed over the past year. The only viable option left is for the Village to move to self-sufficiency by staying on deep wells and building the necessary infrastructure and treatment plants to do so.

The Board discussion focused on what the plans are for raising water rates for the users of water in the Village. Based on the discussion, a rate increase ordinance will be drafted and discussed further.

Next was a discussion regarding a potential ordinance adopting rules and regulations regarding unscheduled intercity buses. Police Chief Dykstra provided topical details of what is happening throughout the area within his network of Law Enforcement Officials. From a Village standpoint, it was determined that the Village should have something in place similar to what other area municipalities are doing, if not only to show that Rockdale does not have the resources to handle migrants or asylum seekers. Mr. Stiff indicated that he would have a draft bus dropoff ordinance ready to be discussed and possibly passed at the next meeting.

### **XIII. Department Business**

Mr. Proia updated the Board on the lift station construction noting the emergency generator has successfully been tested and is operational. Mr. Wyke wants to make sure to follow up the generator operation when it has a scheduled test run.

Police Chief Dykstra provided material to the Board which included calls for the last two weeks along with other information. Mr. Lorenc asked about the efforts by Police Chief Dykstra to have the Trustee's verify their working emails which is vital for the Village to operate effectively. There are a couple of email addresses which need further verification with it being the responsibility of the Trustee to confirm its operational capabilities.

Mr. Malinowski presented his written report. Part of the handout was a drawing of the plans for AT&T to connect with one of our industrial locations. 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 to have additional erosion control measures implemented per Dan's suggestion.

Mr. Wyke asked about the status of our Moen Ave project and outstanding work that IDOT needs to do so Rockdale can officially end the project. Outstanding payments continue to be an on-going concern with Mr. Wyke.

Mr. Stiff had nothing to add to what was covered in detail throughout the meeting.

#### **XIV. Public Comment**

Mr. Wyke asked those in attendance if they wished to make a public comment. Mr. and Mrs. Weber wanted clarification on the water rate increase.

#### **XV. Special Business**

None

#### **XVI. Adjournment**

A Motion to adjourn 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 January 16, 2024