

CITY OF RUSHFORD VILLAGE MINUTES OF MARCH 17, 2026
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
43038 State Hwy 30, Rushford Village, Minnesota 55971-5167

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

The March 17, 2026 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, Robert Hart and Rick Ruberg; Planning/Zoning Administrator Jon Pettit, City Attorney Joseph O’Koren, Treasurer Judy Graham and Clerk Mary Miner

Absent: Travis Link, Public Works/Maintenance Supervisor Darrin Dessner

CITIZENS/OTHERS PRESENT: Kirsten Zoellner-Fillmore County Journal, Jayme Longmire-CEDA, Anthony Woxland-R/P Community Service Class, Ryan Oian

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

MINUTES from the March 3, 2026 Regular Council Meeting approved as presented Motion by Ruberg, 2nd by Hart, Carried.

FINANCIALS: Receipts as of March 15, 2026 \$2,582.74, Expenses as of March 15, 2026 \$28,930.63
Estimated March Receipts \$9,000.00/Estimated March Expenses \$71,000.00
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: None Written

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

- Several projects in the works
- Planning and Zoning is working on revising the zoning fee schedule and will bring their recommendation to the Council when they have completed the revisions

ROADS/WATER/SEWER:

- **Roads/Utilities Update:** Ebner reported for Dessner:
 - Everything is looking good at the pump house and lift station
 - Plowing and maintaining roads with F550 and grader
 - Pettit stated he had some difficulty plowing with the F550 because the frontend would slide, tire chains were being used, different tires will be needed before next winter
 - Ruberg received a complaint about Ekren Road not having gravel put down. F550 can only spread sand according to Universal Truck. CRV has not been able to reach Dan Sveen to see if he can help spread rock
 - Arendahl, Norway, Money Creek Townships have provided mutual aid by plowing CRV roads that connect to their township roads, this has been a huge help and much appreciated. These Townships have their own roads to take care of too
- **Freightliner Update:** Ebner reported:
 - He spoke with Syverson today. They have not heard anything back from the manufacture, the truck has been at Syversons for two weeks
 - Hart asked O’Koren if commercial vehicles fall under the lemon law, this is the third time this truck has been in for repairs for the same problem. O’Koren is not sure and will look into this
- **Ryan Oian:** Oian was present to discuss the maintenance and rocking of Ekren Road.
Council Discussion:
 - Today Dessner used the grader with the bullets to bust up the ice and bring gravel to the surface of the road
 - Every road will probably have an area that should have rock put on it or at least the roads with hills that are shaded where melting and refreezing would be a problem
 - Ebner stated it might be a good idea to look at purchasing a backup truck by fall. O’Koren suggested looking at the LMC website, items for sale section. Longmire stated she could reach out to Mike Bubany about a low interest loan if the Council wants her to
 - Miner will call Dan Sveen tomorrow to see if he can help spread rock and if he is not able to or cannot be reached she will call Mike from Bruening Rock to see if they provide this service. Atkinson does not have the equipment to spread rock

OTHER:

- **Jayne Longmire-CEDA-Longmire** reported:
 - She believes the best way to market the Revolving Loan Fund is to include it in the newsletter and website and she will personally reach out to CRV businesses and Rushford Banks to let them know what is available
 - Suggested contacting DEED to see if MIF funds could be used for CRV needs like public safety, truck, help pay for economic development, etc. In the past these funds could only be used for very specific things but she is willing to contact DEED to ask about it
 - Questioned if the money set aside for CEDA might be better used somewhere else at this time
 - She has applied for multiple generator grants, which has been tricky because CRV does not have money for matching funds or money budgeted for a generator. There are grants available for lift station generators if the impact of a lift station overflowing could potentially contaminate the public water supply. It is not believe this would be the case but an email has been sent to Derek Olinger from Bolton & Menk for his thoughts on this
 - There are grants available through fire and EMS. Longmire suggested talking with Rushford to see if they would be willing to work with CRV to apply for these grants. Overland stated he will talk with the fire chief. Longmire stated a low interest loan is always an option for a generator/generators
 - Overland asked if these grants included a generator for the pump house. Longmire stated she was not aware there was a need for a generator at the pump house. Overland stated you can't have sewer without water so he feels a generator for the pump house should also be considered
 - Overland informed the Council of a meeting to be held at MiEnergy on April 22nd from 6-8 pm. It is being put on by the Rushford EDA. Rushford, Rushford Village and Peterson are invited to attend. The speaker will be Ben Winchester from University of Minnesota, the topic will be related to rural housing
- **CRV AWAIR Program Yearly Review:**
 - Miner explained all the programs on the agenda are OSHA required and covered every year during the MMUA safety training but CRV should have written program in place. Programs are LMC models revised to fit CRV and reviewed by O'Koren
 - AWAIR is a program to help reduce workplace injuries and provide information employees need to know about what is expected of the city, them and what to do in the case of an injury
 - Council did not have any revisions or concerns

Motion to approve as presented for yearly review Motion by Ebner, 2nd by Hart, Carried.

- **CRV Employee Right to Know (ERTK) Program:**

- ERTK is a program that provided information about hazards in the workplace, where to find information on these hazards through safety data sheets, how to work with them and what to do if exposed to them

Motion to approve the program as presented Motion by Ebner, 2nd by Ruberg, Carried.

- **CRV Hazardous Energy Control Lockout/Tagout (LOTO) Program:**

- LOTO is a program used to ensure equipment is properly locked/shut down when being worked on

Motion to approve the program as presented Motion by Hart, 2nd by Ruberg, Carried.

- **Bloodborne Pathogens (BBP) Program:**

- BBP is a program intended to educate employees on what BBP are and what to do to prevent exposure and what to do if exposed. Sharp containers will be installed in the hall bathrooms & BBP kits have been ordered
- CRV employees Dessner, Johnson and Miner have had the first of a two shot series of the Hep B vaccine

Motion to approve the program as presented Motion by Hart, 2nd by Ebner, Carried.

- **CRV Dust Control Policy:**

- Miner explained dust control application questions are becoming more frequent and felt it is time to have a policy in place.
- Dessner will be reaching out to townships and Fillmore County regarding the first and last application dates
- Miner will add the policy to the website and include information about it in the newsletter.

Motion to approve the dust control policy as presented with Dessner confirming first and last application dates Motion by Hart, 2nd by Ruberg, Carried.

- **Hall/Park Mowing:**

- Last year mowing was hired out from July to November at a cost of \$4,050.00. Mowing rate was \$60.00 per hour
- Hart stated CRV now has two maintenance employees and they should be doing the mowing

Motion made to have CRV staff do the mowing Motion by Hart, 2nd by Ruberg, Carried.

OTHER UPDATES / MEETINGS:

- March 24-27, Tuesday thru Friday-Miner at Clerks Conference-Brooklyn Center
- April 8, Wednesday-8:00 am to 3:30 pm-Safety Loss Control Workshop-Rochester-Miner
- April 22-23, Wednesday-Thursday-CRV Yearly Audit

Next Meetings: Council: April 7, 2026 and April 21, 2026 @ 7:00 pm at CRV Hall Office

Zoning: April 21, 2026 @ 5:30 pm at CRV Hall Office

Motion made to Adjourn Regular Council Meeting at 8:09 pm by Hart, 2nd by Ruberg.