

CITY OF RUSHFORD VILLAGE MINUTES OF February 6, 2024
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
43038 State Hwy 30, Rushford Village, Minnesota 55971-5167

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

The February 6, 2024 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, City Attorney Joseph O’Koren, Treasurer Judy Graham, Clerk Mary Miner

Absent: Mayor Dennis Overland, Public Works/Maintenance Supervisor Trenten Chiglo

AGENDA was approved as presented

Motion by Hart, 2nd by Ruberg, Carried.

MINUTES from the January 16, 2024 Annual Council Meeting were approved as presented

Motion by Link, 2nd by Ruberg, Carried.

CITIZENS/OTHERS PRESENT: Stephanie Eggert-RP Valley Chamber, Wanda Hanson-Fillmore County Journal,
Rebecca Charles-CEDA

- **Stephanie Eggert: R-P Valley Chamber 2024 Advertising Request/Annual Chamber Meeting February 21, 2024-4:00 pm-6:00pm at The Creamery-\$10.00 at the door-RSVP by email or text:**
 - R-P Valley Chamber advertises through print, digital and radio. A lot of the advertising will remain the same as is has been in the past
 - Various grants are applied for to help pay for advertising.
 - 2024 RP Valley Chamber advertising request for CRV is \$618.20. This amount could be \$200.00 less depending on the grants received

Motion made to approve 2024 R-P Valley Chamber advertising request not to exceed \$618.20

Motion by Hart, 2nd by Link. Carried.

- Eggert stated the R-P Valley Chamber is for the whole Rushford-Peterson valley and encouraged CRV to contact her with CRV information or promotions that could be put on their website.
- Eggert reminded the Council the Chamber Annual Meeting will be Wednesday, February 21, 2024 from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm at the Creamery. Cost is \$10.00 at the door. Need to RSVP by email or text
- Eggert reported there will be another business open door tour again this spring/summer
- Career Day will happen again this spring, no date is set. Any business that may have a trade a student may be interested in should contact Stephanie

FINANCIALS: January Expenses \$119,963.33, January Receipts \$13,357.03, Outstanding Checks as of 1/31/2024 \$0.00 (not available, computer issues), Bank Balance as of 1/31/2024 \$379,620.93
Estimated February Receipts \$8,600.00/Estimated February Expenses \$55,000.00
CD’s renewing at current advertised rates

Motion made to approve the Financials as presented

Motion by Hart, 2nd by Ruberg. Carried.

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

New Permits:

- #1631-Troy & Audra Skalet-Replacing Door & Flooring-Rush Creek Roe Rd
- #1632-Jeremiah Smith-House Siding-County Highway 27
- #1633-Daniel Sorum-10’x15’x8’ 3 Sided Calf Shed-Ridgeview Rd
- #1634-Daniel Sorum-10’x15’x8’ 3 Sided Calf Shed-Ridgeview Rd

Permit Status / Projects in Process / Inquiries:

- Pettit reported he has had inquiries about a development and a new home

ROADS/WATER/SEWER:

- **Roads/Utilities Update:** Miner Reported
 - The insulation, lumber and tin has been delivered
 - The bathroom in the maintenance shed has been completed by STS Plumbing. The heating element in the new water heater was faulty, STS got a different one from MiEnergy
 - STS Plumbing will be coming soon to install an inline eyewash station in the maintenance shed
 - Norman's Electric wired the bathroom, including the water heater and installing a baseboard heater. The plan was to use a milk house heater but STS Plumbing would not turn the water on unless a baseboard heater was installed. The fuel tank inside switch and outside light were also wired.
 - Tree trimming has been getting done
 - Ebner reported Chiglo was out before the last winter weather and rocked the roads
 - The F450 windshield has been repaired
 - The Freightliner is at Brown's for its yearly DOT inspection

OTHER:

- **Presidential Nomination Primary Election Judges: Karen Thompson, Elizabeth Atkinson, Catherine Bakkum, Gordy Elliott, Bonnie Elliott, Judy Graham, Mary Miner:**
 - Online judge training has to be completed for the Presidential Nomination Primary Election and in person judge training will be completed before the Primary Election in August

Motion made to approve the Presidential Nomination Primary Election judges as presented

Motion by Hart, 2nd by Link. Carried.

- **American Rescue Plan Act Funds \$10,938.08-Maint. Shed bathroom & eyewash station:**
 - The maintenance shed bathroom completion and an eyewash station are excepted uses for the ARPA funds. The invoices from STS Plumbing and Norman's Electric to complete the bathroom and install the eyewash station can be paid with ARPA funds
 - Both items are for the safety of CRV employees
 - Charles is looking for grant money for a generator. It makes it more difficult because CRV does not have its own fire or ambulance services. Ebner stated CRV is designated as an emergency operation center. In the future Ebner would like to visit with Peterson and Rushford to discuss in the event of an emergency CRV could use them for a backup or they could use CRV for a backup. Estimated cost for a CRV is \$35,000.00

Motion to approve the use of American Rescue Act Funds for the CRV maintenance shed bathroom and eyewash station

Motion by Hart, 2nd by Ruberg, Carried.

- **Rebecca Charles-CEDA Monthly Report-Safe Routes to School Grant:**
 - Reviewed yearly review which included items to be completed in 2024
 - Charles will provide CRV with hard copies of the final Trail Study completed by UW La Crosse students. Copies will be in the CRV office for residents to view
 - Continues to work on completing the CRV Comprehensive Plan. So far the data that has been entered from the surveys is 33 pages. The yearly report outlines what was done in 2023 and what will be completed in 2024
 - CRV was chosen to receive a Safe Routes to School Design Assistance Grant. The grant will provide engineering services to help determine and plan routes along with what is needed for those routes. Charles has spoken to Rushford and they are in support of backing the CRV plan and working with CRV to connect routes with Rushford routes. When a plan is ready CRV and Rushford will work together to submit a joint application for the trail itself. Charles to the award letter last night and is waiting for the confirmation package which should include the approximate value of the grant. Information gathered during the UW La Crosse Trail Study will be used. CRV does not have to contribute anything towards this grant now but once a route has been determined CRV would need to provide funds to build the route. Charles will look for grants to help with the development of the route/routes.

Motion made to accept the Safe Routes to School Design Assistance Grant

Motion by Link, 2nd by Ruberg, Carried.

- More details to follow regarding a kickoff meeting

OTHER UPDATES / MEETINGS:

- March 5, 2024-Tuesday-Presidential Nomination Primary: Polls Open 7:00 am-8:00 pm at CRV Community Center-No Council Meeting
- March 19-22, 2024-Tues thru Fri-Miner at Clerk Conference in St Cloud

Next Meetings: Council: February 20 and March 19, 2024 @ 7:00 at CRV Hall Office (No March 5th Meeting)

Zoning: February 20, 2024 @ 5:30 pm at CRV Hall Office

Motion made to Adjourn Regular Council Meeting at 7:28 pm by Hart, 2nd by Ruberg. Carried