

Rudolph Village Board Meeting Minutes

September 13, 2022

Present: President Pro-Tem (PPT) Ziebell, Trustees Rich Larsen, Megan Stashek, Christy Steinle, Nathan Fuller and Treasurer Sandy Pawelski.

President Pro-Tem Ziebell opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

August Meeting Minutes: Trustee Larsen moved, seconded by Trustee Stashek to approve meeting with corrections on the 4th page of the name Rob to Ron and Stashed to Stashek. Approved with Corrections

Old Business:

Attorney Search completed. Luke Weiland has agreed to work with the Village and PPT Ziebell will work to set a meeting with him and the Board.

Ditch Cleaning (West side of tracks): The railroad has been contacted. We need to await their phone call back/approval before the County can start. We have several calls into the railroad.

Solar Farm Project: PPT Ziebell emailed the company to ask the following questions: 1) How and why did you choose Rudolph for the site? Response: We chose Rudolph because the parcel is near a distribution line, it is near a substation, and it is greater than 10 acres 2) What will the benefits be to the community? Response: (Abbreviated) The solar farm will help low to moderate income subscribers save money on utility bills, Eligible residents and businesses can earn a credit towards their utility bill by using energy from the solar farm. The project benefits the natural environment since we intend to plant pollinator species at the project site. This increases biodiversity and nourishes the land. Furthermore, jobs will be created during the construction of the project. 3) We've read that if a facility has a capacity of 100 megawatts a certificate of public convenience and necessity needs to be issued. What is your proposed size? Response: this facility will have a 3 MW capacity thus a certificate is not required. Ron Rybicki spoke of his opposition to the proposal stating that when trucks went through in the spring there was 600 hours of truck traffic passed his house that agitated him. He stated if it went through the village would need to buy him out because he would have to move. Ron Peters asked who takes care of weed control and property maintenance. The Board will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, September 27th at 6pm.

Dairyland Culvert: Trustee Larsen went to review the issues during a heavy rain. It was determined that the homeowners on the corner of Sunset and Dairyland used a 3inch pipe and then filled their ditch in. The water in a heavy rain could not keep up and take the amount of water necessary. PPT Ziebell will send a letter to the homeowner that the grade will need to be reviewed in order for a culvert to be installed and handle water properly for the neighbors.

Grotto and 4th Street: Trustee Larsen reviewed this area and states that ditch needs to be cleaned. According to DNR rep, Randy Kunding, the cattails can be cut. Again, an engineer was suggested to look at this area.

Culverts at 3rd St N: Trustee Larsen updated that this project requires waiting till the Railroad ditch is cleaned out and will most likely rectify itself after this happens.

Pete's Market Building Permit: Trustee Stashek sent a letter and has not received a response back asking for them to apply for a building permit.

USIC Billing: PPT Ziebell called and had email communication with USIC. They did adjust the billing due to some double billing issues. Our contract with them is up in April 2023. PPT Ziebell called Utility Locators about a possible contract. She has not received a response. Trustee Steinle asked about marking our own sewers as that is our largest USIC expense. She thought she recalled a previous meeting where this was discussed. PPT Ziebell referred to a 2020 Village minutes where previous President Kniprath was going to handle this for the Village but did not see follow thru on that.

Dollar General: Trustee Larsen updated that they are not ready to build till Spring and will utilize holding tanks vs Village sewer.

New Business:

Village Hall Building Repair: Ascent repaired the door for half the cost of other bids. Trustee Larsen made the executive decision to have the work done based on price and the need of it as an emergency exit. Ascent also quoted a price for building repairs such as paint and patching for \$1400 to the building. Trustee Steinle made a motion to accept with a 2nd by Trustee Stashek. Motion Carried.

Driveway between Legion and Village Hall: Rich Cournoyer with the Legion asked who owned this and who maintains. The Legion is having their parking lot redone and would like to have this area taken care of if it belongs to them. Per Kevin Whipple, surveyor that resides in the village, it is a village road. When the house behind it sold, they requested an easement granted to the house. Cournoyer will get an additional bill to crack seal that area and be neighborly and have the work done. He also stated there is a great deal of semi and random car traffic accessing the Legion parking lot as a driveway. With the repairs being done they would like to preserve this parking lot and asked whether they needed a permit to close this entrance off. They do not need a permit. Cournoyer also shared that the blacktop patch work in front of the Village Hall was finally completed because he contacted the company and stated the job was overdue to be done.

CN RR Grant: The railroad is offering a grant of up to \$25,000. PPT Ziebell shared information on this and the deadline is November 1st. Trustee Steinle completed the grant last year and will again write the grant this year for the park project.

Sidewalk Repairs: Trustee Stashek shared she received a text from a Village resident about a fall/trip hazard on the sidewalk. Review of 2011 and 2013 meeting minutes with these same concerns. It is deemed that the sidewalk belongs to the resident (in front of their property.) PPT Ziebell will send a letter to the resident asking them to repair their sidewalk.

Halloween Trick or Treat Hours: This event will occur in the Village on Monday, October 31, 2022, from 4:30-6:30pm

Country Christmas/Village Christmas Lights: Trustee Steinle updated how Country Christmas worked in the past: The Village appoints a Chairperson thus allowing the event to be a Village sponsored event and use of Village insurance. Trustee Steinle asked to be appointed as the Chair. The event will take place on Saturday, December 10th from 2-6pm with a parade and fireworks at 6. Trustee Larsen made a motion to appoint Trustee Steinle, PPT Ziebell seconded the motion. Motion approved. Trustee Larsen

updated that Alliant representative shared the outlets on the poles and the bases with cracks will be repaired soon. Trustee Larsen reported that the RVFD can no longer assist with hanging lights. Lars Larsen (town resident) has offered to use his lift truck to put up decorations as he did last year at no charge to the Village. He asked that in exchange for that service (set up and take down) he be allowed to keep his vehicle in the Village Ag building. Trustee Larsen made the motion with a 2nd by Trustee Stashek. Motion approved.

Review of Village Sewer Letter: We will add the trick or treat hours to the presented newsletter. The Legion is confirming with the school a November 11th event for Veterans Day. PPT Ziebell added the 2023 sewer rates.

Appointment of President – Kevin Whipple: Kevin Whipple was present in the audience and has agreed to serve as Village President until the term is up in April of 2023. Papers would need to be taken out in January, filled out and signatures obtained to be on the ballot for April 2023. Kevin Whipple was sworn in as President.

Other:

PPT Ziebell updated the Board that the annual RVFD meeting for the municipalities they serve is September 29th and asked the Board to attend if we could.

Park Repairs: PPT Ziebell asked about the park repairs. Trustee Stashek shared they have not started and would in the Spring. PPT Ziebell stated Bruce Kniprath stepped up to be the park maintenance person and will oversee the repairs.

DOT Meeting: PPT Ziebell updated on the proposed highway 13/34 work that is scheduled for 2025 and will be a 5.5-6 million dollar project from 2nd street in the Village up to Hwy 10.

PPT Ziebell thanked Trustee Larsen for lowering the flags for 9/11 and the Queens death.

Trustee Larsen asked about the barrels at the park and was informed by Tim Minch that they were removed. He updated on the Larkspur/Cheese factory road incident and was asked to send the bill to Marwood Construction for the damage. He also reported the drinking fountain he was going to gift the Village is not an option due to covid/contamination legality issues.

Resident Tim Minch update that they held their Tractor Club Show went well. They had a 50/50 raffle and always donate half of the proceeds to a group or organization. Tim was happy to present a check to the village of Rudolph for \$200 to be used for the bleacher seats.

Mike Minch provided an update on the dead end sign he had Village approval to purchase and post on his road to avoid the Larkspur semi incident this past winter. He updated that he did not like the first sign and ordered an additional one. He asked for permission to install on Daisy Circle for the same reason and was granted permission.

PPT Ziebell moved and seconded by Trustee Larsen to pay bills as presented.

Trustee Steinle, seconded by Trustee Stashek, to adjourn.

