

CITY OF RUSHFORD VILLAGE MINUTES OF MARCH 18, 2025
DEBRA KITCHENS ROOF MOUNTED PV SOLAR SYSTEM PUBLIC HEARING 6:45 PM
And REGULAR COUNCIL MEETNG 7:00 PM
43038 State Hwy 30, Rushford Village, Minnesota 55971-5167

Debra Kitchens 13.056 Roof Mount Solar System Public Hearing

The March 18, 2025 Debra Kitchens Roof Mount Solar System Public Hearing was called to order by Mayor Dennis Overland at 6:45 p.m. in the Rushford Village Office. Council Members present: Mike Ebner, Travis Link, Robert Hart and Rick Ruberg; Public Works/Maintenance Supervisor Trenten Chiglo, Planning/Zoning Administrator Jon Pettit, City Attorney Joseph O’Koren and Treasurer Judy Graham
Absent: Clerk Mary Miner (Conference)

CITIZENS/OTHERS PRESENT: Debra Kitchens

- Mayor Overland stated the public hearing was to consider the application for a 13.056 roof mounted solar system on parcel R05.0081.050
- Pettit reported the Planning and Zoning Commission had received and reviewed the 13.056 kw Roof Mount Solar System permit application. Everything is in order according to CRV Ordinances
- Pettit reported the Planning and Zoning Commission sends the solar permit application forward to the CRV Council with a favorable recommendaton
- A public hearing was needed because it was over 7 kw and payment for the application has been received
- Kitchens stated she knew a permit would be needed but had no idea it would be part of a public hearing and she didn’t think the installer, Wolf River Electric, knew a public hearing was needed until they were informed of it by Miner
- Kitchens reported the solar system is not running yet, they ran into issues with the location of the main electric meter which had been moved from the house to the backside of the shed by the previous owner.

Motion made to Close the Public Hearing at 6:59 pm

Motion by Hart, 2nd by Ebner. Carried.

Regular Council Meeting

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

The March 18, 2025 Regular Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor Dennis Overland at 7:00 p.m. in the Rushford Village Office. Council Members present: Mike Ebner, Travis Link, Robert Hart and Rick Ruberg; Public Works/Maintenance Supervisor Trenten Chiglo, Planning/Zoning Administrator Jon Pettit, City Attorney Joseph O’Koren and Treasurer Judy Graham
Absent: Clerk Mary Miner (Conference)

CITIZENS/OTHERS PRESENT: Debra Kitchens, Kirsten Zoellner-Fillmore County Journal

Motion to Approve Debra Kitchen’s application for a 13.056 Roof Mounted PV Solar System on parcel R05.0081.050

Motion by Hart, 2nd by Link. Carried.

- Kitchens stated she knew they had to have a permit but had no idea there had to be a meeting and knew it was wrong they proceeded without the meeting. She had turned it over to the contractor to get the permit. Overland stated the permit, even if it did not require a public hearing, would have had to been obtained before the project was started and it was not. Kitchens stated she had turned it over to the contractor and thought the proper channels had been gone through and she had done her due diligence. If she had known a permit had not been obtained before the project started she would have gotten the permit herself. She felt what was in the paper did not tell the whole story.

AGENDA was approved as presented

Motion by Hart, 2nd by Ruberg, Carried.

MINUTES from the March 4, 2025 Regular Council meeting were approved as presented

Motion by Hart, 2nd by Ruberg, Carried.

FINANCIALS: Receipts as of March 15, 2025 \$3,941.44, Expenses as of March 15, 2025 \$18,128.41

Estimated March Receipts \$8,000.00/Estimated March Expenses \$78,000.00

CD’s renewing at current advertised rates

Motion by Ebner, 2nd by Link. Carried.

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

New Permits:

- #1703-Clay & Haeli Anderson-New Home-Airport Rd
- #1704-Jim Norstad-24' x24' Addition to shed-State Highway 30
- #1705-Joey Busse-12'x24' Shed-Nordic Court
- #1706-Duane & Mary Miner-Sheetrock garage ceiling, build cabinets-Benson Lane
- #1707-Trey & Renee Ritter-Remodel House & add attached garage-Main St

Permit Status/Projects in Process/Inquiries/Updates: Pettit reported

- Planning and Zoning took the direction from the last meeting to look at a liquor regulation.
- They looked at the Whalan Liquor Ordinance as a guide and found it to be acceptable and would like to return it to the Council with the recommendation to use the Whalan Liquor Ordinance as a guide for the CRV Liquor Ordinance
- Questions from Mayor Overland for O'Koren: 1) Would infused beverage products be included? Overland understands an infused beverage is not alcohol. O'Koren stated he is not sure they make mixed alcohol with THC but the traditional infused drink is THC in his understanding and would not be regulated under a liquor ordinance, it would fall under cannabis regulations which the County is enforcing for CRV. O'Koren stated he is not aware of anyone coming out with an alcohol drink infused with THC but at some point someone might. 2) Once there is a liquor establishment, restaurant, etc. gambling might get involved. After a quick check O'Koren stated there are local controls governed by the MN Board of Gambling and so there is a state function so CRV could look at having something in place for framework around CRV approving gambling permits
- Pettit stated he spoke with Deb Kitchens about what they had to do for their gambling license. Kitchens told him the City gave them a license which allowed her to go to the State to get a license from them. Pettit assumed tobacco licensing would be the same way
- O'Koren will look into what is needed and provide a drafts

ROADS/WATER/SEWER:

- **Roads/Utilities Update:** Chiglo reported
 - New grinder pump has been ordered so there will be a spare on hand again
 - Been doing tree trimming
 - Waiting to get final paperwork back on quotes for a new 550 truck. He has looked at both Ford and Chevy
 - Road Grader batteries were replaced. These were the original batteries that came with the grader
 - 1 tree came down in the last couple days
 - Ready for the incoming weather, rain or snow

OTHER:

- **Spring-Summer Seasonal Help:**
 - Chiglo stated a seasonal employee would be sufficient. They would start out by doing the mowing and trimming and they should be able to do general equipment maintenance before using the equipment. They would be expected to help with tree trimming and other road related projects
 - Chiglo felt a Class D license would be all that is needed for summer help. A class D license is all that would be needed to use the F450 to haul the mower on the small trailer. If it was someone who would be around in the winter then it would be great if they had a license to run the Freightliner if needed. Overland stated for right now summer help is what is being looked at.
 - Start date will be May 19, 2025 and end date will be October 17, 2025. Next year look at starting as May 1st
 - Initial hours budgeted for was 10-12 hours per week, that would mainly cover the time it would take to mow each week with little time for other projects. Trenten suggested increasing to 16 hours per week. Revised hours will be 10-20 per week to allow for more time for other projects besides mowing. Chiglo stated the schedule should be flexible, there might be weeks he has 40 hours of work but the next week there might not be any hours. Ebner stated if there was a storm it would be nice to have this person helping Chiglo clearing trees instead of Chiglo being out there by himself
 - Qualifications include a high school diploma or equivalent and a valid Class D drivers license.
 - Ad will be in the next Fillmore County Journal and on the CRV website

Motion made to increase part-time seasonal summer hours to 15-20 per week and run employment ad in the Fillmore County Journal

Motion by Hart, 2nd by Ebner. Carried.

- **Porta Potties:**

- Ness Pumping from Waukon Iowa bought out B&S Rentals last year. Charges will remain the same, \$150.00 per month per unit with weekly cleaning
- Overland, Chiglo and Link agreed a unit placed at the South Rushford Park would be good as the park is used by neighborhood kids and families during the summer
- One will be placed at the CRV Hall and one at the South Rushford Park
- April 1 thru October 31, 2025 is when they will be in place

Motion to hire Ness Pumping to provide 2 porta-potties

Motion by Link, 2nd by Ruberg, Carried.

OTHER UPDATES / MEETINGS:

- March 18-21, 2025, Tuesday thru Friday-Miner at Clerk Conference-Brooklyn Center

Next Meetings: Council: April 1, 2025 Collection Ordinance #2 Public Hearing @ 6:40 pm, Mowing Ordinance #7 Public Hearing @ 6:50 pm and Regular Council Meeting @ 7:00 and Regular Council Meeting April 15, 2025 @ 7:00 pm at CRV Hall Office

Zoning: April 15, 2025 @ 5:30 pm at CRV Hall Office

Motion made to Adjourn Regular Council Meeting at 7:25 pm by Hart, 2nd by Ruberg. Carried