VILLAGE OF ROCKDALE

Board Meeting Minutes of

May 21, 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 21, 2024, at the Village Municipal Building, 79 Moen Avenue, Rockdale, Illinois.

II. Roll Call

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Mr. Wyke asked 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 May 7, 2024, as written. Mr. Stadler made a motion to approve the minutes as written with a second by Mr. Pirc. Motion carried 6 ayes, 0 nays and 0 absent.

IV. Visitors

Harold Pitsenberger addressed the Board about his storm sewer issues near his property at Kinsey Avenue and Margaret Street. When it rains more than two inches the storm sewer does not drain properly. According to Mr. Pitsenberger, this is due to a clogged trench on IDOT property. Mr. Wyke asked Mr. Proia about a possible solution to this problem. Mr. Proia agreed to investigate the situation to find a possible solution. When Mr. Malinowski arrived, he indicated that he had had discussions with IDOT in the past and what it might take to resolve the problem. One issue is whether the source of the problem is on IDOT property or in Village Right of Way. Depending on the answer to that question, the next issue is who should be responsible for the cost of remediating the issue. Mr. Malinowski will again reach out to IDOT to determine what might be done in the short term, as there has been discussion about whether the ongoing and future I-80 construction will potentially resolve the issue in the long term.

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. Scheidt 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. Cooling. 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

None.

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. There was none.

XII. New Business

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

The first agenda item under new business was an information only clarification of the ordinance number for the Ordinance Approving 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. This Ordinance was passed at the last meeting, but the wrong Ordinance number was provided during the meeting. The error was corrected in the minutes approved tonight and in the Ordinance itself.

The next agenda item was discussion and approval of Powers Painting & Decorating Proposal for Exterior Painting of the Village (Labor and Material) Welcome Signs at Meadow Avenue, Larkin Avenue and Midland Avenue in the amount of $2,550.00. These signs were last painted at least four years ago and need new paint. Mr. Proia indicated that it was difficult to secure quotes for the sign painting job but that he was able to secure the quote for power washing and painting by Powers. A motion was made by Mr. Stadler to approve this quote at a not to exceed cost of $2,550.00 with a second by Mr. Lorenc. Motion carried by a vote of 6 ayes, 0 nays and 0 absent.

XIII. Department Business

Public Works Superintendent Mr. Proia presented his update. Following the motor vehicle accident at Mound Road near the lift station which damaged the fence, Dawn Pirc and Chief Dykstra were able to work with the insurer for the vehicle secure payment of an amount which will cover the total cost of the fence replacement. Mr. Proia indicated that for the replacement, he is suggesting added protection to the more vulnerable portions of the lift station. That request will be at a future meeting.

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

- Traffic stop for Driving with expired registration which led to additional charges of driving without a license, driving an uninsured vehicle and possession of a controlled substance.
- Two female subjects were walking in the center lane of the road. Both were questioned with one having an open Vodka bottle and having a hypodermic needle and drug paraphernalia. She was arrested for an outstanding warrant.
- Two separate incidents resulted in the arrest for no valid driver’s license and citations involving operating a vehicle without insurance.
- The Roc City bar had a grill cook arrested for an outstanding warrant.

Chief Dykstra reported that the Tornado Siren issues have been addressed.

In an on-going project to replace the outdated phone system presently in place at the Village Hall. Assistant Clerk Ms. Pirc and Chief Dykstra have been in discussions with the Village’s phone service provider and other vendors for a cost-effective option to upgrade the Village phone system. Proposals will be forthcoming.

Chief Dykstra provided a handout to the Board regarding the requested mock-ups of signage for the Seabee Baseball Diamond which will commemorate the passing of James "Smokey" Planinsek.

Finally, the Chief presented a series of proposals, both bundle pricing and ala carte pricing, for the replacement of the Police Department's tasers, body-worn cameras, and in-squad cameras. Chief Dykstra discussed the Axon body and car cameras vs. the current Village Motorola products. He also discussed the Tasers and the need for less lethal options. He is recommending that the Village make the switch to the Axon equipment and that the Village also consider taking advantage of the 5-year contract pricing, which is all inclusive. Chief Dykstra also presented some of the challenges with the current equipment and the time savings and streamlined process an upgrade will provide. Additionally, state statute will require the Village to have up-to-date body worn cameras by January of next year and the current body worn cameras will not comply. Finally, while the in-car cameras are not mandated by the statute, Chief Dykstra does not recommend that the Village go without replacement of the in-car cameras, as they can be quite invaluable as a complement to the body worn cameras. Finally, the need for quality, up to date Tasers as a non-lethal option for law enforcement is also without question a top priority. Chief Dykstra indicated that the Department had received a $50,000 grant which can be applied to the first year's costs. Mr. Wyke asked about any other grants for which the Village might qualify. The Chief said he is always on the lookout for such grants but currently every department is looking for the same thing with the body camera deadline looming. Mr. Stiff echoed the Chief's recommendation that the Village should not eliminate the in-car cameras. He also asked about the 5-year contract and the Chief indicated that there are resource links in the handouts that cover legal issues such as that.

Village Engineer Mr. Dan Malinowski provided a handout which included a section about the Gutterman addition which has been in the works since last September. Engineering issues were resolved, and drawings were submitted and approved.

A meeting with Schwarz Logistics will be on May 30 to determine the next steps in their on-going process, including possible road improvements and a fee in lieu of detention.

Additionally, Mr. Malinowski is waiting on the County Land Use approval of minutes of a meeting in which the Land Use Department affirmed the Village's interpretation of the Stormwater Ordinance with respect to the AJ Inter-Estate property and once the minutes are approved, they will be sent to Tom Osterberger, the attorney for the property owner, at which point the Village will get its fee in lieu of detention.

Village Attorney Mr. Stiff confirmed the Schwarz Logistics meeting. He also advised the Board that the Well Siting Study from Strand was completed, and a meeting held to determine the path forward, including whether to drill a new deep well now, and if so, where it will be located. Additionally, there was discussion regarding the location of the HMO treatment plant, pumping station and ground level storage tanks. Before these matters come before the Board for approval, the Village needs to meet with Apollo Colors to discuss future water needs and the financial impacts of the coming water system infrastructure improvements.

XIV. Public Comment

Mr. Wyke asked those in attendance if they wanted to address the Board. Ms. Weber asked about whether the water rate increases will go on "in perpetuity." Mr. Stiff addressed the fact that the water rate study is not yet complete but that there will be significant increases in the short term to pay for these improvements.

Gary Califello commented about the recent trimming of bushes by the Memorial Day monument.

XV. Special Business

None.

XVI.Adjournment

Prior to adjournment, Mr. Wyke informed those in attendance about the upcoming annual raises for the Village staff members. Finally, the Flagpole donated three years ago to the Village will be adorned with a plaque commemorating the donation including the names of the Trustees. JJ Monuments located in Rockdale will be donating services for this project.

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

The next Village Board Meeting will be Tuesday June 4, 2024.