

VILLAGE OF ROCKDALE
Board Meeting Minutes of
February 4, 2025

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 February 4, 2025, 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. Stadler, Mr. Cooling, Mr. Scheidt and Mr. Pirc. Mr. Barnes was absent. Also present in person were Police Chief Mr. Robert Dykstra, Public Works Superintendent Mr. Angelo Proia, and Village Attorney Mr. Stiff. Village Engineer Mr. Dan Malinowski was absent.

III. Approval of Previous Minutes

Village President Mr. Wyke asked for a Motion to approve the Village Board meeting minutes from January 21, 2025, as written. Mr. Lorenc made the motion with a second by Mr. Scheidt. 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 approve the Bills & Claims. Mr. Scheidt 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. Cooling made a Motion to approve with a second was 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. Mr. Lorenc made a Motion to accept 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. Mr. Stadler made a Motion to accept with a second by Mr. Scheidt. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays 1 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 for any old business. There was none.

XII. New Business

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

The first New Business item on the agenda was the swearing in of new Rockdale Peace Officers, Brandon Victor, and Michael Alcala. Assistant Chief Baikie introduced each officer and provided a brief synopsis of their background and training. The Village Clerk then administered the oath of office to Michael Alcala before administering the oath of office to Brandon Victor. The Village Board members and staff welcomed the two new officers to the Village.

The next item on the agenda was a Public Hearing on the Preliminary Environmental Impacts Determination (PEID) issued by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) for the Village of Rockdale Project Planning Report for the Kinsey Avenue Well No. 8. Mr. Stiff asked for a motion to open the meeting with the Motion made by Mr. Lorenc and a second by Mr. Scheidt. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays and 1 absent. The Public Hearing was opened at 7:11 p.m. Mr. Stiff provided a brief overview of the project. The PEID letter was issued by the IEPA, and the Notice of Public Hearing was published in the Herald News 10 days prior to tonight. The PEID letter has been available to the public at Village Hall since then. According to the Village Clerk, there were no requests to review or for a copy of the IEPA determination. Mr. Stiff then introduced Chris Ulm from Strand Associates to provide a brief presentation regarding the project. Chris Ulm indicated that the project includes the drilling of a new deep well, an HMO treatment facility and an above ground water storage tank. Mr. Ulm provided a written handout of the PowerPoint slides that he went over as part of his presentation. The new well will be at Kinsey Ave and Midland Ave. The IEPA determination letter reports that the project presents minimal to no impact on the environment. At the conclusion of Mr. Ulm's presentation, Mr. Stiff asked for any public comment. There was none. In addition to the opportunity to offer public comment tonight, Mr. Stiff advised that written public comment may be submitted to the Village or the IEPA until March 4, 2025. Mr. Stiff asked for a motion to close the Public Hearing. That motion was made by Mr. Cooling with a second by Mr. Scheidt. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays and 1 absent. The Public Hearing was closed at 7:19 p.m.

Next on the agenda was Approval of Ordinance #1154 Authorizing The Disposal of Surplus Personal Property Owned By The Village Of Rockdale, Will County, Illinois (Police K9 Officer Roxie). Mr. Stiff explained the circumstances regarding Roxie's retirement, which was advanced due to Officer Griffing's resignation as Village Peace Officer. Because Roxie is the Village's property, she must be declared surplus by Ordinance. As is typical, when a K9 Officer is retired, the dog is usually "sold" to the handler to live out its days as a regular member of the family. The Ordinance before the Board does just that; it declares Roxie to be surplus and authorizes her sale to Officer Griffing for one dollar (\$1.00). A motion to approve Ordinance #1154 was made by Mr. Cooling with a second by Mr. Lorenc. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays and 1 absent.

The next agenda item was Approval of Ordinance #1155 Authorizing The Disposal Of Surplus Personal Property Owned By The Village Of Rockdale, Will County, Illinois (Tasers and Taser Equipment). Mr. Stiff explained that when the Village Board approved the purchase of new tasers last year, outdated (and out of warranty) tasers and taser equipment was no longer needed. The Ordinance has been drafted to allow Chief Dykstra the discretion to determine whether the old equipment has any re-sale value and if not, to donate the equipment to an appropriate organization. A motion to approve Ordinance #1156 was made by Mr. Stadler with a second by Mr. Scheidt. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays and 1 absent.

Ordinance #1156 was next on the agenda. This item is an Ordinance Authorizing The Village To Issue Waterworks And Sewerage Revenue Bonds In An Aggregate Principal Amount Not To Exceed \$4,300,000 For Water And Sewer System Improvements. The ordinance is related to the upcoming water projects discussed earlier. This bonding ordinance is related to the upcoming Meadow Avenue Water Main Replacement Project. Mr. Stiff explained that this Ordinance was drafted by Chapman & Cutler, the Village's bond counsel, which was retained by approval at the last meeting. The Ordinance is to make sure that the Village, in taking out the IEPA Loan for the project, is following the law regarding bonds and its

bonding authority. A motion to approve Ordinance #1156 was made by Mr. Lorenc with a second by Mr. Cooling. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays and 1 absent.

The next agenda item was for approval of a proposal from M.E. Simpson Co., Inc. to perform a water distribution system leak survey. Based on the rate study analysis and investigation, there is a possibility of leaks in the system which would account for water loss. The Village has had a leak survey done recently but this “second opinion” from the highly regarded M.E. Simpson Company, recommended by the City of Joliet, will help the Village identify whether there are leaks or some other issue affecting how the Village’s system and Joliet’s system are interacting. Mr. Proia indicated that he has trust in this company. Mr. Pirc asked a technical question regarding the testing of the system which Mr. Proia answered to his satisfaction. There being no further discussion, Mr. Stadler made a motion to approve the proposal from M.E. Simpson in an amount not to exceed \$10,600.00 with a second by Mr. Pirc. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays and 1 absent.

The final agenda item was to authorize the Village President to execute an Addendum to the Legal Services Agreement for the PFAS litigation in federal court. Mr. Stiff indicated that the date of that earlier agreement is wrong on the agenda. He explained that the addendum merely replaces the law firm previously known and Kennedy & Madonna with the Law Office of Kevin Madonna. This was necessitated by Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.’s nomination for a cabinet level position. A motion to authorize the signing of the addendum was made by Mr. Cooling with a second by Mr. Scheidt. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays and 1 absent.

XIII. Department Business

Public Works Superintendent Mr. Proia reported the replacement of aviation lights on one of the water towers. His department is ready for the ice storm which is being forecast in the next couple of days.

Deputy Police Chief Mr. Baikie handed out the two-week call list along with the police activity report. Deputy Chief Baikie reported there will soon be meetings held with the Rockdale Schools regarding their safety procedures for threat assessments.

Village Engineer Mr. Malinowski was absent.

Village Attorney Mr. Stiff had nothing to add other than what has been previously addressed.

Public Comment

Mr. Wyke asked for Public Comment. Ms. Diane Weber complimented the Rockdale Public Works Department’s effort during the last storm. She also asked if Rockdale will be getting another K9 officer to replace Roxie. Chief Dykstra indicated that the PD would wait to see whether one of the other officers suits the need of the department to become a K9 officer.

Ms. Josefina Reyes Garcia spoke next regarding a problem with her water bill and her dissatisfaction with how her issue was handled by the Village Clerk’s office. Last week, Ms. Garcia called the Clerk’s Office to complain about her water bill being too high. She claimed that she was out of the country for three weeks and therefore could not have used the amount of water charged. The Village Clerk stated that Ms. Garcia hung up before staff could ask questions related to usage like whether there is a water softener in the residence. Mr. Wyke advised Ms. Garcia that Village staff will perform an individual read of the property and will work with her to find a resolution to the issue.

XIV. Special Business

None

XV.Adjournment

Mr. Wyke asked for a Motion to adjourn the meeting. A Motion was made by Mr. Cooling with a second by Mr. Lorenc. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent. Meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

The next Village Board Meeting will be on Tuesday February 18, 2025.