

VILLAGE OF ROSCOMMON

Minutes of the October 9, 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, Jennifer Smejkal. Others present - Manager Ron Alden, Clerk Frances Dawson, DPW director, Debbie Emery, Economic Director, Jim Perialas. Public present at the meeting are on the attached Sign In Sheet. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and an Invocation was given by Trustee Dan Fishel.

Open Public Hearing for Industrial Park lot sales – 13 & 14 – to Shepke at 7:02 pm.

Alden informed everyone of the intention of the sale.

Close Public Hearing at 7:06 pm

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Lederman, seconded by Ruddy, to accept the Consent Agenda with bills to be paid in the amount of \$12,440.16. Ayes: Miller, Fishel, Medina, Lederman, Ruddy, Cook, Smejkal.

Nays: none. The motion carried.

REGULAR AGENDA

Motion by Medina, seconded by Cook to approve the Regular Agenda. Ayes: Fishel, Ruddy, Smejkal, Cook, Medina, Miller, Lederman. Nays: None. The motion carried.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Welcome to all.

Roctoberfest is Saturday, October 14th. There are four or five bands scheduled, food trucks, drinks, kids games, etc.

Rich Castle from Consumers Energy was in the office and informed Alden about Consumers 5 year goals to improve their service. This includes: No one without power for more than 24 hours, trimming up trees on or by their lines better, expand and replace old poles, and bring the grid up to date.

The decorative globe lights in town started getting put up in 1995-96 and have had very little if any service over the years. The Village is checking into replacing the sensors and GFI's.

Mornings with the Manager is Thursday, October 19th at 9:00 am.

Alden and Perialas will continue going to housing meetings with the State.

Tisdale & Ester Court were supposed to be paved last Saturday, but the weather was bad. They will schedule it again as soon as the weather permits. It will most likely be short notice.

The sidewalks on 4th Street and the slab at the Compost site have been finished.

Alden has a gentleman for the Ordinance Enforcement Officer lined up and will get him started in the next few weeks.

The Spart Grant has been denied twice – there is one more chance to apply before the end of the year and the Village will be doing that.

Saturday, October 21st is the food distribution at the school bus garage at 9:00 am.

Carnexa is up for sale and the charging stations have been turned off.

The burnt house across from the Sunny Spot is being cleaned up soon and they will rebuild the same way it was.

PUBLIC ACKNOWLEDEMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

DPW UPDATE – Debbie Emery

The DPW will are done flushing hydrants.

Leaf pick-up will start on Tuesday the 17th.

The DPW is finished with mowing for the year and have started getting things ready for winter.

The dump truck is just about done. They will be calling shortly to come pick it up.

Weed growth on the ponds has been going crazy. They will be starting treatments in the spring with the first dose in May 2024. These treatments will have to happen a few times to get the problem under control.

The USDA Grant will be finished by spring. It is pretty much wrapped up now, however there is one thing for water and one for sewer.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE –

Congratulations to the Roscommon Bucks for their victory at Homecoming.

Next year the school will be painting the windows downtown again. The Homecoming parade was a great success.

NCACU staff cleaned up all the flower beds downtown on Monday and they also donated \$200 for the flower fund.

The DDA has already made a deposit on the flowers for next year.

The DDA does not have a time limit on the grants for how long you will be in business.

Ladies Night Out is set for Tuesday, October 24th. All of the business run sales, raffles, treats, etc...

Rosctoberfest is moving forward for Saturday, October 14th. The business and residents have been very generous with their donations to fund and support the party. Thank you all very much.

Perialas will be going to different Township meetings and the County to get funds to help pay for a Housing Study.

The Five Families will be here on October 19, 2023 at 6:00 pm here at Village Hall.

The DDA is looking for another member to fill a vacancy. Preferably with a financial background.

Uncommonly Good has been taken over by a new couple and have a lot of local artists creations in their store.

Motion by Smejkal, seconded by Lederman to approve USDA Wastewater Services, Fleis & Vandenbrink invoice for \$6,916.94 to pay through August 26, 2023. Ayes: Medina, Fishel, Miller, Smejkal, Lederman, Cook, Ruddy. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Motion by Ruddy, seconded by Cook to approve the USDA Water Services, Fleis & Vandenbrink invoice for \$3,143.18 to pay through August 26, 2023. Ayes: Fishel, Ruddy, Smejkal, Cook, Medina, Miller, Lederman. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Alden has already answered all the issues with the decorative street lighting. Hopefully fixed soon. A reminder to use the app on the Village Web Site to report regular street lights out.

Medina would like to put up Public Parking Signs pointing to the County Building Parking lot on Robinson Street.

Medina suggested that the Village Manager could approve all of the change orders for USDA. The USDA grant is federally funded and they require the funds to be approved by a quorum of the council.

NEW BUSINESS

Alden gave an update for the Hiawatha Project –

The MEDC has come up with new tests and requirements for the project so the Village has been informed that they will have to get new bids in the spring as the ones that they just got will expire by the time they are ready for any work to begin. The shed can be moved to the Compost site and will be done next week.

Motion by Fishel, seconded by Ruddy to approve the sale of lots 13 & 14 in the Industrial Park to Shepke for \$6,000.00. Ayes: Fishel, Miller, Smejkal, Lederman, Cook, Ruddy. Nays: none. Abstain: Medina. Motion carried.

Motion by Medina, seconded by Smejkal to approve the Roscommon County Road Commission Culvert Repair Project on 4th Street for \$15,000.00. Ayes: Fishel, Ruddy, Smejkal, Cook, Medina, Miller, Lederman. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Medina was contacted by a resident who has had issues with her meter and billing. We were informed by the DPW that this was the third meter that this resident has gone through, with the Village paying for the first two. The Administrative Assistant gave an update on the alerts that this residence was getting for the past few months and the billing issues. The resident was not present.

Motion by Medina, seconded by Cook to waive the charge for the water meter of \$175.00. Ayes: Medina, Fishel. Nays: Miller, Smejkal, Lederman, Cook, Ruddy. Motion not carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Miller believes that if a resident comes to you with an issue, either bring it to the office or have the resident come to a council meeting. That way issues get documented and you have other witnesses.

PUBLIC ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Barber had a few ideas about the Hiawatha Project.

Dixon praised the DPW Crew for their prompt and efficient service when he had some problems with his water lines. He is very happy with the automated system.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Ruddy – Feels comfortable with the decisions made and wished for more information.

Fishel – Thank the Council for all their efforts.

Smejkal – Thank the Council and the public for being at the meeting.

Lederman – Apologize for outburst and thank everyone for coming to the meeting.

Miller – Thank the DPW and the Council for making tough decisions.

ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Budget, Capital Improvement Plan, Planning Commission

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Fishel , seconded by Ruddy to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 PM. All in favor. Hearing no objections, the motion carried.

Michael Miller
Village President

Frances Dawson
Village Clerk