

# Proceedings of the Regular Monthly Meeting Village of Rudolph Board of Trustees

November 12, 2019

The meeting was called to order by the Board President Bruce Kniprath at 6:02pm. Present: Trustees Steinle, Ziebell, Van Asten, Moscinski, President Kniprath, Deputy Clerk Hoyt. Absent: Treasurer Pawleski. The meeting was opened by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion to accept the October 2019 Minutes as presented was made by Steinle, second by Ziebell. No discussion and the motion passed without objection.

President Kniprath introduced a letter of resignation presented by Village Clerk Joe Haegerl dated October 21. Kniprath motioned to accept Haegerl's resignation, Ziebell seconded. There was brief discussion with Mr. Haegerl, who was present at the meeting. Joe stated the workload was far more than he anticipated and he did not have the time needed to properly do the job. In his opinion, due to the current disorganization of the Village affairs it would take a full-time person weeks just to get things organized, after which time ten hours per week might be enough time to properly do the job. The motion passed without objection.

President Kniprath introduced a Resolution entitled "Village of Rudolph Charter Ordinance No. R111". The Resolution (attached to the end of these Minutes) would change the Treasurer and Clerk positions from elected to appointed. The text of the Resolution was prepared by the Village Attorney at the request of the Village Board of Trustees due to an inability to fill these positions through the ballot process (no one was willing to run for the respective offices).

A motion to accept Resolution R111 was made by Kniprath and seconded by Van Asten. A roll call vote was taken:

Bruce Kniprath - Aye  
John Van Asten - Aye  
Donna Moscinski - Aye  
Christy Steinle - Aye  
Barb Ziebell - Aye  
The motion carries.

Village Treasurer Pawleski (absent due to training) requests a motion be made that will allow her, as the Village Treasurer, to use the Mobile Banking feature of First State Bank. A motion to approve this was made by Steinle and seconded by Moscinski. There was brief discussion concerning the reason for this request. The motion passed without objection.

The South Wood County Humane Society contract is up for renewal. Steinle motions to accept the new contract, Ziebell seconds. Discussion ensued regarding the various fees. It was agreed that the Board and its Agents would not accept any request by a resident to pay the fee for voluntarily surrendered animals but would continue to pay the fees for captured strays. The motion passed without objection.

Budget discussion - A rough budget was prepared on October 22 and presented to the Board. Because final numbers won't be available until later this month the budget topic was tabled.

There was discussion concerning the wages paid to the Village President and Clerk. An increase is appropriate but we don't know what the local tax levy or mill rate for 2019 will be. Once a budget is

proposed we'll know how much is available and what would be needed to bring wages in line with current needs.

A motion was made by Steinle and seconded by Ziebell to purchase new computer equipment for the Village. The computer at the Municipal Building is too slow to be effective for multiple users and the Treasurer's laptop is also old and slow. Bruce and Barb will fill out grant paperwork to receive \$600 towards new technology needed for elections. Dan Hoyt will work on providing quotes and making the purchase of two new laptops, not to exceed \$1,200 in total. He will provide an invoice for his work in reviewing, purchasing and setting up the new equipment not to exceed 5 hours of work at \$90 / hour. The motion to purchase two new laptops passed without objection.

Christy informed the Board that Trent, the Wood County Clerk, stated there are major changes coming regarding the election software and suggested we hold off making any "voting machine" purchase (\$6,583 plus \$227.50 annual support). The Town of Sigel was asked if they would be willing to share the cost. If yes, Village residents would have to go there to vote.

Village Park update - The crew is there framing, the new soffit is up and the new, exterior steel siding is going up. The Village needed to purchase two new 36" doors for the bathrooms to meet ADA compliance. During the time frame of the previous four park rentals some LED light fixtures were removed from the mechanical room worth over \$300. This room will remain locked for all future rentals. Access is only needed for the lights and a Village employee will ensure the lights are turned on and off as needed. Also a bunch of new, steel garbage barrels is missing from the barn since the tractor show. Bruce will be contacting individuals to try and track those down.

A letter was received from CN - Municipalities are eligible for grant money to improve the look of the roadway along the railroad tracks. The Board is not interested.

Christy contacted the owners of the Cell tower near her home. It flashes white at night and it should flash red. The tower owner will correct this malfunction after contacting the FAA to alert them of the work.

John indicated the shoulder on the road near him is very low, almost too low for mail delivery. Bruce said he's already looked into it and this is being addressed.

A question was raised regarding the brush pile expense, a topic from the August 2019 meeting. There has been no word from the Town of Rudolph. Christy will reach out to them.

A motion was made by Ziebell to accept and pay the bills as presented. Van Asten seconded and the motion passed without objection.

A motion to adjourn was made by Ziebell and seconded by Steinle. Meeting adjourned at 7:08pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Daniel M. Hoyt  
Deputy Clerk

**A Charter Ordinance Changing the Method of Selection of the Offices of the Village Clerk and Village Treasurer from Elective to Appointive Positions**

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Rudolph is an incorporated Wisconsin Village operating under Chapter 61 of the Wisconsin Statutes as if Chapter 61 was a charter of the Village of Rudolph; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village Board of Trustees is desirous of making changes in the method of selection and tenure of the offices of Village Clerk and Village Treasurer; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village Board desires the Offices of Village Clerk and Village Treasurer remain separate positions but be changed to appointed positions.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Rudolph, Wood County, Wisconsin does ordain as follows:

Section One. The Village of Rudolph hereby proceeds pursuant to Wis. Stat. Secs. 61.195 and 66.0101 to change the method of selection of the office of Village Clerk and the office of Village Treasurer by hereby providing that such officer shall be selected by appointment by the Village President subject to confirmation by the Village Board as provided for in subsection (1)(b) of Section 61.197 of the Wisconsin Statutes and hereby elects that the first sentence of Section 61.19 of the Wisconsin Statutes is hereby made inapplicable to the Village of Rudolph insofar as it provides for the election of a Clerk and a Treasurer.

Section Two. Pursuant to Wis. Stat. 66.0101, 61.195 and 61.197(1), following the effective date of this Charter Ordinance and prior to the expiration of the terms of the presently serving Village Clerk and Village Treasurer, the Village President shall appoint a Village Clerk and a Village Treasurer, subject to confirmation by the Village Board to serve a term commencing upon expiration of the term of the currently serving Village Clerk and Village Treasurer. The presently serving Village Clerk and Village Treasurer shall continue to serve in said offices until their term expires.

Section Three. The Village further proceeds to change the term or tenure of the offices of Village Clerk and Village Treasurer by hereby providing that said Clerk and Treasurer of the Village of Rudolph shall hold office for an indefinite term, subject to removal as provided for in Section 17.13 of the Wisconsin Statutes. By such provisions, the Village hereby elects that the term of the office of the Clerk and the Treasurer shall not be as provided for in Section 61.23 of the Wisconsin Statutes, but shall be as provided in this Ordinance.

Section Four. The appointed Village Clerk and Village Treasurer shall perform all duties required by Wisconsin law, Village ordinances, and those other duties as the Village Board directs to be executed by the Village Clerk and Village Treasurer from time to time

Section Five. The person appointed to offices of Village Clerk and Village Treasurer shall, before assuming the duties of such office take and file the official oath, and file an official bond, as set forth in Secs. 61.21 and 61.22 of the Wisconsin Statutes.

Section Six. Section 2-3-2 of the Village of Rudolph Code of Ordinances is amended as follows:

<b>Official</b>	<b>How Appointed</b>	<b>Term</b>
Village Clerk	Village President subject to confirmation by the Village Board	Indefinite
Village Treasurer	Village President subject to confirmation by the Village Board	Indefinite

Section Seven. Section 2-3-3 of the Village of Rudolph Code of Ordinances is amended as follows:

- (a) **Appointment.** The Village Clerk shall be appointed by the Village President, subject to confirmation by the Village Board, for an indefinite term subject to removal by the Village Board pursuant to Wis. Stat. 17.13(1).

Section Eight. Section 2-3-5 of the Village of Rudolph Code of Ordinances is amended as follows:

- (a) **Appointment.** The Village Treasurer shall be appointed by the Village President, subject to confirmation by the Village Board, for an indefinite term subject to removal by the Village Board pursuant to Wis. Stat. 17.13(1).

Section Nine. This is a charter ordinance and shall take effect sixty (60) days after its passage and publication unless within sixty (60) days after such publication a referendum petition as provided for in Wis. Stat. Sec. 66.0101(5) shall be filed. In the event of the filing of such a petition in such manner, this ordinance shall not take effect until it is submitted to a referendum of the electors and approved by a majority of the electors voting thereon, such petition and the proceedings for its submission to be governed by Section 9.20(2) to (6), Wisconsin Statutes.

Section Ten. The Village Clerk shall cause this Charter Ordinance to be published as a Class 1 notice under Chapter 985 of the Wisconsin Statutes, and shall file a certified copy of this Charter Ordinance with the Wisconsin Secretary of State.

**ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF RUDOLPH, WOOD COUNTY, WISCONSIN ON THIS 12th DAY OF November, 2019.**

APPROVED BY:   
Bruce Kniprath, Village President

ATTESTED BY:   
Daniel Hoyt, Deputy Village Clerk

Recorded: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date(s) of Publication: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date Affidavit of Publication filed: \_\_\_\_\_