

CITY OF RUSHFORD VILLAGE MINUTES OF AUGUST 25, 2026
BUDGET WORKSHOP/COUNCIL MEETING
43038 State Hwy 30, Rushford Village, Minnesota 55971-5167

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

The August 25, 2026 Budget Workshop/Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor Dennis Overland at 6:35 p.m. in the Rushford Village Office. Council Members present: Mike Ebner, Travis Link, Robert Hart and Rick Ruberg (arrived late); Public Works/Maintenance Supervisor Darrin Dessner, Treasurer Judy Graham and Clerk Mary Miner
Absent: Planning/Zoning Administrator Jon Pettit, City Attorney Joseph O’Koren

CITIZENS/OTHERS PRESENT: None

- **2027 Proposed Budget**
 - **Proposed Items for 2027 Budget:**
 - Hart asked about Graham’s wages proposed at 10 hours per week, in the past hours have varied and just because it states 10 hours it may not be that many per week. PERA will be required to be paid for anyone that is retired and collecting PERA benefits, this was added for Graham in 2027.
 - Hart questioned what Fillmore County is assessing CRV for. Both Hart and Miner have contacted Fillmore County with no response back. Hart wondered why are we paying them if we do not know what it is for and they do not respond back to questions about it.
 - Miner provided a spreadsheet that combined all the public works hours from ice/snow, bridge, ditch/culvert, weed control brush cleaning, tree clean-up park mowing/hall, machine maintenance and maintenance clerical into highways/streets/roadways so it is easier to see what the total is for all. She will still need to continue to break it down as it is on the timesheets on the payroll per category spreadsheet for the work comp audit. Eventually the above mentioned categories will be able to be moved to highways/streets/roadways in CTAS which should make it easier
 - In the Public Safety section Miner budgets \$10,000.00 for Police. This is done every year and the Council decides if it should stay or be removed.
 - Hart asked what the difference is between Operating Supplies-Road Rock, Sand, Salt (\$14,000.00) and Capital Outlay-Road Rock (\$35,000.00). Operating Supplies is for winter rock for the rock shed, salt & sand for winter roads, Capital Outlay is for rock that is spread on the roads during the summer. Ebner feels these numbers are good, we have been coming in under budget
 - LGA 2026-\$59,136.00/2027-\$51,106.00=\$8,030.00 less and Small City Assist (TAA) 2026 \$37,437.00/2027-\$34,682.00=\$2,755.00 less. Total of \$10,785.00 less will be received in 2027
 - Hart proposed to hire part-time office help to cross train for Clerk and Treasurer jobs. Reason: He does not want to see CRV get into the situation Rushford did with Kathy’s passing. This person would fill in for either position when someone is off and potentially fill a position when someone leaves. This was also on Overland’s wish list. Hart stated it might be difficult to find someone willing to work limited hours but those limited hours could possibly turn into more in the future. Overland suggested 20-25 hours per week because it would probably be difficult to find anyone willing to work less than that. This would help with what the person returning to work would have to catch up on if things are being taken care of as they happen. At 25 hours per week, \$25.00 Per hour, part-time benefits would be included
 - Overland wish is to have two full-time public works people. Right now part-time is at 25 hours per week, this would increase to 40 hours per week which is about an increase of 1/3. Reason: To do things right two people are needed, some jobs require two people, they could take turns being on call for a week at a time, right now Johnson is spending 1/5 of his time mowing the hall and South Rushford Park. Full-time benefits would be included
 - The Cooperative Way loan will be paid off in 2032
 - Link-Top thing on his wish list is replacing the backhoe, Ebner agrees. Purchase or lease backhoe. Current backhoe is a 2008 model with 2,282 hours and it’s starting to have issues. Leasing option will be looked into. \$150,000.00 to be added to 2027 proposed budget. There is approximately \$87,000.00 in a CD for equipment but that is for all equipment
 - Ebner stated Dessner has a wish list. Ebner stated everything on the list cannot be done all at once but things can be prioritized as to what is needed now and what can be done in the future
 - Laptop and Wifi for shop. Needed to look at various sites and submit Gopher One tickets. Currently using cell phone to log Gopher One tickets which does not work well. Will look at options that include running a CAT5 cable from the hall to the shop or putting up a booster. \$3,000.00 to be added to 2027 proposed budget

- Cameras for outside north and south ends of maintenance shed and inside community center. Purchase would include multiple cameras and monthly fees. \$1,000.00 to be added to 2027 proposed budget
- Miner \$20,000.00 into the equipment parts/filters for Highways/Streets/Roadways, Council ok with this
- Generator for hall/shop. Grants have been applied for. \$1,000.00 was received from the Rushford Community Foundation. A 36Kw generator with a transfer switch would be needed to run the office and shop buildings at a cost of approximately \$40,000.00. There is 28Kw in electric in-floor heat and if that was converted to gas then a 15Kw generator would work to run the office and shop. Possible option is a standby generator which are cheaper but it would have to be researched to see if they would be big enough to run the hall and shop. \$5,000.00 to be added to 2027 proposed budget
- Hart commented CRV might just have to have more of a levy increase this year, CRV has been very good about keeping the levy increases down. Overland stated maybe CRV has been too good about keeping levy increases down
- **Items to be considered in the future:**
 - Lean on shop to get rid of old shop building next to highway
 - Concrete apron added to end of shop
 - Enlarge the hall parking lot to include the grass circle area
 - Selling the snow blower, equipment not being used should not be kept. It has not been used for many years because the equipment is getting better and now CRV does not wait for a big storm to get done before plowing begins. The tractor is almost too small for the snow blower, about 900 lbs of weights need to be added to the tractor when the snow blower is attached
 - Every year approximately \$90,000.00 was going to be set aside to purchase CDs for various funds but by year end there is not enough money left to purchase them because it has been spent on something else. If money had been put away there might have been enough built up to purchase a backhoe. CD interest is down from last year
 - Ruberg stated in the past the equipment was not taken care of properly and now we are having to spend money on repairs, important to take care of what we have. Cost of equipment continues to go up.

OTHER UPDATES / MEETINGS:

- September 17, 2026-Thursdays-CEDA Regional Impact Roundtable-New Ulm-9:30 am

Next Meetings: Council: September 1, 2026 @ 7:00 PM, September 2, 2026 Budget Workshop @ 6:30 PM & September 15, 2026 @ 7:00 pm at CRV Hall Office

Zoning: September 15, 2026 @ 5:30 pm at CRV Hall Office

Motion made the next Budget workshop/meeting Wednesday, September 2, 2026 at 6:30 pm at the CRV hall Office and to Adjourn Budget Workshop/Council Meeting at 7:34 pm by Hart, 2nd by Link.