

VILLAGE OF ROCKDALE
Board Meeting Minutes of
May 7, 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 May 7th, 2024, at the Village Municipal Building, 79 Moen Avenue, Rockdale, Illinois.

II. Roll Call

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Mr. Wyke asked the clerk for a roll call. Trustee Mr. Lorenc was present along with Mr. Scheidt, Mr. Stadler, Mr. Cooling, Mr. Barnes, and Mr. Pirc. Also present in person were Police Chief Mr. Robert Dykstra, Village Engineer Mr. Dan Malinowski, Village Attorney Mr. Stiff and Public Works Superintendent Mr. Angelo Proia.

III. Approval of Previous Minutes

Village President Mr. Wyke asked for a Motion to approve the Village Board meeting minutes from April 17, 2024, as written. Mr. Lorenc made a motion to approve the minutes as written with a second by Mr. Stadler. Motion carried 6 ayes, 0 nays and 0 absent.

IV. Visitors

None

V. Bills and Claims.

Prior to Village President Mr. Wyke asked for a Motion to approve the Bills & Claims. Mr. Lorenc asked Mr. Proia about an invoice. Afterwards, Mr. Stadler made a motion to approve with a second by Mr. Pirc. Motion carried 6 ayes, 0 nays and 0 absent.

VI. Clerk's Receipts

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

VII. Treasurer's Receipts

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

VIII. Treasurer's Report

Village President Mr. Wyke asked for a Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as submitted. Mr. Cooling made a Motion to approve with a second by Mr. Scheidt. Motion carried 6 ayes, 0 nays 0 absent.

IX. Building Permits

There was one to report which was adding a new fence at 701 Howard St.

X. Communications

Village President Mr. Wyke asked for any Communications. There were none.

XI. Old Business

Village President Mr. Wyke asked the members of the Board for any old business. Mr. Barnes put forth a suggestion adding a couple of signs to the ballfield in remembrance of Jim (Smokie) Planinsek renaming the ballfield in his honor. After a discussion Chief Dykstra will spearhead the efforts to have signage to review at a future Board meeting.

Mr. Lorenc commented to the Public Works Assistant Director Mr. Proia on how well the park looks from the work done by his department.

XII. New Business

Mr. Wyke asked Board members about any new business. There was none.

The first item of new business was to honor the achievements of the Chairperson of the Village Zoning Sue Polesel. Ms. Polesel has been a member of our community and been a member and Chairperson of the zoning Board for more than 32 years. Mr. Wyke gave out a plaque which commemorated her 32 years of service.

Next on the agenda was a presentation of ZBA Findings and Decision from the ZBA meeting held on May 7th, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. regarding consideration of the ZBA Recommendation regarding the Application of Carlos Nunez Jr. for a Parking Variation on the Property located at 301-309 Moen Avenue for a proposed Tavern/bar on the property located at 303 Moen Avenue. All of the details from the zoning Board meeting led to a vote in favor of the parking variation with the zoning Board having a quorum for the vote. However, there were two absences on the Board, so it did not meet the municipal code which requires a four vote to approve which unfortunately brings this finding to be technically against an approval based on the Illinois Municipal Codes. Mr. Stiff will modify the Ordinance, so it complies with what took place and have it ready for signature.

From this Mr. Stiff led the Board to what came up next on the agenda regarding an Ordinance Approving or Denying the Application of Carlos Nunez Jr. for a Parking Variation on the Property located at 301-309 Moen Avenue for a proposed Tavern/bar on the property located at 303 Moen Avenue. From the zoning Board meeting, it was recommended the application be approved with stipulations. These stipulations which involve hours of operations, Mansard Room conflicts and additional work required on the rented parking area near 303 Moen Avenue. The new Tavern license which will be required to list the same conditions put forth with this application approval. A lengthy description including the history behind this limited parking condition. To move forward with this vote by the Board will require a two-thirds vote to approve by the Board to move this project forward. Prior to a vote taking place, Mr. Stiff offered the Board a chance to ask questions to both Carlos and Carlos Jr. who are in attendance. Mr. Lorenc spoke of keeping the business operational since the story told of a risk by the owners of being forced to rethink their long-standing stay at this location to keep their business successful. Mr. Wyke chose to work with both individuals in committee and have a similar set of stipulations for the new tavern keeping the best interests of the Village in mind. A motion was made by Mr. Lorenc with a second by Mr. Stadler. Motion carried by a vote of 6 ayes, 0 nays and 0 absent.

From all of this, an Ordinance was brought forth for a vote based on a final approval of the Ordinance which will be put in place for approval of the application. After the clerk first identified as Ordinance number 1148, it was later found to be numbered in error spotted by Chief Dykstra who reminded the clerk it should be number 1149. A motion was made by Mr. Scheidt with a second by Mr. Cooling. Motion carried 6 ayes, 0 nays and 0 absent.

Next on the agenda was an approval of the Allied Nursery, Inc. Proposal for Landscaping Services (Labor and Material) around the Village Welcome Sign at Meadow and Larkin Avenues in the amount of \$2,660.00. Mr. Wyke noted the landscaping is required due to an inadvertent destruction of the welcome to Rockdale signage. A motion was made by Mr. Cooling with a second by Mr. Pirc. Motion carried by a vote of 6 ayes, 0 nays and 0 absent.

Next up was the Proposal for the demolition of the house located on Village owned property located at 1407 Kinsey Avenue. There were two proposals presented for review. After a quick math analysis, it was decided to go with the one with the lower amount listed for a not to exceed value amount of \$11,000.00. A motion was made by Mr. Lorenc with a second by Mr. Cooling. Motion carried by a vote of 6 ayes, 0 nays and 0 absent.

XIII. Department Business

Public Works Superintendent Mr. Proia presented his information. The Village park spring upgrades are finished and it looks great. A location on Mound Road has been flooding more with the recent heavy rains. A solution is forthcoming. French Drains were the topic of discussion with a legion of experts assisting this unique situation. After a lengthy discussion about water drainage and water directional flow analysis, this discussion will be revisited at a later date.

Police Chief Mr. Dykstra shared the recent police activity report for the past two weeks. Things of interest from the report were

- Traffic stop for Driving with expired registration which led to additional charges of driving without a license and driving an uninsured vehicle.
- Driver pulled over for suspicious behavior while driving. Running his registration proved worthy of 3 additional citations.
- A suspect was taken into custody for a warrant adding additional charges after trying to flee along with ag battery to a peace officer, in possession of a controlled substance.
- A traffic stop for improper lane usage led to the driver tossing a controlled substance out of his window while the officer approached his vehicle.
- A resident was arrested for domestic violence.
- The Roc City bar had two suspects behaving erratically which had employees call the police for assistance. One suspect had a controlled substance in his possession.
- The Roc City bar had their grill cook arrested for an outstanding warrant.

Chief Dykstra relayed to the Board an update of Deputy Chief Baikie's wife who was recently released from the hospital. She wanted to thank everyone who has reached out to her during this difficult period in her life.

Assistant Clerk Ms. Pirc and the Chief have been in discussions with our phone service company and others for a cost-effective option to upgrade our Village phone system. This archaic system still works off of a now obsolete system of copper wire which is now very expensive to keep in operation.

A new Police Vehicle and body camera system are in desperate need of upgrades which are now under review.

Village Engineer Mr. Dan Malinowski provided a handout which included a section about the Guzman property which has been an on-going project. Will County is in agreement with the Village with their recommendations in regard to drainage and street sweeping.

Will County requires following a county wide Ordinance for the AJ Inter-Estate property which is located on the old Polly's garage property. The Village should be getting its fee in lieu of detention.

Village Attorney Mr. Stiff reported that regarding the Guzman property. Will County wants them to heavily landscape the property which has the ownership disputing their findings. It's an on-going process. Mr. Stiff would prefer to get all of the outstanding issues resolved soon so the Judge can close the case.

XIV. Public Comment

None

XV.Special Business

None.

XVI.Adjournment

Prior to adjournment, Mr. Wyke informed those in attendance about his plans to honor the Veterans on Memorial Day scheduled for Monday, May 27th, 2024. The time will be at 10:00 with the place located in front of the Rockdale part-time Fire District. There are still details to complete which include bringing someone in to play taps and have a short speech honoring the Veterans.

Mr. Wyke then asked for a Motion to adjourn the meeting. A Motion was made by Mr. Barnes with a second by Mr. Scheidt. Motion carried 6 ayes, 0 nays, 0 absent.

The next Village Board Meeting will be Tuesday May 21, 2024.