

VILLAGE OF ROSCOMMON

Minutes of the July 10, 2023

Regular Council Meeting

President Michael Miller called the Regular Council Meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Members of the Council present: Michael Miller, Dan Fishel, Tony Medina, Angela Cook, Joanne Lederman, Maureen Ruddy, with Jennifer Smejkal excused/absent. Others present - Manager Ron Alden, Clerk Frances Dawson, DPW director, Debbie Emery. Public present at the meeting are attached on the Sign In Sheet. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all and an Invocation was given by Trustee Dan Fishel.

Motion by Ruddy, seconded by Fishel to excuse Jennifer Smejkal from the council meeting. Ayes: Ruddy, Medina, Miller, Fishel, Lederman, Cook. Nays: none. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Lederman, seconded by Ruddy, to accept the Consent Agenda with bills to be paid in the amount of \$12,326.09 and an addition of a closed session on Code of Ethics discussion in the Discussion Items on the Agenda. Ayes: Medina, Fishel, Miller, Lederman, Cook, Ruddy. Nays: None. The motion carried.

REGULAR AGENDA

Moved by Lederman, seconded by Ruddy to approve the Regular Agenda with a change of a closed session in the Discussion Items on Code of Ethics. Ayes: Medina, Cook, Fishel, Lederman, Ruddy, Miller. Nays: None. The motion carried.

MANAGER'S REPORT

An Ice Cream Social will be held at Roscommon Insurance on Thursday, July 27th from 4-6 pm. The training for the Village/DPW in July went very well. It was on blood born pathogens and carrying first aid supplies – this is an RRC Certification requirement.

The Village attorney is drawing up the paperwork for the former Chase Bank public parking lot. Mornings with the Manager is going very well. We are getting more participants.

The issue at Mission Pointe is being worked on by the DPW to put in a special water meter and back flow preventer.

The Roscommon Motel is now hooked into our Village water/sewer system.

The tree at Wallace Park has been ordered, a Crimson King Maple.

The possibility of a Camp-n-Go facility is being looked at for the Industrial Park. If it goes further, it will go through the Planning Commission and then through Village Council before approval.

Alden has been working with the local Sheriff to possibly appoint a Blight Enforcement Officer.

The Sparks Grant has been submitted for the second round of approval.

Flowers are doing great. They are getting ready to schedule a weed and feed night.

Food distribution will be Saturday July 22nd at the bus garage.
There has been port-a-pots set at the Farmers Market.

PUBLIC ACKNOWLEDEMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

DPW UPDATE – Debbie Emery

Emery said that the Open House at the DPW Plant went very well. They had about 15 people attend.

There was some sewer issues at Holland House that was taken care of.

The main line is up and running well.

Mission Pointe is just about done and then the water side of the USDA grant will be done.

They have been keeping up on the mowing and trimming to keep the Village looking great.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE –

Thank DPW for doing a great job keeping downtown looking great, keeping up with the little emergencies that pop up, and such a great job at the Open House.

Perialas gave an update on the Housing Task Force. He will be checking into a Housing Study to present to investors.

The repair men for the downtown clock will be coming soon.

The DDA/MEDC grants have been helping a lot of the businesses in town. The Laundry Tub, The Depot Candle Shop, Fleck's Gas Station, The Spruce Lodge, etc...

Uncommonly Good is starting to rebuild and hopefully will be open soon with an ice cream shop included.

The system that plays the music downtown has been upgraded and is sounding great and will continue.

Perialas walks through town every week or so and is getting all good feedback that business is very good.

Perialas asks that we complete a survey for our Master Plan. The survey has a link on our web site.

Motion by Cook, seconded by Lederman to approve USDA Amendment for Fleis & Vendenbrink to Owner-Engineer Agreement in the amount of \$18,400.00. Ayes: Ruddy, Fishel, Cook, Medina, Lederman, Miller. Nays: none. The motion carried.

Motion by Ruddy, seconded by Cook to approve USDA Fleis & Vendenbrink Wastewater invoice in the amount of \$2,292.50. Ayes: Miller, Fishel, Medina, Lederman, Ruddy, Cook. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Motion by Cook, seconded by Lederman to approve USDA Water Services for Fleis & Vendenbrink in the amount of \$1,677.71. Ayes: Fishel, Ruddy, Cook, Medina, Miller, Lederman. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Motion by Ruddy, seconded by Lederman to approve USDA Change Order #8 Elmer's Inc. for (\$44,117.50). Ayes: Medina, Fishel, Miller, Lederman, Cook, Ruddy. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Medina gave an update on his ongoing participation with the Snowpackers and DNR on the posting of the snowmobile and ORV trails through the Village. They cleaned up the trailhead and Medina and Alden got the route posted better for the Village.

The Village will be posting two No Parking signs on Fourth St., 12 feet back on either side of the affected residential driveway.

Motion by Medina, seconded by Ruddy to remove section 14-d from the Village Parking Ordinance #70 Regulating Traffic and Parking. Ayes: Ruddy, Medina, Miller, Fishel, Lederman, Cook. Nays: none. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Alden gave a mid-year budget update.

Vanessa Varner from the Roscommon County Emergency Management office gave a talk on the update of the Emergency Management Plan for the entire County. The County will be getting approval from all the Townships in the County. The entire Plan is available at the Village office as well, as the County.

Motion by Lederman, seconded by Medina, to approve Agreement with Northern Lakes Economic Alliance for their services for the Hiawatha Project Grant for the amount of \$20,425.00. Ayes: Medina, Cook, Fishel, Lederman, Ruddy, Miller. Nays: none. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Fishel does not believe that the Village needs a blight enforcement officer. Lederman states that yes, the blight is getting worse and will continue to get worse unless it is addressed.

Medina does not believe that the Village needs anymore parking areas. Others said that the public parking areas need to be posted. Suggested to add public parking areas to walking map.

PUBLIC ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Medina thanks Ruddy for taking over the Community Garden and doing such a great job of it. Ruddy thanks her group of volunteers for their hard work.

Lederman said that Mr. Benik wants to thank all of the volunteers for watering the flowers everyday and that they really like the benches that the DDA has put all around town.

Miller thanks the DPW for their work, thank Perialas for his work and thank you to the Council for all their efforts.

Alden mentioned the County Recycle day on September 9th at the County Road Commission Garage.

ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

New Blight Enforcement Officer

USDA

County Emergency Management Plan

Motion by Cook, seconded by Fishel to go to closed session for Code of Ethics at 9:04 pm. All in favor.

Open Closed Session at 9:08 pm.

Close Closed Session at 9:32 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Fishel , seconded by Cook to adjourn the meeting at 9:33 PM. All in favor. Hearing no objections, the motion carried.

Michael Miller
Village President

Frances Dawson
Village Clerk