

CITY OF RUSHFORD VILLAGE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 4, 2025
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
43038 State Hwy 30, Rushford Village, Minnesota 55971-5167

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

The November 4, 2025 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 Darrin Dessner, Planning/Zoning Administrator Jon Pettit, City Attorney Joseph O’Koren, Treasurer Judy Graham and Clerk Mary Miner

AGENDA was approved as presented Motion by Hart, 2nd by Ruberg, Carried.

MINUTES from the October 21, 2025 Ben Bernard Solar Array Public Hearing and Regular Council Meeting approved as presented Motion by Link, 2nd by Hart, Carried.

CITIZENS/OTHERS PRESENT: Kirsten Zoellner-Fillmore County Journal

FINANCIALS: October Expenses \$37,704.03/October Receipts \$40,034.91,
Outstanding Checks as of 10/31/2025 \$24,754.37/ Bank Balance as of 10/31/2025 \$191,292.25
Estimated November Receipts \$8,000.00/Estimated November Expenses \$47,000.00
CD’s renewing at current advertised rates

Motion to approve the financials are presented Motion by Hart, 2nd by Ebner. Carried.

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

New Permits:

- #1745-Craig Jonsgaard-10’x12’ Portable Shed-Main St
- #1746-Mark & Linda Bedney-Remove & Replace Shingles-Hayes St
- #1747-Greg Larson-Multiple Window Replacements-Goodrich St

Permit Status/Projects in Process/Inquiries/Updates:

- Pettit reported he has a lot of things going now as people are starting to finish up from the storm damage

ROADS/WATER/SEWER:

- **Roads/Utilities Update:** Dessner reported:
 - Water tests continue to be in the required range, heater has been turned on in the pump house
 - All road ditches have been mowed
 - Rock was hauled to Vogan to cover dirt spots in the road
 - CRV received a complaint regarding the step up at the Airport Rd and Highway 30 approach. Dessner went to the Rushford MN DOT location to discuss, while there the supervisor Neil was called. It will be fixed, hopefully this week. The same thing is happening at Ridgeview and Vogan. Ruberg stated he also talked with MN DOT supervisor Neil about this and was told there have been other complaints and it will be taken care of. Ruberg also talked to MN DOT about the pot holes at both ends of Cooperative Drive where it meets the highways. Ruberg asked MN DOT why the approaches along Highway 30 don’t have the 33 foot blacktop approaches but did not get an answer
 - Has been in contact with Chiglo and Brand from Fillmore County about getting sand for the winter
 - Has been in contact with Mike from Bruening Rock, winter rock will be delivered in the next couple weeks
 - Will be adding Johnson to the lift station dialer
 - Johnson has been trained on doing the water and wastewater readings and has been shown how to do the weekly water testing. Instructions have been written down
 - Received his Class A permit, will be going to Mason City to take the Class A test. He has to have his permit for 14 days before he can take the test

Motion made to allow Dessner to go to Mason City for the Class A road test Motion by Hart, 2nd by Ruberg, Carried.

- Johnson work schedule will be 8 hours on Monday, Tuesday and trying to get him on board to work Friday 8 hours

OTHER:

- **Budget Review:**
 - Miner stated it has been suggested to remove the generator \$30,000.00

- Overland suggested reducing the amount of investments being purchased by \$20,000.00, from \$106,000.00 to \$86,000.00. The budget has \$25,000.00 for roads and \$81,000.00 for the grader, trucks, bridges and lawn mower
- Overland questioned how much would need to be cut from the budget to get to around 7%. Miner stated to get down to 7.51% it would have to be cut to \$615,455.00 which would require cutting \$40,000.00, 6.64% would be \$610,455.00 which would require cutting \$45,000.00.
- Removing the generator \$30,000.00 and reducing the purchase of investments by \$20,000.00 would bring it down to \$605,455.00 or approximately 5%. Overland stated he feels this would be more palatable for residents. Link stated this would still leave \$86,000.00 for investments which is about \$56,000.00 more than what was budgeted last year, 5% sounds a lot better.
- Miner stated removing the trailer had been discussed, Overland and Link stated it should stay and if it is not purchased that will give a cushion
- Hart questioned if Pettit and O’Koren needed to be at every meeting and questioned if there were smaller things that could be done to cut costs like not having to have so many people at the meetings. Overland stated he believes Pettit is required to be at the meetings. Hart questioned why Pettit should have to be at every meeting just to report a few permits that were written and then have to sit through the rest of the meeting, if something were to come up Pettit could tell Miner about it and she could bring it to the Council to be discussed. Pettit stated per the job description he is required to be at the meetings. Hart stated he is looking at what can be done amongst themselves to cut back time. Hart does not see the point of Pettit or O’Koren being at every meeting. Overland stated if O’Koren is not at a meeting is when he would be needed, Hart suggested if that were the case the issue could be discussed at another time. Overland stated there are time when things are time sensitive and need to be addressed right away, Hart suggested those things could be handled with a phone call
- Hart had questions about some of the figures on the proposed budget worksheet and how things are broken down. Areas included page 2 elections-salaries for 2026 elections, page 2 treasurer/part-time salary-per Graham decrease is salary due to extra training in 2025 will not be needed in 2026, page 3 Attorney-O’Koren legal services, page 3 Professional Services and Miscellaneous Contracts and memberships-CEDA yearly contract, page 4 office supplies, letterhead, postage-stamped envelopes will need to be purchased, page 4 professional services auditing/accounting-Engelson services which is broken down in other areas also, page 4 professional services and miscellaneous contracts-this covers multiple funds and is the contracts with LMC, MRWA, SEMLM, Norman’s Electric, Brown’s Tire, Inspire Tech, Vision Design, etc., page 4 investments purchased-office equipment, page 7 profession services and miscellaneous contracts-2025 chip sealing, no projects for 2026 but \$25,000.00 is being budgeted for road project investment in 2026, page 7 building and structures capital outlay-maintenance shed south side overhead door repairs, page 7 improvements other than buildings capital outlay-\$30,000.00, Miner determined this is the generator that was being removed. Salaries/wages are broken down into different categories, page 8 operating supplies road rock, sand, salt-materials needed for winter road maintenance, this is addition to road rock that is purchased to spread on the roads during the summer, page 8 road and bridge equipment investments purchased-this is what is budgeted to be purchased in 2026 for grader, trucks, bridges and lawn mower, page 9 trash contract-CRV signed a 5 year contract with Harter’s that goes to 2028
- For the next meeting budget review Miner will take out \$30,000.00 for the generator and reduce the investments to be purchased by \$20,000.00 and lower the levy amount to \$605,455.00. There should be a little more in total receipts than there is for total disbursements
- Link suggested another option could be leaving the CEDA contract in the budget, not continuing with the contract and budgeting \$10,000.00 which would save \$7,000.00. Link stated this would leave money in the budget if CRV had to use CEDA for something, he understands this is a game and it could end up being more than the \$10,000.00 budgeted but it might save money too. Overland stated with the potential things in the works the \$17,000.00 could be cheap. Link stated this is just a different option that could be a happy medium

OTHER UPDATES / MEETINGS:

- November 11, 2025-Tuesday-Veterans Day-CRV Office closed
- November 11-14, 2025-Tuesday thru Friday-Dessner vacation
- December 2, 2025-Truth in Taxation (TNT) Meeting, 6:45 pm @ CRV Office

Next Meetings: Council: November 18, 2025 @ 7:00 pm and December 2, 2025 TNT Meeting 6:45 pm, Regular Council Meeting @ 7:00 pm at CRV Hall Office

Zoning: November 18, 2025 @ 5:30 pm at CRV Hall Office

- Overland stated he will not be available for the November 18th meetings
- Final budget will need to be set at the December 16, 2025 meeting

Motion made to Adjourn Regular Council Meeting at 7:34 pm by Hart, 2nd by Link.