

**CITY OF RUSHFORD VILLAGE MINUTES OF July 11, 2023**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**  
**43038 State Hwy 30, Rushford Village, Minnesota 55971-5167**

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

The July 11, 2023 Council Meeting was called to order by Acting Mayor Mike Ebner at 7:00 p.m. in the Rushford Village Office. Council Members present: Travis Link, Robert Hart and Rick Ruberg; Planning/Zoning Administrator Jon Pettit, Treasurer Judy Graham and Clerk Mary Miner.

Absent: Mayor Dennis Overland, Public Works/Maintenance Supervisor Trenten Chiglo, City Attorney Joseph O’Koren

**AGENDA** was approved as presented

Motion by Hart, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ruberg, Carried.

**MINUTES** from the June 20, 2023 Regular Council Meeting were approved as presented

Motion by Link, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ruberg, Carried.

**CITIZENS/OTHERS PRESENT:** Bill Sherry-Engelson & Associates, Wanda Hanson-Fillmore County Journal,  
George Graham

**•Bill Sherry-Engelson & Associates 2022 Audit Review:**

- Sherry thanked Miner and Graham for having everything ready for him for the audit
- Sherry reported it is a clean audit opinion there are not exceptions or anything else, it is done on a GAP basis done in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and governmental auditing standards
- Cash and investments was down about \$120,000.00 which was the purchase of the Freightliner and debt went down \$114,000.00 with the payment of loans
- Proprietary funds: Water fund making approximately \$13,000.00, sewer fund is losing approximately \$5,400.00. Suggested the Council may want to look at raising sewer rates to cover the cost in that fund and to make sure there is money available to future expenses
- Sherry suggested to decide what money should be set aside for future needs the Council should be looking into the future to try to determine what repairs might be needed. A study would probably need to be done for this
- CRV has approximately \$750,000.00 in CD's in different funds. \$500,000.00 for the general funds and \$250,000.00 for the water and sewer funds
- Debt: General fund \$717,000.00 remaining, between water and sewer \$227,000.00 remaining
- All CRV loan rates are 2% or less which is really great
- PERA pension plan: CRV pension liability is \$95,000.00 for the employees in the plan. This could change depending on interest rates
- Expenses that exceeded the budget: Streets and Roads exceeded by approximately \$52,000.00-Seal Coating, equipment repairs, diesel cost and wage increases. Capital Outlay for the new Freightliner, Waste collection and the trail study also saw expenses that exceeded the budget
- Audit finds: 1. because CRV is so small it is hard to have a good segregation of duties so the Council needs to have a strong oversight of the financial records and monthly reports. 2. Engelson & Associates prepares the financial statement, they cannot take responsibility for it, that would be an independence issue so it is the responsibility of the Treasurer, Clerk and Council to review the audit

**FINANCIALS:** June Expenses \$89,491.67, June Receipts \$303,084.71, Bank Balance as of 6/30/2023 \$256,629.26

Outstanding Checks as of 6/30/2023 \$44,453.87

Estimated July Receipts \$41,000.00/Estimated July Expenses \$95,000.00

CD's renewing at current advertised rates

**Motion** made to approve the Financials as presented

Motion by Hart, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Link. Carried.

**•2023 Receipts & Expenses through June 30, 2023:**

- Receipts and expenses through June 30<sup>th</sup> were provided to the Council for review

**PLANNING/ZONING:** Pettit: New Permits/Inquiries/Updates:

**New Permits:**

#1595-Pat Christian-Reshingle-Hillview Dr

#1596-Ronald Harpel-Reshingle-Plummer St

#1597-Steve Wenzel-Reshingle-Plummer St

#1598-Clifford & Patricia Heiden-Replace Deck Railing and Shutters-Hillview Dr

**Permit Status / Projects in Process / Inquiries:** Nothing to report

**ROADS/WATER/SEWER:**

•**Roads/Utilities Update-Chiglo:** Ebner reported

- The water tank cleaning went good, there was minimal build up inside the tank
- Michel has been working on painting the picnic tables
- Ebner will talk with Chiglo to see if he has been in contact with STS Plumbing regarding the maintenance shed project

•**F450 Update:** Ebner reported

- F450 leaf spring and manifolds have been replaced and the DOT inspection done

•**Water Bills-New Remote Read System:** Graham reported

- All meters are installed and working properly
- After a few adjustments the billing went out using the new water billing software
- There were approximately a dozen residents with high water use. Graham hand delivered those bills and explained why they were high and how to set up a WaterScope account so they could monitor their water use.
- All residents understood why their bills were high, most because of watering yards/gardens, and appreciated Graham taking the time to make sure they understood their bill
- Hart thanked Graham for taking the time to deliver the bills and explain to residents about WaterScope
- Before the new water billing software there were approximately 49 minimum use (under 3,000 gallons) residents, after the new billing software there were approximately 45 minimum use residents. We will not know how the new billing monthly water useage compares to the previous yearly average until we are able to get an average for this year
- Ruberg asked how the sewer rates are determined. They are a flat amount for everyone. Sewer rates have not been increased for a while but a sewer upgrade of \$7.00 per month was added to help build up funds for future upgrades.

**Motion** made to accept Road/Utilities, F450 updates and water bills-new remote read system reports as presented

Motion by Hart, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ruberg, Carried.

**OTHER:**

•**MN Energy Ordinance #14 Renewal:**

- MN Energy, Ordinance #14, expires September 25, 2023. This needs to be renewed every 25 years
- O’Koren has reviewed the proposed MN Energy Ordinance
- Council is to review the information provided to them. This will be further discussed at the August 1<sup>st</sup> meeting when O’Koren will be available to answer questions and any concerns the Council may have

•**Rebecca Charles-CEDA-Monthly Report:**

- Charles continues to work on the Comp Plan
- Charles has not received word on the SMIF grants she applied for

**OTHER UPDATES / MEETINGS:**

- July 17-28, 2023-Miner on vacation

**Next Meetings: Council:** August 1 and August 15, 2023 @ 7:00 pm at CRV Hall Office

**Zoning:** August 15, 2023 @ 5:30 pm at CRV Hall Office

**Motion made to Adjourn** Regular Council Meeting at 7:35 pm by Hart, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ruberg. Carried