VILLAGE OF ROCKDALE
Board Meeting Minutes of
August 5, 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 August 5, 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. Stadler was present along with Mr. Califello, Mr. Scheidt, Mr. Cooling, Mr. Lorenc and Mr. Pirc. Also present in person were Police Chief Mr. Robert Dykstra, Public Works Superintendent Mr. Angelo Proia, Village Treasurer, Steve Lucas, Village Attorney Mr. Michael Stiff and Village Engineer Mr. Dan Malinowski.

III. Approval of Previous Minutes

Mr. Wyke asked for a motion to approve the Village Board meeting minutes from August 5, 2025, as written. Mr. Stadler made a motion with a second by Mr. Scheidt. Motion carried 6 ayes, 0 nays and 0 absent.

IV. Visitors

None.

V. Bills and Claims.

Mr. Wyke asked for a Motion to approve the Bills & Claims. Mr. Lorenc made a motion to approve with a second by Mr. Pirc. Motion carried 6 ayes, 0 nays and 0 absent.

VI. Clerk's Receipts

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

VII. Treasurer's Receipts

Mr. Wyke asked for a Motion to approve the Treasurer's Receipts. Mr. Scheidt made a Motion to accept with a second from Mr. Cooling. Motion carried 6 ayes, 0 nays 0 absent.

VIII. Treasurer's Report

Mr. Wyke asked for a Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Mr. Lorenc made a Motion to accept with a second by Mr. Pirc. Motion carried 6 ayes, 0 nays 0 absent.

IX. Building Permits

102 Stillwell- fence.

X. Communications

For communications, the Village Clerk read a note from a resident who had a fainting incident in the lobby of the Village Hall while paying a water bill. Mr. Write thanked the Village Staff for their assistance and fast action in responding. Mr. Wyke advised the Village Board that the annual "Look amazing, be amazing" even at Professional Salon Concepts will be held on Thursday, August 7 from 3:30 pm until 5:30 pm. Mr. Wyke highlighted the planned events. Police Chief Dykstra read a letter received at the Police Department from Troy and Sheryl Martin regarding the Police Department's work in locating their grandson Lucas.

They expressed thanks for the assistance provided by the Rockdale Police Department. They called out Officers Jesse Nelson and Anthony Montiel specifically for their professionalism and hard work.

Police Chief Dykstra also mentioned receiving a voice message which the citizen asked to be played for the Village Board. The voicemail identified the person who had been in line at a restaurant waiting to place a food order. He was speaking with a Rockdale Police officer while waiting. Unbeknownst to him, his order was paid for by the Rockdale officer. Although the caller did not recall the officer's name, he asked the Chief to express his sincere thanks. Chief Dykstra determined (from the description left by the caller) that the officer was Danny Jones, who routinely performs these acts of kindness.

XI. Old Business

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

XII. New Business

Mr. Wyke asked the Trustees for any new business. Mr. Scheidt asked our Public Works Superintendent Mr. Proia about his neighbor's drainage tile system near the village sidewalk. He was concerned about the amount of water going into the village's stormwater system and possibly onto the sidewalk. If it happens in the winter, this would be dangerous as a slipping hazard. Mr. Proia assured Mr. Scheidt that it does not accumulate that much water and he would make sure it is monitored.

Mr. Lorenc was curious about the work being done at the 303 Moen Ave location. There has been dust and debris near that door which is cause for concern. There is a building permit for that location which is being remodeled as a beauty parlor. Village Staff will stop by the location to see the progress firsthand and report back.

The first agenda item was a business license review for a new business located at 303 Mound Road. The business is Ristich Auto Group LLC. Owner Nicolas Ristich was present for the meeting. Mr. Wyke asked Mr. Ristich to provide an overview of his business. Mr. Ristich indicated that he purchases vehicles from various sources and then sells them exclusively online. The business location is where the transfer takes place, and the paperwork is completed. Mr. Wyke asked about the location and the traffic they might experience. Mr. Ristich said that each sale is separate and there would only be one person at the business at a time to take care of the physical transfer of the vehicle and the necessary paperwork. Security cameras are set up on property.

The next item was an existing Rockdale business which had moved from its previous location to the rear of 40 Midland Ave. The business is Corey's Landscaping, and the owner Corey Bulliner was present. Mr. Bulliner has been in Rockdale for years but this is a new location. He provided a background of suddenly losing his lease at the prior location and being able to move into the current location on short notice. He is a small business with limited income at present. He talked about the fact that there have been complaints from his neighbor, Roc City, and he has attempted to work things out with the owners. The complaints centered on the equipment and a storage container and mobile home on the property, which the Village President called an eyesore. Mr. Bulliner indicated that it is his intent to fence the area, paint the storage container and get all his equipment inside the container and to use the mobile home as an office. Mr. Wyke indicated that the mobile home might be an ordinance issue. He also questioned the open containers of paint and bricks which look cluttered. He asked about a fence and the timeline of a fence installation. The first order from the Board was to get a building permit for the fence, which would require a plat of survey showing the property lines and where the fence would be installed. There was some discussion as to whether the Village owns an easement in that location. Mr. Stiff indicated that he would need to review the Village Codes to determine whether the trailer could even be used on the property as there is already a primary structure. Mr. Wyke suggested that all the code issues and cleanup of the property needs to be addressed before a new business license can be issued. Mr. Malinowski asked about a site plan. Mr. Stiff thought it best to at the very least have a concept plan drawn up so the Village will have an idea of what the plans are moving forward.

Mr. Stiff explained the next agenda item, which is a Resolution Approving a Letter of Understanding by and between the Village of Rockdale and the Illinois Department of Transportation related to the improvements on Brandon Road needed due to the detour route for the improvements to I-80 at Center Street and Meadow Avenue. IDOT prepared the initial letter but it seemed to indicate that the Village would be reimbursing IDOT for improvements to Brandon Road. He wrote back to IDOT with changes to the letter of understanding. IDOT concurred with those changes, including suggested additional improvements such as an overlay on Meadow Ave. at the intersection with Brandon. Mr. Stiff drafted the resolution which is in the Board's packet. This Resolution approves the amended version of the letter of understanding. The next resolution number is 859. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Lorenc with a second by Mr. Stadler. Motion carried, 6 ayes, 0 nays and 0 absent.

The next item was the approval of the hiring of Gayle Marchio as Administrative Assistant to the Village Clerks at a starting salary of $57,000.00 per year. Mr. Stiff provided the background on the hiring of Ms. Marchio, who was present in the gallery and introduced to the Board by Mr. Stiff. There is no resolution, but the Board is being asked to ratify Gayle's hiring back to July 24. A motion to approve and ratify the hiring was made by Mr. Lorenc with a second by Mr. Cooling. Motion carried 6 ayes, 0 nays and 0 absent.

The next agenda item was a discussion and Approval of a proposal from Educational and Environments in the amount of $6,426.80 for the purchase, delivery and installation of new office furniture. Mr. Wyke went through the proposal identifying each item on the proposal that is included in the proposal for this cost. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Lorenc with a second by Mr. Cooling. Motion carried 6 ayes, 0 nays and 0 absent.

The next and final item was an Ordinance Approving 2025-2026 Pay Increases For Non-Union Village Employees. This item will be acted on following closed session.

XIII. Department Business

Public Works Superintendent Mr. Proia reported that a PW employee passed the class for a Class B commercial driver's license. The renewal of the Water Operator's Independent Contractor Agreement is up at the end of August, so the Village will need to address that soon.

Police Chief Dykstra handed out the PD call sheet with more than 180 calls and had nothing more to add other than to inform the Board that there was an event this morning involving and attempted armed robbery of the local gas station on Moen and Larkin. The offender perused the product isle of the store before approaching the bullet proof window with what looked like a weapon and demanded the cash box. The clerk was unable to put a large cash drawer through the slot in the window, and the suspect became frustrated and left. Mr. Dykstra believed the weapon to be an airsoft gun. The new owner of the gas station has invested in a quality surveillance system so the Chief is hopeful that the video evidence will greatly assist the investigation.

Mr. Malinowski reported on his conversations with Schwarz Logistics, which has plans for the property upgrades on Mound Road. Those plans will be reviewed once there is a Professional Fee Agreement in place. This project includes putting a new building on the property. Site engineering plans will need to be reviewed and approved prior to the start of any construction.

Nicor is doing work around Kinsey and Margaret. The Moen Ave project Phase III documents prepared by Dan's office are ready for IDOT's review once they get around to the extension and audit process.

Finally, Mr. Stiff updated the Board by asking Mr. Proia about the water operator's contract renewal. Mr. Proia said he would discuss the matter with John Kemp, the contractor. The Enterprise Zone expansion will also be on the agenda for the next meeting.

Public Comment

Mr. Wyke asked for Public Comment. Ms. Weber had problems with vehicles making U-turns on Larkin Avenue during I-80 Construction.

XIV.Special Business

Mr. Wyke asked for a vote to go into an Executive Session: 5/ILCS 120/2(c)(1) Compensation of specific employees of the Public Body and 5/ILCS 120/2(c)(2) Collective negotiating matters or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees Motion made by Mr. Lorence with a second by Mr. Cooling. Motion carried, 6 ayes, 0 nays and 0 absent.

A motion was made to return from the Executive Session: 5/ILCS 120/2(c)(1) Compensation of specific employees of the Public Body and 5/ILCS 120/2(c)(2) Collective negotiating matters or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees, motion made by Mr. Pirc and with a second by Mr. Lorenc. Motion carried, 6 ayes, 0 nays and 0 absent.

Following the closed session, Mr. Stiff introduced the 2025-2026 Salary Ordinance. The Ordinance number is 1161. Mr. Stiff read into the record the following for Exhibit A to the Ordinance: Police Chief Dykstra at the wage of $68.23 per hour, Deputy Chief of Police Robert Baikie at a wage of $62.39 per hour. Assistant Director of Public Works Angelo Proia at a wage of $33.08per hour. Clerk Frank Sennyes at a wage of $32.03 per hour. Assistant Clerk Dawn Pirc at an increased raise matching the Clerk at $32.03 per hour. All the raises listed are a 5% increase from last year's salary and the raises are effective retroactively to June 1, 2025. Mr. Stiff asked for a motion to approve Ordinance 1161. The motion was made by Mr. Cooling with a second by Mr. Lorenc. The motion carried by 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 absent and 1 abstaining (Mr. Pirc).

XV. Adjournment

Before a final adjournment, Mr. Wyke wanted to give an update on the costs on the movable soccer goals. Each goal will cost $479.00 each. The Board asked Mr. Proia about the location of the goals. Also, Mr. Wyke wanted the Board's opinion of the potential for a lighted Stop Sign at Meadow Avenue and Midland. The costs range from $700.00 to $1700.00. Size is also a factor in the cost. This item will be on a future agenda for discussion and/or action.

A Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Cooling with a second by Mr. Scheidt. Motion carried 6 ayes, 0 nays, 0 absent.

The next Village Board Meeting will be on Tuesday August 19, 2025.