

VILLAGE OF ROCKDALE
Board Meeting Minutes of
June 4, 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 June 4, 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, 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. Trustee Barnes was absent.

III. Approval of Previous Minutes

Village President Mr. Wyke asked for a Motion to approve the Village Board meeting minutes from May 21, 2024, as written. Mr. Scheidt made a motion to approve the minutes as written with a second by Mr. Pirc. Motion carried 6 ayes, 0 nays and 1 absent.

IV. Visitors

None

V. Bills and Claims.

Village President Mr. Wyke asked for a Motion to approve the Bills & Claims. Mr. Pirc made a motion to approve with a second by Mr. Lorenc. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays and 1 absent.

VI. Clerk's Receipts

Village President Mr. Wyke asked for a Motion to approve the Clerk's Receipts as submitted. Mr. Lorenc made a Motion to approve with a second by Mr. Stadler. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays and 1 absent.

VII. Treasurer's Receipts

Village President Mr. Wyke asked for a Motion to approve the Treasurer's Receipts as submitted. Mr. Scheidt made a Motion to approve with a second by Mr. Pirc. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays 1 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. Lorenc. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays 1 absent.

IX. Building Permits

Two building permits have been submitted. The owner of 1306 Bellevue applied for a permit to install solar panels. The owner of 124 Meadow applied for permits to repair the damage from the house fire last year. Mr. Stiff inquired about the status of the new house on Midland and whether that construction was beyond the time of the building permit. Since they began construction within one year, the permit is still valid. Mr. Wyke indicated that the reason for the delay was due to a lack of funding, although the owner is moving forward now. Mr. Wyke also advised the Board that the owner still needs to pay the water and sewer tap-on fees.

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 A Resolution to Approve Task Order 24-04 with Strand Associates for Preparing and Submitting to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) an updated State Revolving Fund (SRF) Project Plan document and associated services on an hourly plus expenses basis not to exceed \$25,000.00. Mr. Stiff gave an overview of the task order, as follows: The Board previously authorized Strand to prepare and submit to the IEPA Planning documents for projects for which the Village would be seeking low interest loans and/or principal forgiveness from the State and Federal governments for the upcoming water system capital improvements. Strand submitted these documents to the IEPA last year when the Village was still considering becoming a water customer of the City of Joliet. As a result, the projects submitted in the plan included the Meadow Avenue water main replacement project, the lead service line replacements, a new interconnect with Joliet, storage tanks and other projects. After that submittal, the Village in December 2023 decided not to become a City of Joliet water customer but instead decided to remain on well water by switching over to its existing deep well and/or drilling a new deep well, building a new HMO treatment plant to treat the radium in the deep well, and a pumping station. Now that this decision has been made, the Village needs to submit a revised plan to the IEPA which removes some of those projects which will no longer be done and adds projects which were not contemplated last year when the initial submittal was made. Mr. Stiff reported that the Village received a letter from the IEPA granting 80% principal forgiveness for the Meadow Avenue water main replacement. That project is estimated at approximately \$2.8 million with the Village's portion being approximately \$563,000 which will be spread out over 20 or 30 years. Unfortunately, there was no principal forgiveness on the lead line replacement project, estimated at approximately \$1.150 million. However, the Village was granted a 0% interest 40-year loan for that project which would cost the Village approximately \$28,750 per year. There was an indication in the letter that the reason no principal forgiveness was offered was because the Village had not submitted a material service inventory, but Mr. Wyke indicated that the Village had indeed submitted the inventory. Mr. Stiff indicated that he would speak with Chris Ulm from Strand to see if anything could be done to get the IEPA to change its decision on the issue. Another option for the Village would be to decline the 0% interest loan this year and postpone the lead service line replacement project until next year and re-submit for the principal forgiveness. The Task Order 24-04 is for Strand to prepare updated and supplemental applications to the IEPA which will remove the future projects which are no longer needed given the Village's decision to remain on deep well water service and to substitute the new projects for low interest loans and principal forgiveness, specifically the new deep well, HMO treatment plant, pump station, and ground level storage facility. There were no other questions. A motion to approve Resolution 850, Task Order 24-04 with Strand Associates, Inc. for services on an hourly plus expenses basis not to exceed \$25,000.00 was made by Mr. Stadler with a second by Mr. Pirc. Motion carried by a vote of 5 ayes, 0 nays and 1 absent.

The next agenda item was consideration of a proposal from Alliance Fence for installation of guard rails or bollards as additional protection from motor vehicle traffic at the Rockdale Lift Station. Mr. Stiff advised the Board that the discussion of additional protections to the new lift station resulted from a motor vehicle incident which damaged much of the fencing around the new lift station. The proposal from Alliance offers two options: guard rails and bollards. After brief discussion, it was decided that both bollards and guard rails should be installed given the potential for vehicles traveling on Midland Avenue to run directly into the lift station, which was just completed at great expense to the Village. A motion was made by Mr. Cooling to approve this quote at a not to exceed cost of \$17,150.00 with a second by Mr. Lorenc. Motion carried by a vote of 5 ayes, 0 nays and 1 absent.

The next item on the agenda was the approval of salary and wage increases for non-union Village Staff, which would be acted on following executive session.

XIII. Department Business

Public Works Superintendent Mr. Proia presented his update. Alley scarification will take place soon. He has two summer help applications if the Board approves the hires. Mr. Proia would like to start the workers at the present Illinois minimum wage of \$14.00 per hour. Mr. Stiff indicated that there is no action item for hiring these two workers. However, if the Board had no problem with the two hires, Mr. Proia could get them started given the need, and the Board could ratify the hiring at the next meeting.

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

- A brief update regarding the Axon (Taser) proposal. Pricing was locked in as long as the approval process does not extend past the July 2nd Board meeting. This increase will be significant, so it is imperative a decision is made soon. Laraway Communications Director agreed to allow the grant for the tornado siren to be used for this proposal should the Village decide.

Chief Dykstra wished everyone a happy Father's Day.

Village Engineer Mr. Dan Malinowski provided a handout which included a section about the Kinsey and Margaret drainage problem on or near IDOT property. Trustee Mr. Lorenc viewed the area in question and thought it best to have IDOT fix the problem given the amount of foliage, which would be problematic for the Village's Public Works Staff. Mr. Stiff asked whether the new I-80 construction timetable would mean that the issue gets addressed sooner rather than later. Mr. Malinowski is waiting for a response from IDOT.

Village Attorney Mr. Stiff received an email from Barb Adams who is outside counsel for the City of Joliet. Joliet is under contract with the Glosky property located on Rock Island Avenue in Rockdale. The Emergency Water Supply Agreement with Joliet, which was approved last December, requires the Village to consent to the disconnection of the Glosky property which will then be annexed to Joliet. Ms. Adams is asking whether this could be placed on the July 2, 2024, agenda. Mr. Stiff said there should be no problem with that, but he wanted to discuss the proposed plat of disconnection with Mr. Wyke and Mr. Proia before then to make sure that the Rockdale boundary is clearly understood along with the IDOT right of way property.

XIV. Public Comment

None

XV. Special Business

There was a need for an executive session pursuant to 5 ILCS 1202(c)(1)—The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body.

A motion was made to go into executive session by Mr. Lorenc with a second by Mr. Pirc. Motion carried by a vote of 5 ayes, 0 nays and 1 absent.

A motion was made to close the executive session motion by Mr. Cooling which was seconded by Mr. Lorenc. Motion carried by a vote of 5 ayes, 0 nays and 1 absent.

Following the executive session, the Board considered the approval of salary and wage increases for non-union Village Staff. Mr. Stiff first asked for a motion to approve the salary and wage increases for all non-union Village Staff except Assistant Village Clerk Ms. Pirc as discussed in the executive session. That motion was made by Mr. Cooling with a second by Mr. Stadler. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays and 1 absent. Mr. Stiff next asked for a motion to approve the wage increase for Assistant Clerk Ms. Pirc as discussed in the executive session. That motion to approve was made by Mr. Lorenc with a second by Stadler. Motion carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays, 1 abstention and 1 absent.

XVI.Adjournment

Prior to adjournment, Mr. Wyke informed those in attendance about the upcoming Rockdale clean up days for this weekend.

Mr. Wyke then asked for a Motion to adjourn the meeting. A Motion was made by Mr. Stadler with a second by Mr. Scheidt. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent.

The next Village Board Meeting will be Tuesday June 18, 2024.