

CITY OF RUSHFORD VILLAGE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 17, 2024
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
43038 State Hwy 30, Rushford Village, Minnesota 55971-5167

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

The September 17, 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 and Robert Hart; Public Works/Maintenance Supervisor Trenten Chiglo, Planning/Zoning Administrator Jon Pettit, City Attorney Joseph O’Koren, Treasurer Judy Graham and Clerk Mary Miner
Absent: Mayor Dennis Overland and Council Member Rick Ruberg

AGENDA was approved as presented

Motion by Hart, 2nd by Link, Carried.

MINUTES from the September 3, 2024 Branden Johnson Shed Variances Public Hearing and Regular Council Meeting were approved as presented

Motion by Hart, 2nd by Link, Carried.

CITIZENS/OTHERS PRESENT: Kirsten Zoellner-Fillmore County Journal, Rebecca Charles-CEDA

FINANCIALS: Receipts as of September 15, 2024 \$3,897.67, Expenses as of September 15, 2024 \$24,678.61
Estimated September Receipts \$9,000.00/Estimated September Expenses \$40,000.00
CD’s renewing at current advertised rates

Motion made to approve the Financials as presented

Motion by Link, 2nd by Hart. Carried.

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

New Permits: None Written

Permit Status / Projects in Process / Inquiries: Pettit reported

- There are several things in the works
- Planning and Zoning had a very productive meeting

ROADS/WATER/SEWER:

- **Roads/Utilities Update:** Chiglo reported
 - He has been mowing road ditches up to the edge of fields to help with drifting snow this winter
 - The DNR permit for Gilbertson Road was received today. Chiglo will be reaching out to the residents who live on Gilbertson Rd to discuss when the project will be done. The road will be closed off and on when the rip rap is being set. Permit cost was \$1,200.00
 - Kyle Chiglo will cover for Trenten Chiglo while he is on vacation and at the wastewater training and exam. Kyle will have the maintenance phone
 - Road signs have been ordered and should be arriving soon. More culvert markers will need to be ordered

OTHER:

- **Rebecca Charles Monthly CEDA Update/Comp Plan Review:**
 - Charles reviewed the zoning map to determine where there is potential for housing. The area in South Rushford would be an ideal location and would be within the water and sewer district. Other areas shown on the map as residential, past Oak View Loop along Highway 43 and Lynn Mattson property along Highway 16 near Peterson, could have issues with floodplain, bluff protection and protected ag
 - Charles proposed CRV consider having a trail head located at the CRV Hall area. Her proposal would include expanding the parking lot to accommodate those using the trail, installing a bike repair station, expanding/update the playground equipment, have snack/beverage machines available and installing a bathroom. A campground could also be included. There is grant money available for these projects and she suggested contacting the MN DNR to be part of the project. Council was very interested
 - Charles asked if the Council was interested in branding to help with identifying CRV. There is grant money available to have someone come in and make suggestions for updates to increase community identity, help develop brochures, etc. This could include a new sign at the City office. Hart questioned what branding would do for CRV. Hart stated there are good ideas but they don’t get implemented. Charles stated it needs to be determined which ideas the Council is interested in enough to put money into them. Ebner stated CRV is not in competition with Peterson and Rushford, we should all be doing this together as a group. SMIF grant applications are closed for this year so Charles will put together information for the Council to review for the SMIF 2025 grant application

- Charles reported she came across grant money available for ambulance services funding. She reached out to Rushford to let them know about the grant and they were able to apply. Hart thanked Charles for doing this.
- Charles received an email regarding the Safe Routes to School Grant. There will be a final plan update in September
- Charles stated the Comp Plan is in the final stages and she has sent multiple parts of the Comp Plan to her co-workers for review
- Charles applied for the SMIF Rural Improvement Grant and is waiting to hear if CRV will receive \$12,000.00 to replace the hall park merry-go-round
- **O’Koren Reported**
 - Prosecutions have been low
 - He received an email from Fillmore County the Two Fathoms Brewery Company temporary liquor license has been approve by the State of Minnesota for the Featherstone Farms Fall Festival on September 21, 2024
- **Budget Review-Proposed 2025 Budget-Resolution 2024-09-17:**
 - Council reviewed the proposed budget. Last years levy of \$535,000.00 was used for the 2025 proposed levy
 - The proposed levy shows receipts of \$691,529.00 and disbursements of \$724,343.00 which is a difference of \$32,814.00.
 - Items that will need to be discussed and decided by the final levy include part-time help, employee salaries/COLA, shed remodel, benefit package
 - Part-time help was figured at 8 months (32 weeks), 10 hours per week at \$15.00 per hour, Council feels the wage should be \$20.00 per hour. This is an increase of \$1,600.00
 - Shed remodel-\$24,000.00, chip sealing-\$41,000.00, F450/F550-\$87,000.00 levy/\$25,000.00 CD are all included in the proposed levy, Employee COLA of 3% with a step amounts to a total of 5.5% increase
 - Hart suggested setting the proposed levy at a 10% increase, Link suggested an 8% increase
 - Ebner reminded everyone the final levy cannot be more than the proposed levy
 - The Truth in Taxation (TNT) meeting will be December 3rd for residents to attend if they have concerns about the levy. The final levy will need to be set December 17, 2024

Motion made to increase the 2025 proposed levy by 9% (\$48,150.00) and approve the Proposed Levy Resolution 2024-09-17 in the amount of \$583,150.00 **Motion** by Hart, 2nd by Link, Carried.

OTHER UPDATES / MEETINGS:

- September 26-October 1, 2024-Chiglo on Vacation
- October 2-3, 2024-Chiglo at Wastewater Refresher & Exam-St.Cloud

Next Meetings: Council: October 1, 2024 and October 15, 2024 @ 7:00 pm at CRV Hall Office
Zoning: October 15, 2024 @ 5:30 pm at CRV Hall Office

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